



CLONTARF & SCOTS NEWSLETTER



November 2020

Message From the Minister

A famous chef made a very obvious comment this week, "During Lockdown we have turned to food to comfort us." It is obvious because food has always been a source of comfort for most of us (if you take the time to read the Gospels note how many times Jesus is sitting down and having a meal with people). But the statement is also obvious because, due to the Lockdown, for many, making a meal has become a source of joyful routine, rather than a mad rush at the end of a busy day (a friend sent this comment, "The buttons on my jeans are socially distancing!").



Rev Ritchie

In the Manse family we are blessed with four chefs. All unique in style and method. You can give us the very same set of ingredients and we will present four very different dishes. This appetising image from our home has helped me to make sense of, and peace with, how we are responding to being church in this pandemic. Each congregation, even fellow Presbyterian communities, are responding in so many different ways. Worship services, and keeping in contact can widely differ in form and presentation. Then it was as if the Lord showed me His Cookbook of recipes.

This is within His plan. For each congregation to take the ingredients given to them, add the huge addition of the Lockdown in 2020, and seek to nourish our souls to the best of our ability. By the grace of the Holy Spirit, we can be creative and innovative, as well as, learn from others as to how they are blending their ingredients. But at the end of each day we must seek to nourish the souls blessed to our family of God. By the way I think this image holds true for our human families as well. Whether a household has one member or many. Whatever the ages or even resources, each family must be mindful of using the ingredients given to them to nourish themselves. And of course I am speaking of more than a plate of food, but of taking the time to think through, and intentionally nourish our precious souls. This November, may the online services, afternoon children's Zooms, and the other ways we keep in contact, help to nourish the beautiful family of God. Please let me know if there is any way we can help in this vital task. Every Blessing from the Manse Family and Bon a Petite.

November sees us end the Church Calendar. The first four Sundays we will mark the end of our journey with online Services of Worship, including our Remembrance Sunday on 8th November. We will unfortunately not be having our GB enrolment, but I will try to include a special prayer for all our Organizations on the 15th. Sunday the 22nd is the final Service of 2019-2020's journey. We will then turn our hearts and minds to our 2020 Advent journey on 29th November.

Lorraine

Minister	Session Clerk	Deputy Session Clerk
Rev. Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie The Manse 48 Kincora Grove Clontarf, Dublin, D03 CV90 (01 833 2588)	Hugh Borland Woodlands, Limekiln Lane Saint Doulagh's Fingal, D17 PY67 (087 968 2300)	Hilary Fairman 2 The Mews Brookwood Crescent Artane Dublin 5. D05 H2F5 (01 846 5888)

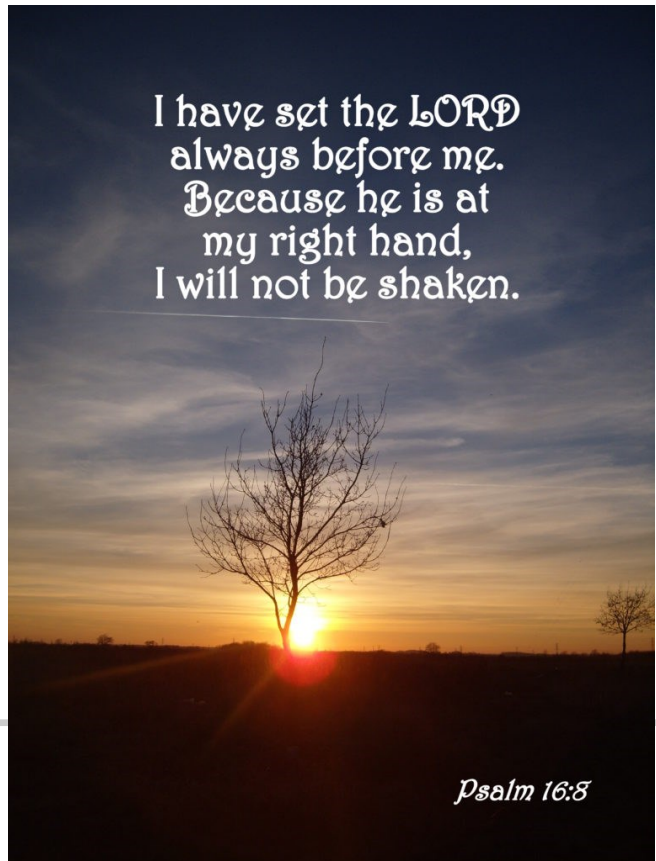
TEAM HOPE

<https://www.teamhope.ie/>

Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2020

Our Christmas Shoebox Appeal has moved online this year.

The call from [TeamHope](#) is they need our help [#EveryBoxCounts](#).



FOSTERING WEBINAR

Hi Presbytery friends!

Some of you may know that Tusla, the child and family agency of the government, have been working to encourage churches to explore and promote fostering among their members. They have very positive experiences of Christian families becoming foster carers and have seen the support wider church family is to those individual families. My wife, Victoria, has been working with Tusla to see how fostering might be fostered (!) in churches in Ireland. There is to be an information webinar on Zoom happening in November supported by Vox Magazine and the UK Christian charity 'Home for Good' (who have been featured in the Presbyterian Herald over the past while), in conjunction with Tusla.

Would you please circulate the information below for the webinar widely in your churches and to any others who you think might be interested?

Blessings

Andy Carroll

Faith and fostering webinar: exploring foster caring from a Christian perspective

More than 200 children in Ireland are currently waiting for a foster family. They need families who will open their homes and their hearts.

God draws people into his family. God is described in Psalm 68.6 as a 'A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows.' It says "God sets the lonely in families."

[Vox](#) magazine, in association with [Tusla](#) Child and Family Agency, and supported by Christian charity [Home for Good](#), invite you to consider answering God's call to churches and to Christians in a national webinar. The webinar aims to raise awareness of how Christians can help to address this urgent need for foster carers:

When? Tuesday 17 November at 19.30

Where? Online: register via the [Focus on Fostering](#) Eventbrite page to receive the Zoom joining link.

Who is this event for? Anyone interested in hearing more about fostering.

Find out more now: [Tusla: Raising Amazing](#)

A word on privacy and GDPR: you will not be identifiable by tuning into the webinar and your details will not be shared or used for any purpose other than communicating information about the webinar.

A RECIPE FOR LIFE

Mingle together commitment
With gentle tenderness
A wonderful combination
Of utter selflessness.

Then put compassion with kindness
Together they're a team
With beautiful thoughts and actions
Always there to be seen.

Next we mix wisdom with patience
Of course they understand
The importance of endurance
Needed throughout this land.

Now gentleness, hope and justice
Must be included here
For they will strengthen every heart
And help to stamp out fear.

So good to see grace and beauty
Sprightly skipping by
They lift our spirits as they go
So gentle on the eye.

Here honesty must be mentioned
With trust right by its side
Their place in the world is needed
This cannot be denied.

Let us put peace with forgiveness
Both coming from the heart
Bringing such calmness to each soul
They cannot be apart.

Think about honour and glory
Standing with dignity
Creating such a sense of pride
For all the world to see.

But love, oh love is everything
It's there for all to share
Giving us a tremendous chance
To show how much we care.

Aoiveen Simpson

[RTÉ harvest thanksgiving service](#)

1.11.2020 | Moderator, Ministry, Farming and Rural Life,
Harvest

Earlier this morning, in a recorded sermon on the RTÉ News channel, Presbyterian Moderator, Rt Rev Dr David Bruce, brought a special message for this harvest time. He was joined by Presbyterians from Counties Antrim, Dublin and Galway.

While the Moderator has temporarily paused his online Sunday services for now, in a special broadcast for harvest, Dr Bruce reflects on Psalm 67. In this morning's service, Dr Bruce said, "It might not feel as if God is blessing us just now – especially since congregations right across the State are prevented from meeting together in Church. But I want to say that even though times are complicated and hard, God is still blessing us."

Produced for RTÉ by the Presbyterian Church in Ireland (PCI), with contributions from PCI ministers and members, Dr Bruce takes us through Psalm 67, which opens with a blessing in the first of its seven verses, 'May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us...' and closes with 'The land yields its harvest; God, our God, blesses us. May God bless us still, so that all the ends of the earth will fear him.'

The Moderator talks about what knowing God's ways and his salvation looks like in the world today and is joined by one of his chaplains for his year in office, Rev Helen Freeburn,

Minister of Galway United Presbyterian and Methodist Church. Also taking part in the service is Rev Richard Houston, Minister of Lucan Presbyterian Church, along with two farming members of Kilbride Presbyterian Church in County Antrim. The father and son, reflect on their own harvest, now that it is safely gathered in.

The Moderator was recorded in the Weir Chapel in Belfast's Assembly Buildings.

Songs and hymns in the service include:

- *We Plough the Fields and Scatter*
- *Praise God from whom all blessings flow*
- *May the people praise you*

*Original article published on the PCI website taken:
<https://www.presbyterianireland.org/>*

NOTICES

Reminder to knitting and crochet groups,

In October's newsletter we placed a request from Mary Keogh, with her request for knitting bonding squares for the sick babies in hospital. The contact details were missing.

Ideal pattern see below: which have no embellishments or holes; Identical squares, roughly 5 x 5-inch squares, knitted or crocheted in any colour, pattern or wool. The identical pair is divided: one given to the mother and one given to the baby and then swapped to help with bonding and give mum's scent to the baby as a comfort measure.

<https://mariannaslazydaisydays.blogspot.com/2017/07/bonding-squares.html>

Please place the identical pair in small sandwich bags and post them to :

Ms Mary Keogh

Neonatal Clinical Nurse Specialist

Children's Health Ireland (CHI) at Crumlin

Crumlin, D12 N512, Ireland

E Mary.Keogh@olchc.ie |

www.olchc.ie



The Herald subscribers will have noticed that there have been no publications since March as the Herald office was closed due to the pandemic. The staff is back in the office, although only on a part-time basis. They advised that there will be no more publications this year, however we will be notified when the next publication date is confirmed. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Marianne Knoetze

Carrot Cake / Loaf

I have calculated that I have made this cake at least 30 times every year for the last ten years. For every cricket tea, church fete or Ministers meeting I roll this one out, so much so that I have memorised the list and quantity of the ingredients and have a large cake tin that is used exclusively for this recipe.

The original recipe comes from an Avoca Café Cookbook but over the years I have added and subtracted and played with it to make it easy. What I really like is that you get a large cake or two loaves and you do not need butter. If you just want one loaf, half the ingredients – it has never failed – I have made cupcakes from this recipe. I do not use any topping as that just adds a load of sugar and the taste of the cake itself is what we are after.

Prepare:

Line one large cake tin or two loaf tins with baking parchment.

Get the oven onto 180 o C or gas mark 3.

Into one bowl go all the dry ingredients which are mixed together:

400g sugar – sifted to get rid of lumps (plain old granulated white works)

400g self-raising flour – sifted

1 tablespoon ground cinnamon

1 or 2 teaspoon(s) ground ginger

0.5 teaspoon ground nutmeg (careful here as to make is overpowering)

1 teaspoon salt

Into a second bowl go all the wet ingredients which are mixed together:

4 eggs

400 ml sunflower oil (never olive oil – the flavour is too strong)

400g grated carrot

Mix the contents of both bowls together – I use a hand mixer.

Into the cake tin or split equally between 2 loaf tins

Into the oven for 60 minutes or until a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean.

Leave to cool for 15 minutes before turning the tin(s) out.



Samuel Ritchie

Do You Know Your Hymns?

Dentist's Hymn	. . .	Crown Him with Many Crowns.
Weatherman's Hymn	. . .	There Shall Be Showers of Blessings.
Contractor's Hymn	. . .	The Church's One Foundation.
Tailor's Hymn	. . .	Holy, Holy, Holy.
Golfer's Hymn	. . .	There's a Green Hill Far Away.
Politician's Hymn	. . .	Standing on the Promises!
Optometrist's Hymn	. . .	Open My Eyes That I Might See.
IRS Agent's Hymn	. . .	I Surrender All.
Gossip's Hymn	. . .	Pass It On.
Electrician's Hymn	. . .	Send The Light..
Shopper's Hymn	. . .	Sweet Bye and Bye.
Realtor's Hymn	. . .	I've Got a Mansion, Just Over the Hilltop.
Massage Therapist's Hymn	. . .	He Touched Me.

AND for those who speed on the highway - a few hymns:

55 mph	.	.	.	God Will Take Care of You
75 mph	.	.	.	Nearer My God To Thee
85 mph	.	.	.	This World Is Not My Home
95 mph	.	.	.	Lord, I'm Coming Home
100 mph	.	.	.	Precious Memories

Give me a sense of humor, Lord, Give me the grace to see a joke,
To get some humor out of life, And pass it on to other folks.

