



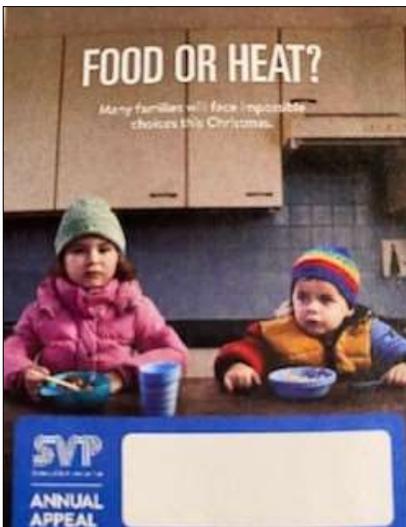
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www.lucannewsletter.ie

Sub. €1

Sunday 11th December 2022

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL



How quickly the year has flown, and Christmas is just around the corner again.

For the St Vincent De Paul, here in Lucan, as the Christmas season draws near, we receive many additional requests for help and support to make Christmas a happy time for families, particularly for the children. Most children only see the magic of Christmas, Thank God, and not the stress and worry that is can give parents to ensure their children enjoy the festive season.

Today, throughout Ireland and in our parish of Lucan, the increased cost of living with rising energy and food prices is putting a lot of pressure on families. Far too many people are being forced to make impossible decisions regarding food or heat. In talking about families, we do not want to give the impression that we only offer support to families, far from it, the SVP help and support anybody who contact us.

We, the SVP, rely on your generosity to achieve this goal. We would like to thank those who have contributed to our funds throughout the year. With your continued support we will endeavour to offer support to people in Lucan who need a helping hand.

This year, the National Christmas Appeal for the St Vincent De Paul takes place at all Masses this weekend 10th/11th of December.

We thank you for whatever support you can give us today and as always donations can also be left at the Sacristy.

We wish you and your families God's blessings, peace, and good health this Christmas and always.

St Vincent De Paul

Lucan

PLEASE NOTE:

The Tap & Go System at the Church is not to be used for special collections, e.g., St Vincent de Paul. This collection will take place in the Church itself.

Lucan Citizens Information Centre

Our telephone number is **0818 07 5090**

www.citizensinformation.ie

Email – lucan@citinfo.ie

Our office is located in the Ballyowen Castle Youth and Community Centre, Ballyowen, Lucan



Opening hours:

Walk-ins to see an Information Officer

Tuesday: 10am - 12pm

Wednesday: None

Thursday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

Reception open

Tuesday: 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 4pm

Wednesday: 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 4pm

Thursday: 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 4pm

We are closed on Mondays and Fridays.

Citizens Information Phone Service (CIPS) is open Monday to Friday 9 am to 8pm on 0818 07 4000

MABS – the Money Advice and Budgeting

Service is the State's money advice service, guiding people through dealing with problem debt for over 20 years. MABS phone service is open Monday to Friday 9 am to 8 pm on 0818 07 2000

Helplines

Seniorline – National Confidential Listening Service for older people. Freephone 1800 80 45 91 Lines are open 365 days a year from 10 am to 10 pm.

Family Carers Ireland – No one should have to care alone. National freephone careline - 1800 24 07 24

Threshold – housing advice for tenants – 1800 454 454 *

Focus Ireland – 01 8815900, email help@focusireland.ie*

What is Fuel Allowance?

Fuel Allowance is a payment to help with the cost of heating your home during the winter months. Many people getting a social welfare payment will qualify for the Fuel Allowance.

The Fuel Allowance season normally begins in late September of each year and ends in April.

2022-2023 Fuel Allowance season

Fuel Allowance will be paid from the week starting Monday, 26 September 2022. It will be paid for 28 weeks.

The current rate of Fuel Allowance is €33.

If you qualify for the allowance, it is paid with your social welfare payment on the same day.

You can choose to get the Fuel Allowance paid weekly or paid in 2 lump sums.

Budget 2023: Fuel Allowance

From January 2023, the following changes will apply to how income is assessed in the means test for Fuel Allowance:

Disablement Benefit and half-rate Carer's Allowance will be disregarded in the means test for Fuel Allowance.

People aged 70 and over do not need to be getting a qualifying social welfare payment. Capital (savings and investments) not taken into account in the means test will increase from €20,000 to €50,000. They can have a weekly means (which includes their State Pension) up to €500 per week for a single person and €1,000 per week for a couple. In the case of a couple, only the person applying for the allowance needs to be aged 70 or over.

For people aged under 70, the weekly allowable means above the applicable State Pension (Contributory) rate will increase from €120 to €200.

How your income is assessed for Fuel Allowance

Fuel Allowance is a means-tested payment. In a means test, the Department of Social Protection (DSP) examines all your sources of income – find out more about 'what is included on the means test' on our website. Your **gross** weekly income must be below a certain amount to pass the means test.

You are usually accepted as passing the means test for Fuel Allowance, if you are already getting a qualifying social assistance payment.

The amount of means that you are allowed to have for Fuel Allowance is the current maximum rate of State Pension (Contributory) including any increases that you might get for your age, living alone and dependants, plus €120.

For example:

The assessable income limit for a single person under 80 is €373.30 (€120 plus €253.30)

The assessable income limit for a couple (where the qualified adult is aged under 66) is €542 (€120 plus €253.30 plus €168.70)

The assessable income limit for a couple (where the qualified adult is aged 66 or over) is €600.30 (€120 plus €253.30 plus €227)

If you are over 80, add an extra €10 to the appropriate DSP payment rate.

Detailed information on the Fuel Allowance is available on Fuel Allowance (citizensinformation.ie)

Lucan Active Retirement Assoc.

Our meeting on Thursday 15th December next will be our last before Christmas and we will have our Christmas party on that day starting at 11.30am.

All our members are welcome to the party. We will have a quiz, drama, singing and lunch. Looking forward to seeing you.

Happy Christmas to all at Lucan Newsletter.

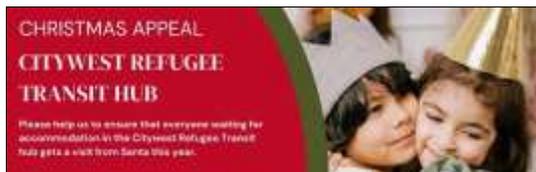
Lucan ICA

Monday 12th December: As this will be our last craft morning before Christmas, we will finish with a few Christmas treats and a singalong to some Christmas music to get us in the mood.

As Our Lady's Hospice in Harold's Cross is one of our charities, we will donate the door collection to them.

We wish to thank Ms Catherine Bligh of St Joseph's College for inviting us to their transition musical "Guys and Dolls". It was a fantastic production and a credit to the students and their teachers; such a lot of work went into it.

We send our best wishes for a speedy recovery to our members Ann Byrne, Freda Commerford and Nuala Corbet who are unwell now.



Christmas Appeal for the Citywest Refugee Transit Hub

This is the reception centre for Ukrainian and other Refugees. Over 700 people will spend Christmas in the Transit Hub while they wait to be assigned to accommodation.

South Dublin Volunteer Centre, through their Community Volunteer program, are asking for your help with a Christmas Donation Appeal. You can find out more by clicking on the link: <https://volunteersouthdublin.ie/christmas/>

Alternatively, I am organising a local collection point of the following items here in St. Mary's Parish Centre.

Vouchers/Gift Cards (€10-€20)

Penneys, Dunnes, Smyths Toys, One4All.

Christmas Cards:

Christmas cards written –
from adults to give to adults or
from children to give to children.
(Handmade would be lovely!)

Clothing (new or unused only)

Hats, Scarves and Gloves (for children, men and women)
Raincoats (for men – all sizes needed)

Food

Chocolates
Selection Boxes for Christmas

Arts and Crafts (new or unused materials only please)

Materials for children of all ages including:
Colouring Books
Drawing Pads, Crayons
Markers

Miscellaneous drawing materials, like pencil cases, erasers and pencil sharpeners

Give me a call or message me on 0879468271 if you want to discuss.

Catherine O'Loughlin



Our photo shows 10 members who attended An Grianan for a Christmas Craft Demonstration Day on 1st December. We were spoiled with lovely food, hampers that were raffled and entertained over dinner with the Termonfeckin Choir singing Christmas Carols.

Pauline & Mary



Parish Notes



St Mary's, Lucan

www.lucanparish.com

Sunday Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm

Sunday: 10.30am, 12 noon and 7pm.

Weekday Masses: Monday to Saturday 10am

Masses live-streamed on www.lucanparish.com

Christmas Time-Table: Now available in the Church Porch and Parish Office.

Christian Meditation:

We meet every Tuesday night at 8pm in the Parish Bungalow.

All welcome, Sr Geraldine.

Confessions – Nuns' Chapel:

After Saturday 10am Mass and Saturday Evening 6.30pm Mass.

Divine Mercy Devotion:

On Wednesdays after 10am Mass. Everyone is welcome to participate in the devotion regularly or occasionally.

St Mary's Parish Divine Mercy Group.

Legion of Mary:

We meet every Thursday evening at 5.30pm in Room 4 in St Mary's Parish Centre for Rosary and Prayers.

All Welcome.

Scriptural Readings:

We meet from **7.30-8.30pm** every **Monday** evening in the Bungalow opposite the church. The group will read and reflect on the following Sunday's Gospel to get a deeper understanding of the Word of our Lord.

All are welcome.

Bethany Bereavement Support Group:

We meet **every 2nd Monday at 10.45am and 4th Thursday at 8pm of the month** in the Parish Centre. We are available to listen to or just be there for anyone who is feeling lonely or lost following the death of a loved one.

Sr Geraldine.

Visits to the housebound:

If you are housebound you can call Deirdre at the parish office (01 621 7041) we will be happy to call on a monthly basis.

Coffee Dock Open:

Every Sunday Morning and weekdays 10am to 12 noon. **All Welcome.**

Baptisms:

Dates are bookable on line. If you need to cancel a booking contact: secretary@lucanparish.com

Lucan Presbyterian Church

Main Street, Lucan, Co. Dublin

Sunday Morning Worship: 11am.

(There's tea and coffee after the service)

Lucan Presbyterian Church is a growing family of Christians who come from a variety of different church backgrounds, traditions and nationalities. Regardless of your age, background, experience or previous church connections you are welcome to come and visit us.

Contact: email: lucanpresbyterian@gmail.com

St Andrew's Church of Ireland

St Andrew's, Lucan:

Sunday: 9am and 10am. **Wednesday:** 10am

St Mary's, Leixlip: **Sun:** 11.30am. **Tues:** 10am

Services are available on our parish

Facebook pages: [St. Andrew's Church,](#)

[Lucan](#) or [St Mary's Church, Leixlip](#)

Christmas Cards for Sale

At St Mary's Parish Centre

in aid of



NAGARHOPE

Pack of 12 for €5

(12 Brand new designs)

Also available from 191 Beech Pk

or phone Niamh 087 0666891

Peter McVerry Trust

Assorted designs, pack of 10 - €5

Also available **Christmas Novena Masses.**

€6

And Church Art Calendars 2023:

In the Sacristy and the Parish Office. €2

St. Patrick's Esker/ Dodsboro/Adamstown

www.stpatrickslucan.ie



Sunday Masses:

Vigil Saturday 7pm,

Sunday: 9am, 10.30am and 12 noon.

The 10.30am Family Mass is aimed at younger parishioners and their families.

Weekday Masses: Monday to Saturday at 10am.

All Masses livestreamed at stpatrickslucan.ie

Prayer and Reflection for Advent

**'The Fullness of Time is When God is
Born in Us'**

at 'Kairos' 125 Castlegate Way, Adamstown

When: **14th December at 11am.**

All Welcome

Sr Angela Dolan PBVM



St Patrick's Prayer Meeting:

Meeting every Monday night in the Pastoral Centre, (Side of St Patrick's Church) from 7.30pm to 8.15pm.

Divine Mercy, Lucan South

www.lucansouthparish.net

Sunday Mass Times: Saturday Vigil 6:30pm,
Sunday Masses: 10.30am and 12.00 noon.

Weekday Masses: Mon.-Fri: 9:15am. Sat: 10am

All Masses will be livestreamed on

www.lucansouthparish.net

Morning Prayers of the Church:

Monday to Friday: 8.40am.

The Church will now be open Monday to Friday from 10am to 4pm for private prayers.

Adoration and Holy Hour Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Mon: 7.30pm: Divine Mercy Adoration

Fri: 1.15pm: Adoration MMPH Cenacle

Fri: 2-3pm: Divine Mercy Devotion/Adoration.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society:

A new branch of St. Joseph's Young Priests Society has opened in our parish the Church of Divine Mercy, Lucan South Parish.

We meet once a month here in the parish.

The aim of the society is to pray for vocations to the Priesthood and religious life. All are very welcome and we look forward to seeing you all. The Parish office can be contacted at 01 4572900.

Bingo:

Every **Wednesday** night at **7.30pm** in the St. John Paul Room Divine Mercy Church. Doors open at 7.00pm. *All welcome.*

Wednesdays tea/coffee morning:

There is a cup of tea/coffee and a slice of cake after 9.15am Mass every Wednesday in the St. John Paul II Room (room with tables and chairs to the right of the porch at the main Church entrance. All are most welcome.

**Aontas Youth Choir
&
Irish Soprano
Sandra Oman
Present**

**An Evening of Christmas Music and
Carols**

Joined by guest choirs from
Scoil Mhuire NS - Woodview
&
Lucan Community College

**Sunday 18th December 2022
Venue: St Patrick's Church,
Lucan, Co. Dublin
Time: 5pm**

Donations in aid of World Youth Day, Lisbon 2023

Refreshments will be served following the concert

No Admission fee



Anam Cara

South Dublin, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding

its monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Monday **12th December at 7:15pm** in the Maldron Hotel, Whitestown Way, Tallaght. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not.

Anniversaries

CARMEL (REDMOND) CLARKE

3rd Anniversary - 14th December

A very special Mam, Nanny, friend and sister
Forever in our hearts.

Sadly missed and fondly remembered by all but especially your loving sons Stuart and Alan, daughter Sandy, their spouses Ayn, Gladys, PJ and her adored grandchildren Hannah, Leah, Grace, Casey and Sam



ELIZABETH (BETTY) McCABE

25th Anniversary – 2nd December

Late of Sarsfield Park.

Sadly missed and loved always.

Catherine, Robert, Anne, Eileen and their families

MARY O'BRIEN

5th Anniversary – 14th December

Late of AGP, Lucan.

In loving memory of a devoted wife Mary, mother, grandmother, great grandmother.

No words can say how much I love

And miss you every day

Five years have passed in a flash

But feels like eternity without you

December comes with sad regret

It brings back memories of a day I never forget

Miss you so much but never forgotten.

Your loving husband Martin xxx



MARY O'BRIEN

God called your name so softly

That only you could hear

And no-one heard the footsteps

Of angels drawing near

The golden gates stood open

God saw you needed rest

His garden must be beautiful, he only takes the best.

From your loving son Darren, daughter-in-law

Olive, grandchildren Elliot and Isabelle and great

grandson Billy

Also my grandmother, **Patricia O'Brien**, whose 41st Anniversary occurs on 17th December.

MARY O'BRIEN

Mam, December comes with sad regret

It brings back a day we could never forget

Today is a day with memories so sad

Of a mam we wish we still had.

Mark and Regina, Tracey and Ian



MARY O'BRIEN

Mam, think of you every day

And miss you all the time

Love you, Roy, Elaine, Sam, Mya, Layla, Noah and Isaac

MARY O'BRIEN

Nanny, a smile can hide the sadness

A tear can be wiped away

But the heartache of losing you Nanny

Will never go away.

Missed so much, loving you always.

From your grandchildren and great grandchildren

SANDRA WHELAN (nee CORRIGAN)

2nd Christmas away from home - 6th January

Those we love don't go away

They walk beside us every day

Unseen, unheard, but always near

Still loved, still missed and very dear.

Thinking of our beautiful Sandra

Forever in our hearts.

With love from your family xx

Birthday Remembrance

JENNIE MORRIS

100th Birthday – 13th December 2022

5th away from home

(Mother) Sending kisses, hugs and love

To my wonderful Mother in Heaven above

Thinking of you on this special day

Your 100th birthday.

Love always your daughter Jean x

JENNIE MORRIS

(Nanny/Granny Bus)

Today we think of Granny Bus

In Heaven with the stars

As we mark your special day, 100 on the cards

And though you're not here joining in

We will feel you near

As we celebrate your century

And your very special year

Happy Heavenly Birthday Nanny.

From your grandchildren Karen, Lisa, Kevin,

Breda, Andy and Rachel

Happy 100th Birthday Granny Bus.

From your great grandchildren, Laurajane, Nikki,

Daniel, Kelsie and Craig x

JENNIE MORRIS

(Mother) December is your special month

The 13th marks the date

We celebrate your century

With memories that are great

So keep an eye over us

And help us know your there

You're loved and missed by all you knew

Thanks for all your care.

Happy Birthday to our dear Mother

Love and miss you every day.

Sons Billy, Harry, Joseph and sons-in-law

Dessie and Jerri



Come the first of December our thoughts are drawn to Christmas. As festive lights begin to twinkle and shine throughout our community, our hearts are warmed as we look forward to sharing this special time with family and friends.

Anticipation is especially heightened this year as, following a two year break, many of our much missed Pre Christmas traditions have returned. Not least of which being the Annual Transition Year Musical at St Joseph's College.

This year's production, 'Guys and Dolls', opened on Thursday 1st of December. As I made my way to the show I found myself reminiscing about its predecessors – 'All Shook Up', 'Calamity Jane', 'The Music Man', to name but a few. It is hard to believe that this annual production, a runaway success, is in its 35th year!

An Impressive new tiered seating and a minimalist stage awaits. The lights dim and the audience is whisked back in time to the bygone days of New York City. Through music, song and dance we are brought on a journey from the bustle of time square to the dance clubs of Havana to the slums of New York. This romantic comedy has quite a tale to tell which a con man, a high-rolling gambler, a show girl and a puritanical missionary and a multitude of other similarly diverse characters play out.

The first act opens with a colourful trio, 'Nicely-Nicely Johnson', 'Benny Southstreet' and 'Rusty Charlie'. These dapperly turned out 'Guys' (top marks to the wardrobe dept!) are one of the many sets of characters who provide a kaleidoscope of colour, glamour and depth to the storyline.

Others include the amazing Hot Box Dancers, the 'down and dirty' Crapshooters and of course the besieged Mission Band members.

Nathan Detroit (a superb performance by Melissa Wogu) takes the stage as a con man trying to fund his illegal crap game. He sees the high-rolling Sky Masterson (perfected by Hazel Gogarty) as an opportunity and proposes a bet he doesn't think he can lose - that Sky cannot take a 'Doll' he nominates to dinner in Havana - namely the missionary Sarah Brown (Juleanne Cruz, who has the voice of an angel). This dastardly wager is set against Nathan's own troubled relationship with

Miss Adelaide (an outstanding performance by Aoife Gorman) who, following a fourteen-year engagement, wants her man to stay on the straight and narrow and to marry her. Redemption follows and ultimately love wins the day.

'Guys and Dolls' was a delight from start to finish. The choreography was simply stunning and all-time favourites scores including 'Luck be a Lady' and 'Sit down, you're rocking' the boat' all but brought the house down. With talent matched only by enthusiasm, it was the performance of a lifetime. Bravo to all those involved, take a bow, you deserve it!

On a personal note, I would like to thank Catherine Bligh, Deputy Principal, for including a tribute to my late Father, Ewan O' Flynn, in this year's programme. It was a very thoughtful gesture. Ewan always looked forward to the Annual Musical at St Josephs and would have thoroughly enjoyed 'Guys and Dolls'.

M O' Flynn.

Found - Set of House Keys found on Wednesday at the Post Box at the entrance to St Eds. Please contact 086-8278685.



Christmas Newsletters!

In answer to some queries, Lucan Newsletter will be published for two more weeks after this weekend – 18th December, and the 25th of December will be the actual Christmas issue.

Very cold out there this week – take care!

Bus Connects – Hard to believe this wonderful plan is with us a year now, and is still as clear as mud – I think we all gave it a fair chance.....

Demesne Wall – See another piece of this old wall has fallen in recently. Being in place since the late 1700s, it probably has stood the test of time....

The World Cup – were we ever less excited over this event. So far it has failed to grip the imagination for many of us. Time was when the Newsletter Office was buzzing with anticipation – that was way back in the 1990s, when the Boys in Green thrilled us.....

Lucan Senior Citizens

Christmas began on Wednesday 30th November with our Christmas Floral Demonstration by Margaret Murphy. Margaret showed us how to make a door wreath, table arrangements and many home and gift ideas.



We were specially inspired by her Santa Sleigh and church Window arrangements.



A special thank you to Margaret for a very interesting morning.



Lucan Planning Council

Lucan Planning Council will hold a public meeting on Saturday 17th December at 11.30 AM outside the Spar shop, Dodsboro.

So far, we had little success in our efforts to restore route 25. Dodsboro and surrounding estates are growing older, and the 25-bus route is needed now more than ever. No success either in restoring the Blanchardstown hospital bus to Arthur Griffith Park, Lucan South, and the extra stop into the hospital.



The NTA so far, have refused to meet us and replies we received show they don't understand the concerns of local users. Elderly, users with a disability and women with children are hit the hardest. The pattern of refusing to meet local communities is repeated elsewhere too.

Our efforts will continue with your support to have these problems addressed.

We know you won't let us down and you will come out in numbers like last year for just for one half hour, to agree the way forward. Most problems are solved by talking, we need to persuade the NTA of that.

They teased us somewhat by bringing route C2 down towards Dodsboro and then a massive detour round South Lucan. The people of Shackleton are not happy with this long detour either.

New systems can have teething problems, but no real response after twelve months shows they are not taking this problem seriously. Route 25 is vital for more than Lucan: passengers for Lucan coming from the city are filling seats on the Maynooth and Celbridge routes resulting in people from these areas being left behind. Lucan passengers are also left behind at times on Lucan main road through the village when Maynooth buses are filled.

We welcome the good points in Bus Connects but restoring route 25 addresses most of these contentious problems and placing more buses on the C2 route does not address the issues. Lucan is not being served, and the NTA must service the needs west of Woodies junction; the People of Lucan deserve better.

Please join us briefly on the 17th, we know for a fact that Leixlip is getting the cold shoulder too from the NTA. We must stand together.

Caitríona McClean
Lucan Planning Council



SCHOOL NEWS



St. Joseph's College

TY Musical: A huge congratulations to our Transition Year Group on multiple fantastic performances of the Musical Guys and Dolls. The students performed the 1950s themed musical over four nights in the school's sports hall which was fitted out with professional sound, rigging and lighting with tiered seating for over 300 people. The Musical was performed over four nights and over a thousand people enjoyed the musical over the 4 nights. A huge thank you to all the people who came to watch the show over the four nights and a special word of thanks to our sponsors for their support. The musical was a huge success and this is down to the hard work of the students and staff as well as the talented, musical directors Jimmy & Carol.



5th Year UCD Trip: St Joseph's 5th Year students enjoyed a morning on campus at UCD. A huge Thank you to the great UCD ambassadors for showing up on the morning after their UCD Christmas party to show our students around the wonderful campus of UCD.



3rd Year Ice Skating Trip: Our 3rd year students were treated to an early Christmas trip when they

travelled to Dundrum on Ice this week. The year group enjoyed the thrills of the ice rink before doing a little bit of early Christmas shopping in Dundrum town centre.

6th Year DCU Trip: 6th Year students enjoying their visit to DCU this week. Lots of good information to help them with their career research. Many thanks to DCU and the student ambassadors who made the day so interesting and informative.

Tidy Towns Calendar:

The St. Vincent De Paul National Christmas Appeal will be taking place this weekend (10th & 11th December) at masses in local parishes.

In St. Joseph's, we have our Tidy Towns Calendars on sale to support St. Vincent De Paul at this time.

Please do consider supporting this fundraiser if possible. Students are asked to bring €10 per calendar in an envelope to Ms. Bligh. Calendars are also available from the Front Office & Centra,



Lucan. Orders can be emailed to stjosephslucan@gmail.com.

College Awareness Week:

It is College Awareness Week at St Joseph's. This is an opportunity to highlight the rewards of Further

and Higher Education and to draw attention to the many courses and career paths available at 3rd Level. To celebrate the week we have Daily Competitions and a Scavenger Hunt with some great prizes, generously donated by a few of our most loyal 3rd Level Institutions (UCD, Maynooth University and NCI). There is also an opportunity to learn more about 3rd Level Institutions with visits to UCD and DCU for our senior students and in Guidance class for our Junior students. Thank you to our TY Amber Team for giving up their break and lunch time to run the College Awareness Week Information Station. Thank you also to Simon Harris, Minister for Further and Higher Education for providing a short, inspirational video dedicated to St Joseph's students for College Awareness Week.

Follow Us on Twitter: @StJosephsLucan

Instagram: @stjosephscollegelucan

Website: www.stjosephslucan.com

Lucan Community College

New messaging system for Lucan CC:

We are moving to notification based communication using our VSware platform. This will replace our text messaging system and will enable us to communicate more efficiently with you about your children.

To ensure parents continue to receive all communications and important messages from the school, we are asking all parents to download the VSware parental app from the Google Playstore or the Apple App Store to their mobile phone. More information about the VSware app and how to download it can be found here <https://support.vsware.ie/en/parent-app-downloading-and-logging-in>



Junior Hurling Disappointment:

Commiserations to our Junior Hurlers who were narrowly defeated in their Hurling Final on Tuesday 6th December. The final score line of Lucan CC 0:13 Swords CC 3:12 was not the result the team wanted after such a heroic display. The team will no doubt bounce back from this disappointment and go on to winning ways in future years.



Thank you to our Parents Association: A huge thank you to our wonderful Parents Association for the scrumptious treats for teachers during our break from class last Friday. They were plenty of smiles all around from a grateful Lucan Community College staff.



Lift Leadership Training: Congratulations to all second year students who took part in Lift Ireland leadership training over the last number of weeks. The training was run by our TY LIFT students and all involved received their certificate of participation. Thank you also to all 2nd year tutors for their support during the training, well done to all involved!

Christmas Concert Poster Competition

winners: Congratulations to Jessica Kearns and Ella Butler whose spectacular posters were chosen to promote/advertise our annual Christmas Concert which took place on Thursday, 8th December in the college. We hope all those in attendance enjoyed the festive feeling that permeated the air as we celebrated Christmas through music, prose and even dance! Thanks to Ms Conway and the dedicated team of teachers who put such effort into creating a magical experience for all in attendance.

St. Thomas' JNS.

**Enrolment for
Junior Infants
September 2023
Now open!**



Details at

<http://stthomasjns.com/Page/School-Admission/3622/Index.html>

Please complete and sign an Expression of Interest accompanied with:
A copy of your child's birth certificate
Your child's PPs Number
And a current household utility bill.

(Proof of address)

www.stthomasjns.com

Coláiste Phádraig CBS

Hurling: Congratulations to our u16 hurling team on their dramatic victory over Portmarnock CS in the Dublin Post Primary Junior Development Shield held last Friday. Conor Dillon was the stand-out performer as he scored 13 points for the team as Lucan won by the narrowest of margins, 0-14 to 1-10. Adam Salmon scored the team's other point and Lucan now advance directly to the Leinster Final, to be played in January most likely.

Basketball: Congratulations to our u16 basketball team who won the Eastern League u16 B Plate Final after defeating Castleknock CC 45-37 in a high-quality match held at the Obalte Basketball Hall in Inchicore on Tuesday. The 1st quarter was extremely hard-fought with Lucan just edging it 12-11. Castleknock fought back well to lead at half time 22-19 but a hugely impressive third quarter saw our team open up a 7-point lead. Gabriel Sales was outstanding in the final quarter with four baskets as the team held on for a well-deserved win.



Building update: The construction work on our new building has commenced in the school. The work will take 24 weeks to complete so it should be completed by the end of the current school year and be ready for use from the start of the 2023/24 school year. It will be of great benefit to the school community. We have been able to increase our intake of 1st years in September 2022 and September 2023 on the basis of getting the new building. The project also improves the facilities available for to students in the school. We will have 8 extra classrooms, a Special Needs/Resource Room, a Library, an Oratory and a Home Economics room available for use upon completion of the project.

Art: As part of Inclusion Week in the school, a poster competition by run by Ms. Ryan. There was a large volume of entries and the quality of a lot of the posters was very good. Ms. Ryan was hugely impressed with the artistic talent on display and after much consideration the posters designed by Aaron Wall and Aaron Jobin were declared joint winners so well done to both. A poster competition for 1st yrs to promote our Lions Club appeal was also held last week. Well done to the five winners, Shane Clare, Cian Dolan, Aaron Wall, Senan Carley and Shane Brennan who created beautiful posters that are now up around the school promoting this very important food collection.

English: Well done to Aaron Jobin who won the 1st yr Spelling Bee Final held in the school last

Friday. Five students had qualified for the Final after some very tough and competitive heats were held over the previous two weeks. The tension in room 4 was palpable as very challenging spellings including words such as “vivacious”, “caricature” and “mercenary” and “treachery” were called out. Eventually, Aaron was the last man standing as he correctly spelled “extravagant” to claim the much coveted title of “1st yr Spelling Bee Champion 2022”. He also won a 50e voucher for Liffey Valley. Conor Gilmore finished 2nd after another sudden-death round and he won a 30e voucher while Omar Ibrahim came 3rd which won him a 20e voucher.

Wellbeing: As a part of our extensive wellbeing programme in the school, our 1st yrs took part in a poetry competition last week. They were asked to compose an acrostic poem using wellbeing as an inspiration. An acrostic poem involves writing a word or phrase vertically (in this case “wellbeing”) and beginning each sentence of the poem with the letters of this word. Ms. Deane picked out four poems that truly captured the meaning and aims of the wellbeing programme in our school. The students, Aaron Jobin, Anish Iyer, Muhammad Imran and Cian Dola, each won a selection box for their excellent poems. They also had their poems framed and they will be put up near the wellbeing noticeboard.



Sport: The Board of Management kindly provided funds for new sets of jerseys for the main sports teams in the school. The jerseys were delivered last week and some of our talented young sport stars were delighted to model the jerseys. There were six set of jerseys in total, two for the GAA, two for basketball and two for the soccer teams, with junior and senior sets in each sport.



Palmerstown Camera Club

At Palmerstown Camera Club we hold a weekly meeting in person, every Wed from 8 pm to 10 pm in the Palmerstown Parish Hall. People interested in joining the club or even attending one or two meetings FREE of charge to see how their photography could benefit from being a member can do so by contacting secpcc@mail.com



Recently in Palmerstown Camera Club, we had the judging night for a themed competition “Reflections”, and below we have two of the winning images:



Advanced. “Grand Canal Dock” by Kevin Naughton.



Intermediate. “Once I was 21” by Lorna Carney.

Happy Birthday

to **Conor** who will be 12 on 13th December and to **Eoghan** who will be 9 on 17th December.

Hope you both have a great day.

Lots of love from Nanny and Granddad Cummins



Sarsfield Park Residents Assoc.

Santa is doing the rounds this year on Thursday 22nd. If any paid members have children who would like to receive a visit please message sarsfieldpkresidentsassoc@gmail.com 0857323731 or your collector with details of the children please.

Results of our annual Christmas raffle, it was a lucky time for the 100+ house numbers taking half the spoils

- 1st No 126, Tesco Voucher
- 2nd No 100, Collins Butchers
- 3rd No 103 Collins Butchers
- 4th No 36 Bottle Gin
- 5th No 123 Bottle Vodka
- 6th No 4 Biscuits
- 7th No 70 Biscuits
- 8th No 109 Sweets
- 9th No 81 Sweets
- 10th No 15 Sweets



Your collectors will call round with the prizes shortly.

Our thanks to Fintan Dunne of Collins Butchers for his sponsorship again this year. Kennys for their support throughout the year. Remember to shop locally and support our local businesses.

We wish all our residents and neighbours a wonderful Christmas and prosperous New Year. We'll be back on the 6th Feb for the first meeting of 2023.



Scoil Mhuire GNS Junior Infants 2023

Scoil Mhuire Girls National School is taking names of girls living in St Mary's Parish for **Junior Infants 2023**



Please email the school for an application form. The email address is application2023@smgns-lucan.com

You will need to provide with the completed form a scanned photocopy of your daughter's Birth Certificate, your daughter's PPs Number and a current household utility bill. (*Proof of address*)

WORLD CUP FEVER

By Mattie Lennon



I'm weird. At least that's what I was told when I said, "Sunday Miscellany was cancelled for a *&@!^%\$#@!! Rugby Match." Professor Brendan Kennelly said: "You can overcome a bad marriage, you can grapple with and overcome alcoholism, but you'll never get over losing an All-Ireland Final. But many literary figures, great thinkers and philosophers down through the centuries would argue that sport is not that important. Patrick Kavanagh reminded us that " . . . in Ulysses, only the punter speculating on the result of the Ascot Gold Cup comes into the theme. So sport can't have been very vital.

While Kipling's advice to competitors would be to; "...treat those two impostors just the same" he referred to "... the flannelled fools at the wickets or the muddied oafs at the goals". So he mustn't have considered a love of balls to be indicative of much upstairs. Arthur Conan Doyle's had Sherlock Holmes confess that; "My ramifications stretch into many sections of society, but never, I am happy to say into sport". George Orwell saw sport as having nothing to do with fair play but: "... bound up with hatred, jealousy, boastfulness and disregard for all rules". R.S. Surtees spoke of sport as "... the image of war without the guilt".

Apologies for quoting a person who worked in a Bank but T.S. Eliot felt sorry for anyone whose only monument was, ". . . the asphalt road and a thousand lost golf balls." So, is sport that important? I don't have any answer but I have a few questions; 72% of men between the ages of 18 and 29 describe themselves as Sports fans but only 58% of men over 50 describe themselves as such. Does this mean that young men follow like sheep and cop on as they get old? If you are over 50 and one of the 42% remaining your favourite television programs are cancelled or postponed for the World Cup. And you'll still be paying for the sporting sections of newspapers that you don't read.

Losing, even in amateur sports, can devastate the loser. (Can you think of a similar hardship experienced by non-sporting types?. And of course, there is a downside to winning. It has been said "Those who know how to win are much more numerous than those who know how to make proper use of their victories". Chamberlain said of war," Whichever side may call itself a victor, there are no winners, but all losers". Should the same apply to sports? Sport is only second to drink as a cause of working days lost and . . . we

are told that every taxpayer in Ireland is paying €3,313 each year as a result of alcohol abuse. But . . . we are not told how much we are paying because of sports injuries.

People who claim that an interest in sport kills all artistic tendencies in a person get branded as begrudgers and knockers. Some have classified Gaelic football as a "blood sport". And Irish sporting records would appear to endorse that sentiment. It has also been described as a "... detested sport that owes it's pleasures to another's pain." I won't ever get on Room 101 but if I did sports would go in. I told you I wouldn't have any answers. And I don't but . . . a word of advice to the males. If you took a few sick days or applied for holidays for the World Cup; If you gave up an interesting pastime, to sit shouting at the telly for two weeks and then expected to take up where you left off, with impunity, remember the words of Peter Osgood: "World Cups only happen once every four years but women are around all the time!

SOL 2023 Calendar & Lucan Prints

Last Call for Christmas Presents!

We will be selling SOL 2023 Calendars at the Lucan Library Christmas Fair (Sat) and St. Andrew's Fair (Sun only) this weekend. Make sure to pick up a copy before we run out. Many thanks to everyone who has supported our work this year.

(Full report in next week's issue)



LUCAN TOASTMASTERS

Are you as quiet as a mouse?

Do you hate speaking in public?

Do you want to make new friends?



If so, then Lucan Toastmasters is the place for you.

We meet on alternate Thursdays in the Springfield Hotel, Leixlip at 7.45 p.m. Admission is free for new guests.

Our final meeting of 2022 is on **Thursday next, December 15th**, which is our Christmas themed meeting. As usual, a warm welcome awaits all our members and guests.

For further details, checkout our Facebook @lucan.toastmasters or website at www.lucanttoastmasters.com

Cllr. Derren Ó Brádaigh – Sinn Féin

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F/B: <https://m.facebook.com/CllrDerrenOBradaigh>

Twitter: @DerrenBrady1

Web: www.sinnfeindublinmidwest.com



Finnstown Footpaths: Our recent canvas calls at doors in Finnstown highlighted a number of path repairs needed. Works are due to take place across Finnstown shortly, with confirmation of some further inspections to take place by the area roads department.

Esker Embankment: A previous connectivity project on the 'Esker' land ridge that forms a boundary between Castle Riada and Moy Glas estates was explored back in 2012. With agreement at that time for funding to be provided by the National Transport Authority, the project never progressed, due to some amendments that resulted in the scheme being compromised according to the NTA. Recently, this has been revisited with councillors receiving a further briefing in November, accompanied by preliminary drawings regarding the viability of such a project. Any progression now will be subject to agreed funding and public consultation.

Emer Higgins TD

78 The Orchard, Lucan. 01 401 3416

Emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie

Teen Space: A new Teenspace has been approved for Griffeen Valley Park! The physical and mental wellbeing of teenagers is greatly enhanced by access to the outdoors, social contact and physical activity. The programme will provide a variety of amenities at locations across the county, including multi-use game areas (MUGA), calisthenics, parkour, teqball football tables, speaker posts to play music and informal seating that can be used as places to meet and hang out.

Airport Hopper: The Airport Hopper bus stopping at Lucan and Liffey Valley intends to resume from mid-December, great news for holidaymakers and workers travelling to and from Dublin airport.

Guys and Dolls! Well done to the students at St Joseph's on their production of 'Guys & Dolls', it was great to see the students back on stage and audiences back enjoying live performances again.

Gino Kenny TD- People Before Profit

Phone: 085-7211574. Email: ginokenny@oir.ie

Special Oireachtas Committee on Assisted

Dying: A special Oireachtas committee will be established before Christmas to examine the issue of assisted dying. The committee will have a

duration of nine months and at the end of the period will make its recommendations to the Dail. Two years ago, I put forward the Dying with Dignity Bill which passed second stage. I look forward to the forthcoming debate and a member of the committee.

Cllr. Shane Moynihan – Fianna Fáil

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Twitter: @shanemoynihan Phone: 087-7840898

Griffeen Valley Park Skate Park: I am pleased to report that, following many representations, the lighting schedule for the skate park is now operational during the evenings. Thanks to those park users who raised the issue with me.

Fuel allowance: The expanded Fuel Allowance Scheme is now open for applications which will see over 80,000 additional households qualify. If you are over 70 and have an income of less than €26,000 (individual) or €52,000 (couple) then you should apply. Applications can be made at <http://MyWelfare.ie>. If you need help or a printout of the form, let me know.

Guys & Dolls: Congratulations to the cast and crew of St Joseph's Transition Year production of Guys and Dolls. The standard was in the league of the West End or Broadway and the staff and students of the school should be very proud. Maith sibh ar fad!

Lucan Library

Seasonal Movie for all the Family: Arthur Christmas. All

Welcome! Saturday 17th
December. 11am - 1pm.

Lucan Library Book Clubs

Monthly meetings: Wednesday Evening: 14th
December, 7pm

Junior Book Club monthly meeting:
Wednesday 21 December, 3.30pm

Young Adult Bookclub: Saturday 17th
December, 3pm

Lucan Library Classic Movie Night:

Tuesday 18th December 5.30pm

Scrabble Club for Adults: Tuesday 13th

December, 12noon (please note later start time)

All welcome, contact the library for information.



**Exhibitions: Irish Traditions at
Christmas World Cup 2022**



Team News - Adult Hurling

The adult hurling season concluded on Saturday with our Under 21A hurlers winning the 'B' Championship final after an epic tussle with Commercials. This was the third championship win of the year for the adult hurling section (along with U19A and U17B), following three league successes (Senior, Junior A and U17A) earlier in the year, in what was a very successful season overall. Thanks to all the players who put on the jersey during the year to hurl for Lucan and to all the team mentors and to everyone who supported our teams and helped out along the way. Plans are already being made for the coming season which will commence after a short break over Christmas.



Under 21 Hurling 'B' Championship Final: Lucan Sarsfields 1-26 Commercials 0-25 (AET). Rathcoole, Saturday 3rd December.

Four points down and a man down, as the clock approached 60 minutes and things didn't look good for Lucan's chances. However, the lads didn't give up and 4 successive points, three of them in injury time, brought the game to extra time, and ultimate victory for Lucan. The sides had been quite evenly matched from the outset and were level at 0-5 each after the opening 15 minutes. A goal, well finished by Sean Harkness in the 16th minute, gave Lucan the advantage but Commercials quickly clawed that back and there was only a point between them at half time, 1-9 to 0-11. Lucan generally had the better of the exchanges in the first half but were less efficient in scoring and clocked up a lot of wides. The sides were level by the 40th minute, 1-11 to 0-14 and still deadlocked at 1-13 to 0-16 entering the final 10 minutes. Lucan were down to 14 at that stage as Charlie Keher saw red for a mistimed shoulder. Commercials looked to have made a decisive surge when they got four points in a row to lead 0-20 to 1-13 into the closing stages. But Lucan showed remarkable resolve, aided by some fresh legs from the bench, to finish strong and level the game at 1-17 to 0-20 and force extra time. It had been a very entertaining hour of hurling and the prospect of more didn't disappoint the spectators despite the winter chill in the air. Lucan continued the momentum from the final minutes of normal time to establish superiority in the first period of extra time and led by three at the break, 1-22 to 0-22. Commercials



fought hard in the second period and closed the gap on occasion but Lucan held on to win by 4 points in the end, 1-26 to 0-25 in what was an epic encounter.

The contribution from the bench was very significant for Lucan with all six players introduced making an impact and showed the strength in depth of the panel. This was a very young U21 team with only one player not eligible for next year and three U17s entering the fray also. It was a great performance for such a young team at this level and there were leaders throughout the field with notable performances from Michael Cunningham, Colm Walsh and Jack Behan in defence and Matt Coogan, Sean Harkness and Evin Dowling upfront. This win is further evidence of the healthy pipeline of talent coming into the adult ranks, building on the successes at U19 and U17 level this year also.

Lucan Team/Scorers: Cathal Doody, Shane Coffey, Ben O'Toole, Michael Cunningham, Jack Behan (0-1), Colm Walsh, Finn Bruton (0-1), Liam Garrigan (0-1), Mark Gormley, Hugh Cuffe (0-2), Charlie Keher (0-2), Matt Coogan (0-3), Sean Harkness (1-9, 0-5f, 0-2'65), Joey Dunne (0-2), Evin Dowling (0-5), Darragh Lyons, David Mulqueen, Cathal Kennedy, Alex Hickey, Henry Keogh, Brendan Kavanagh, James Finn, Michael Young, Conor Hyland, Charlie Mulqueen, Cian Duffy, Jack McCarthy, Ryan Clancy, Jamie Smith, Eoin Power, Fintan Ward, Daragh Meehan.

Management Team: Niall Gleeson, Johnny McCaffrey, Aidan Roche, Mark Smith, Leon Breen.



Junior C Football. Our Junior C men's Football Team are looking for a coach to assist with their development. Training is on Wednesday evenings with games on Sunday afternoon. If you have experience coaching and are interested in assisting this young and promising team, please contact Michaela Caseley @ 0868508553.

St. Mary's Camera Soirée



All the 2023 calendars have been distributed so sorry to those who indicated that they would like a copy if any were left over! Next Friday will be our last session before the Christmas break and we will have our traditional tea and mince pies.

This week Frances has submitted photos of the Christmas lights in Hillcrest. Conor submitted photos of a Heron at Malahide estuary, a blue tit and some late Autumnal colours.

Donal visited the National Museum Decorative Arts and History Division at Collins Barracks and Dublin Castle. One of the photos from Collins Barracks is of the Asgard yacht which is on display there. The yacht is most noted for her involvement in the Howth Gun-Running of 1914. In relation to Collins Barracks itself it is worth noting that 100 years ago on 17th of December 1922, General Sir Nevil Macready of the British Army handed over the Royal Barracks (one of the oldest military barracks in the world) to the Commander-in-Chief of the National Army of the Irish Free State General Richard Mulcahy. It was immediately renamed in honour of Mulcahy's predecessor Michael Collins.

One of Donal's photos from Dublin Castle is of the Bedford Tower from where the Irish Crown Jewels consisting of 394 precious stones were discovered to be missing in July 1907. They were never recovered. The story around the security, or lack of, of the crown jewels in the Bedford Tower leaves Faulty Towers in the halfpenny place!



Until next week stay safe!