



Parish of Saint Columbanus, Loughlinstown



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention For The Month Of March

Pope Francis' prayer intention for the month of March is for the martyrs of our day and witnesses to Christ.

"This month, I want to tell you a story that is a reflection of the Church today. It is the story of a little-known witness of faith," Pope Francis stated in a video released Feb. 27.

"Visiting a refugee camp in Lesbos, a man told me, 'Father, I am Muslim. My wife was Christian. Terrorists came to our place, looked at us and asked what our religion was. They approached my wife with a crucifix and told her to throw it on the ground. She didn't do it, and they slit her throat in front of me.' That's what happened."

The Holy Father added, "I know he held no grudges. He was focused on his wife's example of love, a love for Christ that led her to accept, and to be faithful to the point of death."

He reminded the faithful that "there will always be martyrs among us" and that it is a "sign that we're on the right path." "A person who knows told me there are more martyrs today than at the beginning of Christianity," he explained.

"The courage of the martyrs, the witness of the martyrs, is a blessing for everyone."

Pope Francis concluded with a prayer: "Let us pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world might imbue the Church with their courage and missionary drive and be open to the grace of martyrdom."

Make March Matter

Tuesday 5th Prayer for Peace at 7.30 pm St. Columbanus Church

Thursday 7th Our Environment - What can we do? - Justin Kilcullen - 7.30 pm in the Cherith

Friday 8th March - Referendum Voting Day

Saturday 9th March - Confirmation Preparation Mass 6pm

(Penitential Rites for Lent - Tuesday 26th and Wednesday 27th March)

Statement From Archbishop Farrell Regarding The Upcoming Referendums.

The Family (39th) and Care (40th) Amendments to the Constitution

Copies of the Statement are available at the back of the Church

Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council Parks Department

Dlr County Council Parks East are reviewing their playgrounds, to create new inclusive play spaces where children of all ages, abilities and backgrounds can play.

This consultation with the community will help identify public needs in our playground. Upgrades that will include its play equipment, supports for adults, disabled and landscaping.

The community is being invited to complete an online survey or share an idea.

This feedback will help create a brief and specification for playgrounds to be upgraded in 2024.

To complete the online survey go to: dlrcoco.citizenspace.com/parks/parks-east-county-playground-upgrades/

Welcome to the World - Fr Derek Farrell - New EP

Fr Derek Farrell in Naul & Garristown has just released his music EP entitled *Welcome to the World*. The proceeds of this EP are going to Trócaire, Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services and Crosscare. The EP has three tracks, 'Welcome To The World', 'No Need To Be Afraid' and 'Come Follow' As part of a music project involving several church choirs and various musicians, Fr Derek is hoping to release the full album, *Something More*, in April.

To listen to the EP, visit www.derekjudefarrell.bandcamp.com



Due to the Veritas Shop closing, as they are going online only, Footprints religious shop in Dun Laoghaire have contacted us to let our parishioners know that they are on Convent Road and stock a large range of religious books, cards and gifts etc. A special ordering service for rare and hard to get books is also available in their shop. Footprints Bookstore, 72 Convent Road, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, ph: 01 663 8773 or visit their website: www.footprintsbookshop.ie Open Mon to Sat 9.30am to 5.00pm

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