



Established 1967

[www.lucannewsletter.ie](http://www.lucannewsletter.ie)

Sub. €1

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025

## All hands on deck!



This was a call used in the naval world to signal some situation that required the cooperation of all on board a ship to handle. I would like to echo that call to all in our parishes this week.

The life of a parish is greatly enhanced when a broad spectrum of parishioners is involved in the various ministry groups that make up parish life. Ideally those involved should reflect a broad range of age groups

and districts within the parish. It really is a barometer as to the health of a parish when groups reflect such a broad representation of the parish family.

The Lucan parishes have been blessed over many years with a great spirit of volunteerism, and parish groups have thrived because of the willingness of people to commit time and effort. However, we can't rest on our laurels. The achievements of the past are something we can be proud of, but the challenge of the future is something that should concern us all.

Without new people continuing to commit time and effort we risk running out of steam. There is a great diversity within the life of a parish, and a variety of ministries that are open to all. From helping prepare families for the Baptism of their children, to journeying with the families who have suffered a loss; and much else that happens in between.

This weekend we are inviting every member of our congregations to give some thought about how they might contribute to parish life. Some might serve as readers of the Word in church or in the distribution of Holy Communion as ministers of the Eucharist, others might find a role on the Parish Pastoral council or finance committee, some may feel drawn to work with the bereaved on the funeral team or with families preparing for baptism, or helping with the Family Mass on Sunday. Our music groups are always open to new voices and will welcome newcomers. There is something for everybody.

So, do please give the matter some thought. There is a role for everybody. Contact the parish office for details.

*"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'" (Isaiah 6:8).*

*Philip Curran – St. Patrick's & St. Mary's Parishes*

## Lucan Citizens Information Centre

Our telephone number is **0818 07 5090**

[www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie)

Email – [lucan@citinfo.ie](mailto: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 and 2pm to 4 pm

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

## Speed limits in Ireland

### *Has the speed limit changed?*

Many speed limits in Ireland will be reduced during 2025.

The first change took effect from 7 February 2025 and affects rural local roads:

The default speed limit on rural local roads reduced from 80km/h to 60km/h.

The rural speed limit sign indicates a limit of 60km/h from 7 February 2025. This sign is a white circle with five diagonal black lines with another plate that states, "Go Mall / Slow".

Later in 2025, more reductions to speed limits will be introduced:

The speed limit in 'urban cores' will drop to 30km/h (urban cores include built up areas, housing estates and town centres).

The speed limit on national secondary roads will reduce from 100km/h to 80km/h.

These changes are set out in the Road Traffic Act 2024.

### Why are the speed limits changing?

Speed limits are being reduced in an effort to increase road safety in Ireland. The Road Safety

Authority (RSA) has published information about the rural speed limit changes on its website, [rsa.ie](http://rsa.ie).

### Do speed limits apply to everyone?

Certain vehicles in Ireland have different speed limits – specifically vehicles that carry passengers (such as buses and coaches), vehicles greater than a certain weight (such as trucks), and vehicles that are pulling trailers.

Speed limits in Ireland do not apply to ambulances, fire brigade services or Garda vehicles being used during duty.

It is an offence for anyone to use a speed meter detector in any vehicle in Ireland. Importing, fitting and supplying speed meter detectors and jammers is also an offence.

### What happens if I go over the speed limit?

If you drive over the speed limit, you will get 3 penalty points and a fixed charge fine of €160.

If you do not pay the fine within 28 days, it increases to €240. If you do not pay this within 28 days (56 days from the original fine notification date), you will be summonsed to court. If convicted, you could be fined up to €1,000 and receive up to 5 penalty points.

If you were not the driver of the vehicle, you must complete the relevant section on the notice and return it within 28 days of its issue.

Find out what other speed limits will be reduced during 2025 and learn more about speed limits in Ireland.

The sign for the new rural speed limit is below.



## The Lucan Memorial Campaign

Remembering Lucanians who lost their lives through conflict.

With public consultations for the future of Lucan House due to commence. We would be grateful to anyone who would consider raising the prospect of a local war memorial within the Lucan Demesne. Thank You.

Please scan the QR code for information on those recorded, or visit The Society for Old Lucan website: [soc4oldlucan.com](http://soc4oldlucan.com)



Learn, Laugh and Live!



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

## U3A Lucan:

### Lucan University of the Third Age

The purpose of the club is to provide a regular meeting point for social intercourse for people of mature age enabling the sharing of interests and knowledge with each other.

We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month in Ballyowen Castle, 14:00 – 16:00 hours.

Interested in joining? We have spaces at present; come along to a meeting or phone Eilis at 086 8097038 for further information.

## Lucan Senior Citizens

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February – Social Morning in St. Mary's Parish Centre, 10.30 – 12.30.

New members always welcome!



## Lucan ICA

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February:

Craft ladies are kept busy at different crafts such as tapestry, Shadow Applique, Trapunto, knitting and crochet.

Anyone interested in seeing our work or would like to join our group, are welcome to come into the Parish centre on Monday mornings.

**Tea hostesses** are Miriam and Marie.

The President and members send sincere sympathy to Noreen Doolan on the death of her sister -in-law.



Congratulations to Mary Duffy on winning first prize for her Dundee Cake in the Gem pack competition at Federation meeting last Saturday. Well done, Mary!

*Mary C.*

## Looking for something different to do this St Patrick's Day?

### The Duck Race



is back in Kilcock, from 2.45 pm.

Cash prizes for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd ducks.

Ducks will be on sale outside Supervalu, Kilcock on Saturday 15th March from 10 am, for €5 each, with proceeds in aid of voluntary social clubs for people with additional needs.

For further information feel free to contact us at [northkildaresearchclub@gmail.com](mailto:northkildaresearchclub@gmail.com)

## Parish Notes

### St Mary's, Lucan

[www.lucanparish.com](http://www.lucanparish.com)



**Sunday Mass Times:** Vigil: 6.30pm

Sunday: 10.30am, 12 noon, 7pm

**Weekday Masses:** Monday to Saturday 10am

**Masses live-streamed on** [www.lucanparish.com](http://www.lucanparish.com)

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** On Saturdays from the conclusion of the 10am Mass to 11.30am – funerals permitting.



#### St. Mary's Readers' Roster March 2025

The roster for readers at the Saturday vigil, 12 noon and 7pm Masses on Sundays in St. Mary's for the month of March 2025 has been sent to all readers by email. If any reader has not received it a copy is available for inspection in the sacristy.

**Christian Meditation:** We meet every Tuesday night at 8pm in the Parish Bungalow.

*All welcome. Sr Geraldine*

**Lectio Divina:** Lectio Divina meet every Monday evening (except Bank Holidays) at 7.30pm in the Bungalow to reflect for an hour on the following Sunday's gospel. *All are welcome.*

**Bethany Bereavement Support Group:** We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday (at 10.45am) and the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday (at 8pm) each month, in the Parish Centre. We are available to listen or just be there for anyone who is feeling lonely or lost following the death of a loved one. If you would like to attend a meeting, please contact the Parish Office. (Phone 01 6217041)

**Confessions:** Saturday Evening 6.30pm Mass.

**Divine Mercy Devotion:** Every Wednesday morning in St Mary's Parish Church after the 10am Mass until 11am (unless there is a funeral), the Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed during exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. This devotion, revealed to St Faustina by Our Lord is a prayer of atonement for our own sins and the sins of the whole world. We pray especially for evil to be defeated and for peace in the world.

**Legion of Mary:** Meeting every Thursday 5.30pm in the **Parish Bungalow** for Rosary and Prayers. *All Welcome.*

**Baptisms:** Procedure for baptisms in the parish. Parents who register their children for baptism are invited and must attend a preparatory meeting in the month before the ceremony. The ceremony of baptism will take place in two parts. The children will be welcomed at a short ceremony during 10.30am Mass, the Family Mass, on the Sunday prior to their actual baptism date.

Dates are bookable on line.

Email: [secretary@lucanparish.com](mailto:secretary@lucanparish.com)

#### 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.

**Cuppa:** Why not come into the Coffee Dock for a cuppa and a chat after the 10am Weekday Mass and on Sundays after the morning Masses.

#### *St. Vincent de Paul*

Church collection at all Masses

**THIS**

Saturday/ Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> /23<sup>rd</sup> February.

**Many thanks for your generosity.**

## Medjugorje Mass

St Mary's Church, Lucan

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February**

**Mass at 6.15pm.**

**Celebrant Fr Ray Kelly**

(Rosary, Confessions and Prayers 5.45pm)



## Reflections on the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary

**Bayside Alpha** are hosting on Zoom a 6-week series during Lent: Reflections on the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary with Mark and Katie Hartfiel, Fr Dave Pivonka, and others.

It starts on Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup> of March at 7:30pm.

To join this free series please email Paul at [alphabayside@gmail.com](mailto:alphabayside@gmail.com)

## St. Patrick's Esker/ Dodsboro/Adamstown

[www.stpatrickslucan.ie](http://www.stpatrickslucan.ie)



**Sunday Mass Times:** 9am, 10.30am, 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](http://stpatrickslucan.ie)

**Adoration:** Adoration is held every Saturday morning after the 10am Mass from 10.30am to 11.30am. All are welcome.

**Confessions:** Confessions after Saturday 10am Mass and after Thursday 10am Mass.

**St Patrick's Prayer Meeting:** Every Monday night in the Pastoral Centre, (Side of St. Patrick's Church) from 7.00pm to 7.45pm.

**Communion for the Homebound:** If any member of your family is sick and housebound, and would like to receive Holy Communion, do please let us know. You can ring the Parish Office on 01 628 1018 and leave your name and address, or email us at: [secretary@stpatrickslucan.ie](mailto:secretary@stpatrickslucan.ie)

**Tea/Coffee:** Every Wednesday 10:30am in the Parish Centre. *All are welcome*



### St. Patrick's Parish Lucan Lottery

#### Join our weekly Parish Lotto

Your support makes a real difference. The jackpot increases every week plus a weekly prize.

To join now simply go to our parish website <https://www.stpatrickslucan.ie/st-patricks-parish-lucan-lottery/>



### St Vincent De Paul - St Patrick's Conference

Church Gate collection before and after all Masses **THIS Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**

**Thank you for your generosity.**



**Aontas Choir** are holding fundraiser cake sale  
In St Patrick's

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March after all Masses**

**There will be lots of lovely treats on sale.**

### Divine Mercy, Lucan South

[www.lucansouthparish.net](http://www.lucansouthparish.net)

**Sunday Mass Times:** Vigil: 6pm.

Sunday Masses: 10.30am and 12 noon.

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

All Masses will be livestreamed on

[www.lucansouthparish.net](http://www.lucansouthparish.net)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Confessions every Saturday 5.15pm and after the evening Mass.

**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.

**Mass of Thanksgiving for the Fruits of Medjugorje:** Every Thursday.

**7.00pm:** Rosary and Confessions.

**7.30pm:** Holy Mass. **After Mass:** Adoration, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Benediction.

**8.15pm** Adoration and Confessions - **8.50pm** Benediction. *All welcome*

**Prayers of the Church:** Mon. to Fri.: 8.40am.

The Church is open Monday to Friday from **10am to 1pm** for private prayers.

## Acknowledgements

### Michael Griffin

I, Eilín Griffin and my family would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for all the support we received during Michael's illness and subsequent farewell. A special word of thanks to Fr. Philip and Fr Ubaldo and their pastoral team for all their support and comfort during a challenging time. A big thank you to Michael's wonderful medical team and to Fr. O'Riordain in Connolly Hospital. Thanks to neighbours, friends and relatives for their endless support.

A Mass will be offered for your intentions.  
Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

### John Dobbs

The Dobbs family would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to our families, friends, and neighbours for your kindness and support during our recent bereavement. Your thoughtful words and cherished memories of John brought us great comfort during this difficult time.

A special thank you to Dr. Harris, Dr. Lombard, the staff of Main Street Clinic Lucan, and the dedicated doctors and nurses at James Connolly Memorial Hospital, Blanchardstown, for the compassionate care they provided to John throughout his illness.

In appreciation, a Mass will be offered for your intentions.

## Deepest Sympathy

Deepest sympathy to the family of **Veronica O'Leary**, Meadowview Grove. **May she rest in peace.**

## Anniversaries

### Patrick (Paddy) Byrne

#### 9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 25<sup>th</sup> February

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.  
Rest in peace Paddy.

*Your wife Maeve, and your three sons Damien, Austin and Denis, daughters in law and grandchildren.*

**Anniversary Mass on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 10am.**



### Martin Boland

#### 28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 25<sup>th</sup> February

But God only knows how we miss him,  
In our home that is lonely today.  
Still missed by his parents Martin and Elizabeth,  
his brother Micheal and family.

**Martin will be included in Mass at 10:30 am on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February in St Mary's.**

### Brendan Curtis

#### 28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 19<sup>th</sup> February

If we could have a lifetime wish,  
A dream that could come true,  
We'd pray to God with all our hearts  
For one more day with you!

In Life we loved you dearly  
In death we love you still,  
In our heart you hold a place  
That no one else can fill.  
*Your loving wife Patricia,  
Len, Alan, Carol, Grace and Nev xx*

### Don Dardis

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary, 23<sup>rd</sup> February

Late of Beech Grove  
"Gone from our lives, always in our hearts"  
*Always remembered by your loving family.*

### William Delany (Junior)

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary, 19<sup>th</sup> February

Late of Airlie Heights  
Forever in our thoughts and prayers  
Loved and missed always.  
*His wife Mary, daughters, son, grandchildren  
and great grandchildren. xxx*

### James (Jimmy) Kane

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary, 23<sup>rd</sup> February

We hold you close within our hearts  
And there you shall remain  
To walk with us throughout our lives  
Until we meet again.  
*Loved too much to be forgotten by Josephine,  
Susan, Aideen, Eóin, Sarah, Jack, Max, Ryan,  
Lucy and son in law Phillip.*  
**Anniversary Mass 12 o'clock Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**John Lally**

**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 20<sup>th</sup> February**

A cherished Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad  
A million times we've needed you  
A million times we've cried  
If love could have saved you, Dad  
You never would have died.  
Things we feel most deeply  
Are the hardest things to say  
Our dearest Dad we loved you  
In a very special way.  
If we could have one lifetime wish  
One dream that could come true  
We'd pray to God with all our hearts,  
For one more day with you  
*Dearly loved and greatly missed from  
Alison, Andy, Ruth, Craig, Alisha and Caden.*

**John Lally**

**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 20<sup>th</sup> February**

Arthur Griffith Park, Lucan  
Mass offered in Westmeath.  
Remembering my dear dad on his  
25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary away from home.  
We love and miss you dearly, your loving smile,  
and cheesy jokes, you would turn and go to bed  
and say goodnight, folks. When the morning sun  
would rise, you would be the first up, showered,  
dressed, breakfast on. Then we heard rise and  
shine breakfast is ready and that was fun, that was  
the first part of your day done.  
Now we don't have that dad, because you are  
gone. You left a legacy of memories that will live  
on forever. In our hearts we can't forget you, so  
dad watch over and keep us all safe, because you  
are in the best place. You are our guiding angel  
protecting us all. So today we remember you on  
this 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary away from home, sending  
you hugs and kisses from all of us.  
A silent wish, a silent prayer  
remembering you in daily prayer  
God bless for now,  
We love and miss your cheeky smile.  
*Remembered and never forgotten from your  
loving daughter Joyce, son in law Mark,  
grandsons Jonathan, Ciaran, Matthew, and great  
grandson Ollie. xxxxxx*



**Quote:**

When we lose someone we love,  
we must learn not to live without  
them, but to live with the love  
they left behind.

*From Divine Word Missionaries Calendar*

**Esker Active Retirement Club**

Esker Active Retirement Club meets every  
Wednesday at 1.30pm in St Andrew's Parish Hall,  
Main Street, Lucan. We have a great membership  
and enjoy our activities including bowls, scrabble  
and whist.

On occasion we have guest speakers, chaerobics,  
etc. We organise trips, in March we have a 4 day  
trip to Killarney and at the end of April we're off  
to Wales for 5 days.

If you are interested do come along for a chat and  
cuppa any Wednesday.



**Have you ever dreamed of walking the  
Camino de Santiago?  
Breakthrough Cancer Research are taking on  
the 'Portuguese Way'  
from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> June 2025.**

Starting in the charming town of Baiona,  
experience camaraderie and reflection as you  
walk toward Santiago de Compostela, creating  
lasting memories on this historic pilgrimage. You  
can enjoy this amazing adventure with our  
experienced guide and help Make More  
Survivors.

For more information, please  
contact [edel@breakcancer.ie](mailto:edel@breakcancer.ie) or phone  
021 422 66 55 for more details.

Medjugorje Pilgrimages 2025		
<b>April</b>		Prices include €50 early booking discount
Departing 28 <sup>th</sup> April		Booking Deposit €200 to be paid by 31 January 2025
9 Nights		Single Room Supplement 9 Nights €220 7 Nights €150
Normal Price: €845pps,		Insurance €35 Extra pp
Pat's Price: €770pps.		Terms and conditions apply
Departing 30 <sup>th</sup> April		
7 Nights		
Normal Price: €795pps,		
Pat's Price: €720pps.		
October details later		
<b>Spiritual Director: Fr Ray Kelly</b>		
Tour Operator: Marian Pilgrimages		
Professional guides Fully Bonded Fully licenced		
To Book, Please Contact:		
Pat on 087 2238911 or Marian Pilgrimages on 01 8788159 And say you are travelling with Pat's Group		

## On planning.....

A ten-year old schoolgirl was killed instantly as she crossed the road from ballet class at the old Saint Andrews Primary School to the pedestrian entrance to Lucan Heights, where her mother waited to accompany her home. She died on the footpath at her mother's knees. She died at the very spot where it is now proposed to erect 17 apartments with access to and from the main road within yards of the busiest traffic-controlled junction in Lucan.

As a result of the tragedy, three actions were taken by the authorities:

Bus stops on both sides of the road were moved further from the traffic lights.

A protective railing was installed at the lights. Flashing warning lights were installed.

This information was withheld from the recent planning application. It is thus new relevant information. The planning application must be looked at again and I call on all politicians, especially those who contribute to the local parish-pump issues, to re-open the case.

Several questions remain unanswered. Why did the planning inquiry ignore the safety aspect? Did they receive a copy of the original accident report and details of the resulting safety measures?

Did the planning authority take into account the massive changes in the area concerned? Since the tragedy there has been a massive increase in student numbers at the four schools in the immediate vicinity. There is a brand-new primary school. The girls' primary school has been extended and modernized and St. Joseph's girls' secondary school has been massively enlarged. All of this within yards of this proposed development. The result is that hundreds of students of all ages converge on the traffic junction within yards of the offensive development.

That traffic from the proposed development should cross the footpath being used by hundreds of schoolchildren is the stuff of nightmares. The primary role of a responsible society is the protection of its children. We the residents of Lucan Heights take our responsibilities very seriously.

*Hugh Mulrooney.*

## Lucan Active Retirement Association

We meet in St. Andrew's Parish Centre, Main Street, Lucan, on Thursdays at 11.30am.

New members always welcome, come and join us in a friendly atmosphere and meet new friends. There is a charge of €4 each week to cover costs, but there is no charge for your first meeting.



Lots of activities to enjoy. Bowls, scrabble, cards, drama and choir.

Coffee break at 1pm. Organised trips in Ireland and abroad.

### Minder & Toddler Group

Thursdays

in St. Mary's Parish Centre,  
from 9.30 to 11.30am.

All Welcome!



## Have your say

South Dublin County Council is inviting the public to help shape the Masterplan for Lucan House through our **online consultation form** and our **upcoming in-person consultation sessions**.

South Dublin County Council wants you to shape the future of Lucan House.

Scan the QR code and have your say.

A series of in-person events will be held in February and March and if you are interested in attending an in-person consultation, please email [LucanHousePublicConsult@teneo.com](mailto:LucanHousePublicConsult@teneo.com).

Photo courtesy of Paul Butler from 'Society for Old Lucan'.

## Cuir do chuid tuairimí in iúl

Tá Comhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas ag tabhairt cuireadh don phobal an Máistirphlean do Theach Leamhcáin a mhúnlú tríd an bhfoirm chomhairliúcháin ar líne agus trí sheisiún chomhairliúcháin ar an láthair a bheidh ar siúl go luath.

Tá Comhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas ag iarraidh ort cuidiú leo todhchaí Theach Leamhcáin a mhúnlú.

Scan an Cód QR thíos chun do chuid tuairimí a chur in iúl.

Beidh sraith d'imeachtaí ar an láthair ar siúl i mí Feabhra agus i mí an Mhárta. Má tá spéis agat a bheith ag ceann de na himeachtaí chomhairliúcháin sin, seol ríomhphost chug [LucanHousePublicConsult@Teneo.com](mailto:LucanHousePublicConsult@Teneo.com).

Grianghraf le coinchead Paul Butler ó 'Society for Old Lucan'.



Riailtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland



Seo ionannais ag  
an Aontas Eorpach  
EU Funded by the  
European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach  
an Deisceirt  
Southern Regional  
Assembly



Comhairle Contae  
Átha Cliath Theas  
South Dublin County Council



## A story that began in Lucan and ended in Lismore, Australia.....

### Coming of the Sisters

*(from an account by Maggie Sullivan, who was a schoolgirl in Lismore, back then)*

“From as early as 1883, it would seem, Dean Doyle had mentioned the possibility of procuring a religious community for Lismore.....

“I have many recollections of his telling his people from the sanctuary of the results of his search. He used to say he did not mind how long was the wait, he would get them teachers of the highest order ... Only parents with children of school age or senior pupils of those days longing for their coming can understand the joy with which his message was hailed when at last he announced that a community of Presentation Sisters from ‘Lucan by the leafy Liffey’ would be in residence in Lismore by August, 1886.

The first thought was to furnish the convent then completed nearly two years. With that object in view a bazaar and cattle sale was held at Easter which realised the phenomenal sum of £750. The ladies of the parish were busy for the next few months furnishing and quipping their Australian home for the holy woe crossing the seas from Ireland’s shores. There was a wonderful spirit of co-operation and the direction of the work fell principally to Mrs. Fegan the Misses Coglan, Crowley and Dean, and on Mesdames Dean, Sexton McIntyre, McDonough, Dawson and M. F. McNamara ... no home was more lovingly prepared for a bride...”

“Everything was in readiness for more than a week before the sisters arrived. The Richmond was under flood and Miss Coglan with Miss E. Sullivan, then only a child, waited at the convent to receive the future occupants. At last, on 6<sup>th</sup> August, 1886, the flood waters having subsided, the old steamer ‘Coraki’ tied up at the Government Wharf early enough for the much-travelled ones to have breakfast under their own roof-tree. The Catholic community was almost delirious with joy and showered every gift in its power

at the portals of the convent. It hadn’t much money in those days but its larders and pantries and poultry yards were levied to a lavish degree. Even several milch cows were among the gifts. How primitive were the community and district may be imagined when it is stated that only a small proportion of the people had never seen a nun before.”



*SS ‘Austral’ on which the first sisters came to Australia in 1886*



Steamers similar to SS ‘Coraki’, which took the sisters on the final leg of their long journey.

On 9 June, 1886, Mother Mary Stanislaus Darcy, Mother Ignatius Barnewall, and Mother Berchmans Barnwell, aged respectively 36, 34, and 31, accompanied by eight postulants whose ages ranged from 16 to 22, departed from Lucan, Ireland.

Sailing from Southampton, they reached Sydney on 26 July and continued their journey to Lismore on the coastal steamer 'SS Coraki', arriving on 6 August. An official welcome took place on 15 August and the following day they began their mission of teaching.



*Foundress Mother  
Mary Stanislaus  
Darcy*



In 1967, three sisters from Lismore Convent made their way to Ireland for the Lucan centenary celebrations.

In 1986, Sr. Patrick from the Lucan Convent made her way to Lismore when the sisters celebrated their centenary.

For two years before the arrival of the sisters, the citizens of the Richmond River had made preparations. They built a two-storey timber building next to the church to serve as a Convent and boarding school. The builders reported, that there was accommodation for twelve nuns and twenty boarders.

Bishop Torreggiani directed the sisters to set up three schools in Lismore – Saint Marys College, Saint Carthage's Parochial School and a Middle School for junior "better class children". Middle Schools were the practice in private schools of the time – they did not suit Australia and the idea was abandoned some years later.

Since then, Presentation Schools spread all across the land to all corners of Australia. Just like in Ireland, religious vocations have fallen, and the sisters found it increasingly difficult to maintain the schools, leading to mostly lay staffing these days.



*Mother Berchmans Barnwell*

The information in this article was gleaned from a centenary publication, presented to the late Sr. Patrick (*Sr. Patricia*), when she travelled to Lismore for the celebrations in 1986.

*M.M.*

## Who likes a good read?

Saturday's paper is a must in our house, we scrutinise it from cover to cover. On Saturday the 8th September as I began my read I came upon an article about a forthcoming auction and sale of



books in TCD's Exam Hall from February 11th-13th, immediately I pencilled Thursday 13th in my diary. I knew that this was an unmissable event for me, a morning

where I could explore and search the book hoard to my heart's content.

On Thursday I duly caught the 52 Bus into town and alighted in Townsend Street, leaving me with just a short walk to the Front Gate of Trinity, then through the arch and across front square and on my right was the Exam Hall. I was excited, wondering what reading treasures lay in wait for me.

On passing through the great doors, trestle tables were adorned with boxes of books each displaying a large sign noting the subject matter of the books within. The myriad of signs displayed included, History, Geography, Music, Cookery, Archeology, Religion, Science, Fiction plus books for children. The titles were in a variety of languages. I began my enthusiastic search knowing there were treasures to behold.

Books have always excited me, books have enabled me to take many journeys just from within my own four walls. I was in my element, searching boxes, browsing titles, admiring book cover pictures, the book binding, guessing who might like to read this title or that title, wondering about the true plot that might emerge from a history book or the journey that an atlas might take me on. I wasn't alone in my searching, so many people were engrossed in their search of the boxes, it was as though we all were on a mission to find that book that would enlighten, entertain and maybe take us on a journey of discovery. A journey to Tibet or Honolulu or even to the north of Kathmandu to visit the *little yellow idol*.

After browsing for a couple of hours I settled on four titles, they were;

- *The Quilter's Legacy by Jennifer Chiaveerin*

- *Don't Wake me at Doyles by Maura Murphy*
- *Kids Can Cook by Sarah Webb*
- *Secret Laughter - Walter de la Mare poems - chosen by Eleanor Graham*

Content with my morning and my purchases I headed for the bus home. My bus journey home was enlightened by Walter de la Mare, luckily I raised my head in time to alight at my correct bus stop.

*MGM, February 2025*

**UNVEILED**

From 'Cúchulainn' to 'The Children of Lir', a talk by writer and technologist, **Niall Austin**, on how Artificial Intelligence can bring Ireland's rich mythology to life for emerging generations.

**NOCHTAITHE**  
O Cúchulainn 'go Clann Lir, cáint leis an scríbhneoir agus teicneolaí, Niall Austin, ar an mbealach ar feidir leis an Intleacht Shaorga míltaseolaíocht shiaibhir na hÉireann a thabhairt beo do ghlúnta atá ag teacht chun cinn.

Lucan Library: MON 10TH MARCH (6.30PM)  
Tallaght Library: TUE 11TH MARCH (6.30PM)  
Tallaght Library: WED 12TH MARCH (4PM)  
North Clondalkin Library: WED 12TH MARCH (6.30PM)  
Ballyroan Library: THURS 13TH MARCH (4PM)  
Civic Theatre (Studio): SAT 16TH MARCH (7PM)

Admission Free, but Booking is Required.  
Reserve Your Ticket Today on [Eventbrite.ie](https://www.eventbrite.ie)

*I find television very educating.  
Every time somebody turns on the set.  
I go into the other room and read a book.  
Groucho Marx.*



# Ministry Groups Welcoming New Members in 2025

## St. Patrick's, Esker and St. Mary's, Lucan

*Below is list of some of the groups you might be interested in joining.*

### Parish Pastor Council:

The Parish Pastoral Council are a group which in co-operation with the priests of the parish, seeks to plan for, and advise about, any matters that pertain to the pastoral life of the parish. They meet jointly (St Patrick's and St Mary's) usually 10 times per year.

*(Open to those over 18 yrs)*

### Parish Finance Committee:

The committee meet approx. 10 times per year to monitor and oversee the financial and property affairs of the parish, and to advise on the prudent use of the parish resources.

*(Open to those over 18 yrs)*



### Ministers of the Word:

Reading at the Sunday and/or weekday Masses.

*(Open to those over 14 yrs)*

### Ministers of the Eucharist:

Distributing Holy Communion at Mass and on occasion bringing Holy Communion to the sick and housebound.

*(Open to those over 18 yrs)*

### Baptism Team:

Preparing families for the Baptism of the children and assisting at the Baptism Ceremony.

*(Open to those over 18 yrs)*

### Funeral Team:

Working with bereaved families to assist in the preparation of the Funeral Liturgy. Leading prayers for the deceased in the family / funeral home and in the crematorium or at the graveside.

*(Open to those over 18 yrs)*

### Family Mass Group:

The 10.30am Mass in both parishes are aimed at young people and families. A small group of parents work in preparing the children for the prayers and readings at these Masses.

### Church Cleaners:

Visitors to both Churches often comment on how well kept the churches are. In St Patrick's this is down to a small group of volunteers who give their time each week to keeping things spick and span.

### Music Groups:

Both parishes are well served by several music groups that enhance our celebration of the Liturgy.

They are always open to new members.

### Altar Servers:

Boys and girls are welcome to become Altar Servers. This involves serving at one of the Sunday Masses.

*(Open to those over 8yrs, who have received their First Holy Communion)*

### Coffee Dock:

Always needed volunteers to make that CUPPA.

### Quote:

You may think your light is small,  
But it can make a huge difference  
In other people's lives.

*From Divine Mercy Missionaries Calendar*



YOU'RE NOT ALONE

### Older people need your support!

ALONE is recruiting volunteers to provide companionship and

support through their Telephone Support & Befriending service for older people.

ALONE asks that interested volunteers commit to one set shift of 2 hours per week for a minimum of 6 months.

Visit [alone.ie/volunteers](http://alone.ie/volunteers) for more information.



### Mixed bag of bits this week!

Doesn't look like we'll have our **swimming pool** anytime soon. One reader recalled that ten years ago when her grandchild was born, she thought she could soon be

taking him to the new facility in Lucan – it's getting to the stage now that he'll be more likely to go with his pals if waiting much longer.....

**Demesne Wall** – the cost of the recent work is mind-boggling! A total of €791,613 was spent, according to the national press, the amount included:

€12,300 for an emergency assessment of the damage and €16,000 for a report into the causes of the collapse; €47,000 was spent on a detailed design of the wall repair; and €35,000 was paid for the diversion of overhead ESB lines. A revised design for the project cost €23,000, while the contract for construction “using traditional materials and methods” cost €444,517. €168,000 was spent to incorporate added reinforcement of the structure. The cost of repairing the footpath on the Lucan Road was around €7,000, leaving nearly €39,000 spent on other bits.

*Good job they didn't have to replace the entire wall!*

**The Trees in Sarsfield Park** – Every time the residents look out their windows, more trees are appearing at the bottom of the hill – all part of the cycle way plan.....

### A pretty stump!

Speaking of trees, many trees were cut down in Hillcrest in recent years, and lots more planted – this colourful stump was spotted on Hillcrest Road during the past week. Indeed, nature is the best artist of all.



### Ballyowen Castle Community Centre

Email: [info@ballyowencommunitycentre.ie](mailto:info@ballyowencommunitycentre.ie)

Telephone: 01 253 6105 or 085 867 1245

Find us on Facebook and Instagram to see what's going on in the centre!



**Baby & Toddler:** Our Baby & Toddler Group is back on Mondays from 11-12.30 this is suitable for ages 0-3 and gives parents or caregiver a chance for a chat and well-deserved cup of tea.

**Active over 55's:** Due to popular demand our Qigong class has been extended until 6th of March. Everyone is really enjoying the class and the tea and chats after.

**Room booking:** Would you like to book a room in the centre for a meeting or a group activity? We have some availability and offer competitive rates. Email us to make a booking.

### Did you know.....

People once ate arsenic to improve their skin.

It's illegal to own only one guinea pig in Switzerland.

Approximately 10% of people are left-handed.



Cumann na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin



### New Club Sponsor

It was with immense pride on Thursday 30th January, that we officially launched and proudly welcomed EdgeConneX to our Club not only as one of our Main Partners but also as Sponsor to our Senior Camogie and Intermediate Ladies Football Teams.

Their decision to support our club and sponsor our Flagship Ladies Teams is a testament to their commitment to community, sportsmanship, and the development of our players. EdgeConneX stepping forward marks a turning point for our Ladies' Teams. We are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead and the positive impact their sponsorship will have on our club. "The alignment between the EdgeConneX WomenConneX employee resource group and the Lucan Sarsfields Ladies Teams made this partnership a natural fit. We are inspired by the dedication and talent of these athletes, and we are thrilled to support them as they aim for new heights in the coming seasons" - Angela Capon-VP of Marketing, EMEA, EdgeConneX EdgeConneX®, is a pioneer in global Build-to-Suit and Build-to-Density data centre solutions. EdgeConneX owns and operates 80+ data centres built and in development globally across four continents and 20+ countries.

[www.edgeconnex.com](http://www.edgeconnex.com).

### GAA National Club Draw

It is the time of year again for the GAA National Club Draw. Tickets for the draw cost €15 per ticket. All proceeds from the draw are allocated to the club selling the tickets.

This year we are again incentivising the sale of tickets. The Adult and Juvenile teams who sell the most tickets will get allocated the monies they raise up to a max value of €1K. Teams can sell their tickets online through the QR code on our poster or the link below, just select your desired team in the drop-down menu;

<https://lucansarsfields.clubzap.com/products/24009/purchases/new>

### Membership Renewal

The 2025 membership renewal season is well underway here at Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club! Membership runs from January 1st to December 31st, so let's get everyone set up for another great year.

#### Important reminders:

All managers, mentors, and committee members must be full members of Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club to participate. All players must have a current club membership, so they're covered by the injury fund to train and play. All players need to be registered on Foireann at least 3 days before a game to be eligible to play games.

Log on to foireann.ie and make sure your profile is up to date

Ready to renew? Just head over to Membership Signup and follow the steps. New members or transfers? If you're joining us for the first time, switching from another club, or having any trouble renewing, we've got your back. Drop us an email at [lucan.sarsfields.registrar@gmail.com](mailto:lucan.sarsfields.registrar@gmail.com), and we'll sort it out! Remember to log on to foireann.ie and add Lucan Sarsfields to your profile. Looking forward to seeing everyone back for an exciting year ahead!



Main Partner & Proud Sponsor of Lucan Sarsfields Senior Camogie and Intermediate Ladies Football Teams



### Lotto

We had no winner of last week's lotto jackpot of €1,000. The Numbers were **8, 13, 16, 25**. Lucky dip's go to Pat Keane, Emer Keenan, Cronan Dooley, Martin Mockler, AnneMarie O'Neill. This week's Lotto will be for a jackpot of €1,400. This draw is sponsored by Henley Forklift Group.



*Thank You for supporting Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club.*

# POLITICAL NOTES

Political Notes are limited to 150 words per report (including name and contact details).

## Derren Ó Brádaigh – Lucan Sinn Féin Area Rep

Mobile: 087-2136345 Email: [dobradaighsf@gmail.com](mailto:dobradaighsf@gmail.com)

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

Twitter: @DerrenBrady1

Web: [www.sinnfeindublinmidwest.com](http://www.sinnfeindublinmidwest.com)

**Castlegate – Road Safety Review:** Following yet another traffic accident near to the Giraffe Creche, I have submitted a formal request through our office to traffic management officials in the Council asking that they undertake a road traffic safety review at this location.

**Paddocks / Adamstown – Electrical Vehicle Chargers:** It was brought to my attention that an enforcement notice was issued by the management company to remove a number of EV charging units on communal spaces. I have been in contact with the company and have asked that SDCC provide clarification on their own guidelines in this regard.

### Grand Canal – Community Clean-Up:

Last Sunday volunteers with both Lucan and Adamstown Tidy Towns came together to lift a large volume of litter from along the canal. Well done to everyone that participated and thank you!

## Cllr. Caroline Brady - Fine Gael – P.C.

(085)2551602

[CBrady@Cllrs.SDublinCoCo.ie](mailto:CBrady@Cllrs.SDublinCoCo.ie)

**Beech Park Footpath:** The council confirmed that the damaged footpath in Beech Park is included in the 2025 Road Works Programme and will be renewed this year.

**Sarsfield Park Bench:** Following concerns about litter and broken glass near the bench by the Health Centre, the council will clean the area. I also requested that it be added to the village's regular cleaning schedule.

**Ball Alley Bus Stop:** Residents raised concerns about blocked or missing gullies near the Ball Alley Pub on Leixlip Road, causing flooding. The issue is referred to the Area Roads Engineer for investigation and report.

**Lucan House:** Have your say on the future of this local treasure by completing the online survey at [Consult.SDublinCoCo.ie](http://Consult.SDublinCoCo.ie) or email Teneo at [LucanHousePublicConsult@Teneo.com](mailto:LucanHousePublicConsult@Teneo.com) to join in-person consultations at Lucan Library.

## Minister Emer Higgins TD – Fine Gael

01 618 3013. Insta: @emerhigginstd

[www.facebook.com/EmerHigginsTD](http://www.facebook.com/EmerHigginsTD)

[emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie](mailto:emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie)

**Lucan House:** Public consultation is now open on the future of Lucan House, offering a great opportunity to help shape plans for this historic site. This is the first stage of consultation, with more opportunities to engage in the coming months. You can take part in an online survey until 13th March. If you haven't used the SDCC portal before, registration is required, but the process is simple.

Find the survey at: [emerhiggins.ie/forms](http://emerhiggins.ie/forms)

**Lucan Bell Tower Restoration:** I'm delighted that €91,752 has been allocated under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2025 to restore and protect historic buildings in Dublin Mid-West. Of this, €6,647.20 will support the restoration of the Lucan Bell Tower, preserving this landmark for future generations.

As always, if you have any queries or issues you'd like to raise, don't hesitate to reach out to me.

## Cllr. Helen Farrell, Independent

Working with Paul Gogarty, TD, Independent

Email: [hfarrell@cllrs.sdblincoco.ie](mailto:hfarrell@cllrs.sdblincoco.ie)

Tel: 087-2794936

Facebook: <http://bit.ly/4jHwrjR>

**Transport issues:** The planned meeting with Transport Infrastructure Ireland has been postponed. Awaiting a new date to discuss residents' issues. More to follow in due course.

**Lucan Pool:** A site visit for myself and the two other new co-opted Councillors to Lucan Leisure Campus and Pool was cancelled by SDCC. A disappointing update from the Director this week left many frustrated with the lack of clear timelines. I conveyed this to the Director and joined others to push for progress.

**Local issues:** I have made representations to SDCC about overhanging trees, broken public lighting, speeding in estates, optimising on-street parking on Lucan hill, road markings, and more. Contact me if you want assistance with local issues: [hfarrell@cllrs.sdblincoco.ie](mailto:hfarrell@cllrs.sdblincoco.ie).

**Lucan House & Demesne Consultation:** It's extremely important to have your say on the future of Lucan House & Demesne.

*Political Notes continued over.....*

## Paul Gogarty TD – Independent

Working with Cllr Helen Farrell

“Not just at election time”

Dáil office: 01-6184078. Whatsapp: 089-2364871

Website: [www.paulgogarty.com](http://www.paulgogarty.com)

**Dáil Report:** This week saw statements on maximising the benefits of artificial intelligence. I felt it was appropriate in this context to ask AI to write my speech, after inputting a number of parameters, You can judge for yourself on my social media... My Leader's Questions slot was done wholly through Irish, looking at ways to increase the use of the language... I also contributed to debates on housing, mental health, special educational needs and highlighted the shortage of public health nurses in Lucan and elsewhere for developmental checkups.

**Consultations:** Check my website for links to consultations on Lucan House and the revised Boardwalk proposal between Brookvale and Sarsfield Park. It's hugely important that everyone inputs.

**Airport Hopper:** Have written to NTA asking that they look at facilitating an alternative service through whatever means possible.

## Cllr. Liona O'Toole – Independent –

PC. 0872795274

[lotoole@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie](mailto:lotoole@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie) [www.lotoole.com](http://www.lotoole.com)

“Always working, always available”

**Public Consultation/Surveys:** A number of consultations are currently taking place locally, and I encourage everyone to review them and share their observations. Public input is invaluable when these reports are brought to local councillors for discussion and agreement.

I have assisted several groups and residents with various consultations. Below are the closing dates and links for each one. If you need any assistance, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

<https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/consultation/lucan-demesne-park-entrance> closing date 28.02.25 @5pm

<https://www.sdcc.ie/en/news/lucan-house-masterplan-consultation.html> closing date 13.03.25 @5pm

<https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/consultation/lucan-road-boardwalk-alterations> closing date 12.03.25 @6pm

**Traffic Congestion Study for Lucan:** I have tabled a motion for the next Area Committee meeting requesting a comprehensive study on traffic congestion in Lucan village. This includes reviewing traffic data, rat-running levels, the M50 toll impact, and past proposals. I will keep everyone updated on any developments following the meeting.



## Recipe For Happiness

*Two cups of patience.*

*One heart full of love.*

*Two handfuls of generosity.*

*A dash of laughter.*

*A heaped spoonful of understanding.*

*Sprinkle liberally with kindness.*

*Add a little faith and mix well.*

*Serve to everyone you meet.*

*Spread over a period of a lifetime.*

*Oh, and if it seems a wee bit under cooked occasionally.*

*Remember to apply forgiveness!*

**Author unknown.**





## St. Mary's Camera Soirée

The topic for photographs for the month of February is “Spring Flowers” and Brendan made his way to Altamont Garden last weekend. The gardens are located about 9 km from Tullow on the Bunclody Road.



Planted by generations

of owner-gardeners, Altamont contains a collection of trees dating from 1750 to the present day and there are many fine examples of trees, shrubs, herbaceous plants and bulbs. Brendan sent us some 27 of the photos he took for us to choose from!



Nearer to home Conor also submitted photos of wild daffodils and white and violet Crocus in Lucan Demesne. The mushroom craze has started again with Conor submitting a photo Tubaria Furfuracea, commonly known as the scurfy twigle. The species is considered inedible!

Conor captured some Bottlenose dolphin swimming off Dun Laoghaire pier. He says that while they are not rare in Dublin Bay they are not often seen. They are the most common Dolphin species found in captivity. Numerous investigations of bottlenose dolphin intelligence have been conducted, examining mimicry, use of artificial language, object categorization, and self-recognition. “Fungie”, also known as the Dingle Dolphin was a Bottlenose dolphin who was first seen in Dingle harbour in 1983 and continued to seek out human contact in the harbour over the following 38 years. In October 2020 he went missing. Marine experts have said that he either moved on to new waters, or simply died.



*Until next week stay safe!*