



Established 1967

www.lucannewsletter.ie

Subscription 80c

Sunday 9th January 2022

The passing of a gentleman

November 16th saw the sad passing of Don MacDonald. Don was a familiar figure in St. Mary's where for the last number of years he had worked as a voluntary Sacristan. He had just passed the ripe old age of 90. Don had a sharp keen mind and after his retirement from his profession as a civil engineer with Fingal County Council, he went on to do a degree in theology at St. Patrick's College Maynooth. Don was the quintessential gentleman, he was quiet-spoken and refined and dealt with all comers to the sacristy with a natural graciousness and charm. He loved his involvement in



the church and on many occasions recalled how it was Fr. Philip Bradley who, after the death of his beloved wife Riet, had suggested that it might be an interest and an outlet for him. He regarded his work as a service to the Lord and had a sense of privilege about it. Don had a great sense of humour and enjoyed many of my corny jokes laughing loudly. He brought his meticulousness as an engineer to his work and was diligent in all that he did.

He travelled each year to the shrine of Our Lady at Lourdes where he worked for two weeks as a volunteer in the workshops, repairing damaged wheelchairs and the distinctive chariots that convey the invalids to and from the sanctuaries.

He was a man of sterling faith and spent long hours in prayer. On many occasions after he had closed the church in the evening he would spend quiet time with the Lord. He was an avid reader and each Christmas I struggled to find some suitable religious book that would exercise his mind. He always read them in depth and had many questions for me that would give me pause for thought in the weeks after Christmas. In his seventies Don joined the Folk Group and as the 'elder lemon' became a popular figure among them, much loved and respected. (Photo above). In the final weeks of Don's life members of the folk group sang for him outside his window in Marymount care centre, much to his delight.

Cont'd over.....

The passing of a gentleman *cont'd*...



As a parish St. Mary's honoured Don's contribution to parish life when he, together with two other great figures in the life of the parish – the late Ewan O'Flynn and our own Billy Birnie were conferred with the Papal medal 'Bene Merenti' (Well-deserving). The Apostolic Nuncio presented the medals at a Sunday Mass on 28th January 2018, it was a lovely and memorable occasion.

Don died peacefully in Marymount on November 16th. We miss him greatly but know that he is now at home with the Lord. We were blessed to have known him. R.I.P.

*Philip Curran
St. Mary's Lucan*

Lucan Citizens Information Centre

From 1 January 2022, our telephone number is 0818 07 5090.

www.citizensinformation.ie

COVID-19 has changed the service we offer to the public. Our drop-in service is not currently available, but we are taking phone calls, answering emails, and providing a call back service.

Call us on 0818 07 5090, leave a message with your name and number and an Information Officer will return your call within 2 working days, or you can email your query to us at dscis@citinfo.ie and someone will reply.

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

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 Clondalkin phone 0818 07 2270

Face coverings during COVID-19

Wearing a face covering is recommended to help stop the spread of COVID-19. In some situations, wearing a face covering is the law, and you could be fined or imprisoned if you refuse to wear one without a reasonable excuse.



It is recommended to wear a face covering in situations where social distancing is difficult, for example, when visiting people who are more at risk of COVID-19.

It is also recommended that you wear a face covering in: Crowded workplaces, Places of worship, Busy or crowded outdoor spaces where a lot of people gather together

This document explains when to wear a face covering, the law on face coverings and gives advice on how to use one safely.

https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/health/covid19/face_coverings_during_covid19.html

Public holidays over Christmas and New Year

What are the public holidays over Christmas and New Year?

✓ Saturday, 25 December 2021

✓ Sunday, 26 December 2021

✓ Saturday 1 January 2022

Since the public holidays fall on a weekend, am I entitled to the following Monday off work instead?

No, you are not automatically entitled to a day off on the next working day (although some employers may choose to give you this day off).

Instead, when a public holiday falls on a weekend, you are entitled to either:

✓ An extra day of annual leave

✓ An additional days' pay

✓ A paid day off within a month of the public holiday

What are my entitlements if I work part-time?

If you work part-time, you are entitled to a full day's pay for the public holiday if:

✓ You worked for your employer for at least 40 hours in the 5 weeks leading up to the public holiday, and

✓ The public holiday falls on a day you normally work

If you do not normally work on that particular day (for example, a Saturday), you should get one-fifth of your weekly pay.

Read more about your employment rights on public holidays on citizensinformation.ie

<https://bit.ly/3ljy5KL> or call us on 0818 07 4000.

SOCIETY FOR OLD LUCAN (SOL)

SOL is the **local history group** for Lucan; open to everyone. Free to join - email

OldLucan@gmail.com. Facebook group; “Society for Old Lucan (SOL)” & Twitter:

@Soc4OldLucan. Website:

<https://soc4oldlucan.wordpress.com/>



2021 Review, by Helen Farrell, SOL Committee

2021 was a year that we had to concentrate more on lobbying and research, rather than in-person events, due to Covid-19 limitations. That said, we still managed to hold some events, with a very successful information day for Heritage Week in the medieval graveyard in Lucan village in the summer, attended by interested people of all ages.

We held a Bat Detection evening at St. Finian’s funded by SDCC as part of the conservation works and biodiversity study; unfortunately we didn’t receive the biodiversity study results in time for inclusion in this edition.

We also worked with local schools, including the successful collaboration with St. Joseph’s College, Lucan, where Paul Butler’s photographic project on the churches of Lucan old and new, hosted in Lucan Library, inspired the girls in Ms. Carey’s Transition Year religion class to choose a local history aspect to research and present projects on.

Members Adrienne and Hannah carried out online research using 18th century maps to log Lucan’s placenames online. Jonathan Cully set up the Lucan Memorial Campaign online and has been doing trojan work to continue his research into the military history (of all denominations and military backgrounds, Irish, British and other) of Lucan’s people in times past, as well as creating small physical memorials for all war dead from Lucan. Lesley Blairsdale continued her work on gathering information on the “Big Houses” of Lucan in a database.

We gathered feedback from SOL followers and made submissions to SDCC plans for the Canal Loop Greenway planned for Lucan.

Paul’s work also covered the 2022 fundraising calendar with the help of SOL members who submitted their photos, and we had an open morning in the graveyard in autumn to sell the calenders.

Finally, King John’s Bridge has been conserved and St. Finian’s church has been saved from

collapse by conservation works, so we are entering 2022 with a much brighter outlook for Lucan’s heritage.

However there is much work yet to be done, and the continued vigilance and support of our followers is essential in ensuring that we conserve and promote our remaining heritage, history and archaeology for future generations. Seeing the passion and involvement of members, both online and in-person during the year, was very encouraging and we thank all of you.

We always want to hear about local history research that members are doing, both small and large-scale, so make sure to contact us with your discoveries and questions, or if you want to get more involved in SOL.

Committee: Helen Farrell (chair), Elaine Hurley, Darren Tully, Paul Butler, Jonathan Cully and Lesley Blairsdale.

Contact: OldLucan@gmail.com



Lucan Planning Council

Lucan Planning Council were surprised at the turn out (over 150) to our public meeting held at Dodsboro on Saturday 18th Dec. 21.

The people of Dodsboro and surrounding areas made it clear to us they don’t want to lose route 25 and the rerouting of route 239 is unacceptable, (now L52).

The removal of routes 66A and 66B from Leixlip results in 66 (C3) passing lower Lucan full and creates uncertainty for people wishing to use public transport.

We have written to the NTA (December 29) on your behalf seeking a meeting to have these problems resolved. We will keep you informed of how things are progressing. We are very grateful for the support we got from Hillcrest Residents Association in distributing our bus meeting leaflets.

We will update you on other current projects when progress has been made.

On behalf of our Chair, Joe Byrne and the rest of the committee, we wish you a Happy New Year and that you remain safe in 2022.

*Caitríona McClean
(Secretary Lucan Planning Council)*

Parish Notes

St Mary's, Lucan

www.lucanparish.com

Sunday Mass Times

Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm

Sunday: 9am, 10.30am, 12 noon and 7pm.

Weekday Masses:

Monday to Saturday 10am

Important: We must continue to **wear face coverings in the church and use the hand sanitizer on the way in.**

For all Masses, please **enter the Church via the Main Door** and **exit via the other 2 doors.**

Masses will continue to be live-streamed on www.lucanparish.com

Baptism News January 2022

Baptisms in St Mary's recommenced on 7th August 2021 and from then until 19th December we had almost 120 children baptised.

Due to Covid 19 and its variants, it will not be possible to hold our customary annual blessing of children baptised in the previous year, on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which this year falls on Sunday next, 9th January.

However, they and their families will be remembered at the Masses this weekend in the Prayers of the Faithful. May God continue to bless them and their families with good health. *St Mary's Baptism Faith Friends Team*

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.

Confessions – Nuns' Chapel: After Saturday Morning 10am Mass and Saturday Evening 6.30pm Mass.

Deepest Sympathy to the wife family and friends of *Joe Harnett*, Esker Wood, to the family and friends of *Nancy Egan*, Lucan Heights and to the family and friends of *Dymphna Byrne*, Sarsfield Park. *May they rest in peace.*

Church Art Calendars for 2022

Available in the Parish Office or the Sacristy. Cost €1.50.



St. Patrick's Esker/ Doddsboro/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; it is an accessible liturgy for children and enables them to participate more fully in the Sunday Mass.

Weekday Masses: Monday to Friday at 10am.

All Masses continue to be livestreamed at stpatrickslucan.ie

We must continue to **wear face coverings in the church and use the hand sanitizer.**

View the following on www.stpatrickslucan.ie

Mass Readings for the week

Morning Prayer – Lauds

Evening Prayer – Vespers

Take five at 10 - Reflections–Weekdays: 10am

Taizé – Watch and Pray

Happy New Year 2022 Everyone.

Thanks immensely for all your support and dedication to our parish community in 2021.

We pray more joy, peace, good health, prosperity and growth in our faith life this 2022. Amen.

St. Andrew's Church of Ireland

St Andrew's, Lucan:

Sunday 10am. **Wednesday:** 10am

St Mary's, Leixlip:

Sunday: 11.30am. **Tuesday:** 10am

Services are available on our parish Facebook pages: [St. Andrew's Church, Lucan](#) or [St Mary's Church, Leixlip](#)



Anam Cara

South Dublin, the organisation that supports bereaved

parents, is holding its monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on **Monday 10th January at 7:20pm** 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. (subject to change in accordance with government guidelines).

Divine Mercy, Lucan South

www.lucansouthparish.net

Sunday Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil 6:30pm,

Sunday 10:15am and 12:15pm



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

Important: We need to be diligent in continuing with the **wearing of face coverings and hand sanitising upon entering the church.**

All Masses will be livestreamed on www.lucansouthparish.net

Thank you— As this is the New Year, words of appreciation are due to so many. Sincere thanks to all those involved in the Choirs during Christmas Eve and Christmas Masses in our Parish. Our gratitude is also due to our dedicated Sacristans. Many thanks to our housekeepers and to all involved in the decoration of the Church and for the organisation of setting up our beautiful Cribs. Christmas brings out the best in people and the talents and gifts of parishioners are generously expressed to enhance liturgy, worship and service. We would like to offer thanks to all involved in ministry in our Parish, they provide a great support to people at the various stages in spiritual life.

The Vintage Roadshow

The Vintage Roadshow will be at the **Lucan South Parish on the 13th January from 10.30am to 4pm.**

Join them and their expert team for incredible free valuations and top offers.

Have a look around the house for all those things you've neglected, ignores or just want to convert into cash. The Vintage Roadshow gives the general public the opportunity to bring their items along to a live roadshow. They would love to see you on the day and help you turn unwanted items into cash – check out what you can bring along to be valued <https://thevintageroadshow.ie/>

Lucan Presbyterian Church

Morning Worship: 11am.

You will need a face covering (unless exempt) and your own Bible.

Services will be streamed online and available on Youtube

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL THANK YOU

Happy New Year to all our loyal supporters. Throughout 2021, you continued your financial support of our work through the parish website, to the sacristy or parish office and to individual committee members. For this, we thank you all sincerely.

Reduced numbers at all masses didn't seem to lessen our Christmas appeal, as you all went out of your way to continue your support. Because of this, we were able to make Christmas less stressful for many families in our area.

Sincere thanks to the newsletter staff for their continuous coverage.

Thanks to Fr. Philip, Fr. Tom, sacristan Mary and parish secretary Deirdre for their encouragement and extra help in taking in donations; special thanks to several of our local schools—principals, staff, parents and students, who ran fundraisers for us.

Thanks to various local organisations who also ran fundraisers for us during the year.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir.

May you all have God's blessings throughout 2022.

St. Mary's Conference, Lucan.

Medjugorje Mass

Monday 10th January

St Mary's Church, Lucan

At 6.15pm

Rosary and Confessions

at 5.45pm



Thank You,

I'd like to say thank you to the following Fr Tom Kennedy, Fr Philip Curran, Sacristan Mary Douglas, our visiting priests Fr Pius, Fr Tomy George, Fr Aloysius, Fr Philip Bradley, Fr Joe Poole, Fr Tom Gilvoy and Fr Joe Coyne.

Also thank you to Ashling Byrne and Jacinta McGeever who recited the Rosary before Mass and also do the readings. Our Eucharist Ministers Mary Reilly, Sr Geraldine, Marie Peelo and Breedge Dowling. To Donal Glennon who sends our web texts and emails people. Donal also puts the images on screen above the altar. Thank you to the Newsletter.

If I have left out any person I apologise.

Thank you all,

Pat Colgan

Acknowledgement



VINCENT FITZGERALD

Rose, Martin and Robert wish to express our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to all who sympathised with us on our recent sad loss.

We wish to sincerely thank our extended family, friends, neighbours and the wider community, his Army colleagues, Richard Cummins, Andy Clarke, Viv Collins, Tony White and especially Steve Quigley who supported us through this very sad and difficult time and for their ongoing support.

We are very grateful to Fr Philip Curran, Sr. Geraldine, Mary Douglas, Bernie Martin and Eithne Donnelly for celebrating Vincent's beautiful funeral Mass.

Thank you to Cunningham's funeral team who were so helpful, also to Dr. Charles Smyth, Pauline, Carol and Pamela of Ryevald Medical Practice, to all the staff of Adrian Dunne's Pharmacy for all your kindness and support and to the doctors and nurses of St. Mark's Ward in the Hermitage hospital.



Our deep gratitude to the doctors, nurses and staff in St. Catherine's Ward, Our Lady's Hospice, Harold's Cross. We take comfort from the exceptional kindness and care they showed Vincent during what was a very sad and difficult time for our family.

Thank you to those who donated to Our Lady's Hospice in Vincent's memory.

We received many cards, phone calls and texts during Vincent's illness, our thanks to everyone who contacted us.

Our sincere thanks to those who sent messages of condolences, Mass cards, flowers and placed condolences on rip.ie, the Army website, Arco and Friends of the Second Garrison Facebook page.



We are grateful to all those who attended Vincent's funeral Mass and greatly appreciate all those who due to Covid could not attend but watched it via webcam.

As it would not be possible to contact everyone individually, please accept this acknowledgement as an expression of our sincere appreciation and gratitude.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for all your intentions.

*"An honest man here lies at rest,
The friend of man, the friend of truth,
The friend of age, and guide of youth:
Few hearts like his, with virtue warm'd,
Few heads with knowledge so inform'd;
If there's another world, he lives in bliss;
If there is none, he made the best of this."
- Robert Burns.*

Anniversaries

KITTY CARROLL

2nd Anniversary - 5th January

In our thoughts always.

Loved and dearly missed by all the family

JOSEPH (JOE) CURTIS

8th Anniversary - 3rd January

Loved and missed by all the family

THOMAS PAUL FARRELL

1st Anniversary - 10th January

Dublin and Ballina, Co. Mayo.

Only a prayer from those who loved you

Only a memory fond and true

Only a token of deep affection

From those who thought the world of you

*Loving sister Mary, brother Matt, Loretta, nieces,
nephews, grandchildren and extended family*

JOHN FITZGERALD

1st Anniversary

A smile for all, a heart of gold

The very best this world could hold

Never selfish, always kind

Those are the memories you left behind.

*Loved and missed by Ann, Cairtriona, Niamh,
Seán and all the family*

**Anniversary Mass will be held in St. Patrick's
Church, Esker, Lucan on Saturday 15th
January 2022 at 3.30pm.**

DENIS (DJ) McNAMARA

5th Anniversary - 14th January

Your life was a blessing

Your memory a treasure

You are loved beyond words

And missed beyond measure.

**Anniversary Mass will be held in St. Mary's on
Sunday 16th January 2022 at 12pm.**

Palmerstown Camera Club

Palmerstown Camera Club would like to wish all a Happy & Healthy New Year for 2022.



Last week we had a judging night in the camera club for our Weather themed monthly competition for Dec and there was a fantastic array of images on the night.

The speaker next week will be Mark from Shutter Ireland Photography, he is a wildlife photographer with a wealth of knowledge and years of experience, so it should be a good night.

A few weeks back we had our People's themed competition and some super images from our photographers. Below we have two of the winning images Paddy Wright titled "Where's Mother" which won in the intermediate open section.



And Noleen Kavanagh won in the advanced colour section with her titled image "Pawn for thought".



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 sepcce@gmail.com



Hello to all members of Lucan Men's Shed!

The plan was to reopen the Shed next Tuesday at 10.00, but a decision was reached to keep it closed, for the time being, because of the situation with COVID-19, with its variant, OMICRON and whatever they may bring.

Restrictions introduced in December, particularly in relation to visiting family and friends over the holiday season, were changed not long after coming into force and it is always possible that they may be subject to further adjustment yet again. We can only wait to see what will happen. In the meantime, please remember that the Shed is closed and will remain closed until further notice.

Please bear in mind that all of the customary precautions remain in force, now, more than ever, when you come to the Shed, in the same way as if you are going anywhere else. No matter what name you may ascribe to it, it is COVID-19, it continues to be rampant and you ignore it at your peril. It is not safe out there.

The figures cannot be set aside and forgotten, because they are escalating as this text is being written. More than ever, we need to wear a face covering, wash hands regularly and follow social distancing guidelines when in the company of others.

Don't forget your face mask and remember ventilation, if you are in restricted space.

Lucan Library

Getting your Child to talk more in your Language

31st January at 7pm Via Zoom.

How do I motivate my child to speak to me in my language? This is definitely one of the most frequently asked questions for bilingual families. Whether you speak Gaeilge or Yoruba at home, this talk is for you. Join Dr Francesca La Morgia, linguist and founder of Mother Tongues, for a webinar full of practical tips, tried and tested by parents raising bilingual children and find out about the best strategies to encourage your child to talk more in your language. Ideal for parents of children between the ages of 2 and 12.

1 participant per device.

A valid email address is required. Zoom links to the event will be emailed to the supplied address by the facilitator.



Happy New Year to all!

Please God, we'll have a better year ahead, as we're all looking to Spring!

Have you noticed the early Daffs peeping up, and a good little stretch in the evenings?

We'll be boosted many times over, I think! It's just as well that the vaccination programme is as progressive as it is – it doesn't bear thinking about where we would be without it.

Below is an interesting piece found on Twitter!

Elizabeth Boyle (@thecelticist)

An Irish scribe wrote on Christmas Eve, 671 years ago:

It is one thousand three hundred and fifty years tonight since Jesus Christ was born, and in the second year after the coming of the plague to Ireland was this written and I myself am full twenty one years old...and let every reader in pity recite a 'pater' for my soul. It is Christmas Eve tonight, and under the protection of the King of Heaven and earth I am on this Eve tonight. May the end of my life be holy and may this great plague pass by me and my friends, and restore us once more to joy and gladness. Amen. *Pater Noster*. Aed, Mac Concubair mac Gilla na Naem, Mic Duinnslebe Mic Aodhagáin wrote this on his father's book, the year of the great plague.

The above was translated from old Gaelic, and after a further bit of probing, we found that Aed who was part of Connaught royalty, did survive the plague of the day, which was the 'Black Death', also known as the Bubonic Plague. Sadly he passed away five years later, at the age of 26.

The 'Black Death', or Bubonic plague, was rife in Ireland from 1348 to 1350, when between a quarter and third of the population died during the first outbreak. The source of the outbreak in Ireland was rats coming off ships which had docked from other European countries.

Cars parking on footpaths a frequent occurrence!

The area near AIB and the Garda Station is particularly bad. A recent press report told of an ongoing court case where a man was assaulted for pointing out to a driver that he was blocking the footpath along here.

It boggles the mind how some drivers think they are entitled to park on footpaths – “just for a few minutes”, putting pedestrians in danger by having to walk out on the roadway.

20 years of Euro!

The Euro currency came into circulation at the beginning of 2002, when the fixed conversion rate was €1 = IR£0.787564.

Who remembers the little calculator sent to all homes?

The Irish grappled with dual currencies up to the 9th of February 2002, when the old punts were no longer legal tender.



It was great to be able to go on holidays to so many countries without having to change your money anymore!

Hard to believe but there is still almost €350 million worth of old Irish pounds out there still waiting to be changed into Euro, twenty years on! The good news is that the Central Bank of Ireland will still exchange to old currency for the Euro.

Droichid Na hÉireann

We spotted Lucan's **Alan Byrne** chatting with Lochlann Ó Mearáin, on RTE's *Droichid na hÉireann*, on Monday night last.



Alan gave a very interesting account of our fine stone bridge and the river and wildlife in the area, much of his knowledge on the latter acquired from his time fishing the local stretch.

It was an excellent programme, now available on the RTE Player.

Incidentally, Lucan's single span stone bridge, completed in 1814, is exactly 110 ½ ft long, the longest of its type in Ireland!

St. Mary's Camera Soirée

The members of St. Mary's Camera Soiree wish all readers of the Lucan Newsletter every good fortune in 2022.

Looking back on the year just ended it is nice to record that despite COVID the group continued with its activities as normally as restrictions would allow.



Throughout the year members of the group exchanged their photographs on WhatsApp and many of these photographs appeared in the Newsletter. During the severest of lockdowns, the group held their usual Friday meetings on line. During the Summer we were able to organise a series of field trips as usual and from October we were back in the Parish Centre for our meetings on Friday mornings wearing masks and with windows and doors open.

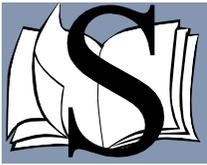


Arrangements for our 9th annual photography exhibition, our 2nd on line, are nearly finalised and the exhibition will be mounted on the Parish website at the end of January. There will be almost 50 photographs in the exhibition. The impact of COVID on foreign travel will be seen in the exhibition as there will not be any photographs from outside of Ireland.

This week Conor submitted a photograph of snowdrops reflecting the extraordinary weather we have had up to this week. Conor also submitted a photograph of our favourite bird, the robin, apparently eating out of a young person's hand! Donal was in the city taking night-time photographs of the Christmas lights in Grafton Street, Josie got as far as Bray and Joe had all his ducks in a row in the village.



Until next week stay safe!



SCHOOL NEWS



St. Joseph's College

Parents Association Surprise: Our students got a fantastic surprise on what was a very busy day in St Joseph's College when the sound of an ice cream van could be heard shortly after 11.00 am today. Much to the delight of the students the Parents Association had organised an early Christmas treat for everyone in the school. Soon after Lorraine's two Ice Cream vans got into position the students filed down to the yard in an orderly fashion, class group by class group. The students received an ice cream cone each topped with a flake and covered in syrup by members of the Parents Association. These cones went down a treat with all the students and the staff. We would like to say a huge Thank You to the Parents Association not only for organising this treat for us all but also for the Christmas Playlist and Christmas Costumes which has really got us all in the Christmas spirit.



Capuchin Day Centre Charity Fundraiser: Ms Kearney worked tirelessly all week selling raffle tickets with a lovely hamper up for grabs with the proceeds going to The Capuchin Day Centre which provides food and meals for the numerous homeless people in the Dublin City Centre Area. After a very successful week of fundraising Ms Kearney raised over €440, well done to Ms Kearney for all her work on this fundraiser. On Friday the draw for the hamper took place with Ms. Byrnes ticket coming out as the winning ticket.

Marymount Nursing Home: Ms Kearney and Ms Mellet have been going to entertain the residents of Marymount Care Centre for the past 24 years at Christmas time as a great musical duet. Last year and this year this event as well as

many more had to be done virtually with all of the carols pre-recorded and sent to the residents via video rather than doing so in person because of Covid Protection Measures. On Thursday Ms Kearney dropped up a USB stick loaded with pre-recorded Christmas Carols and some gifts to Marymount for the residents to enjoy. Well done to both for their effort in keeping this tradition alive and well during the most difficult of times.

Simon Harris Visits St Josephs: We were delighted on Thursday to welcome the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to our School Mr. Simon Harris. He was accompanied on his visit by his colleague in the Dáil local TD Emer Higgins and by his party colleague local Councillor Vicky Casserly. Mr Harris visited our 5th year Politics class for a question and answer session and to discuss the pathways available to them after they leave secondary school.

Mr Harris addressed the class and a small group assembled and publicly thanked the students and staff for the efforts and diligence throughout the pandemic and asked for continued patience and efforts going forward. He then discussed the new CAO website and the pathways to further education that for the first time this year is available on the CAO website. The Minister noted that the direct route into University is not for all and used the example of assembled past pupil Grainne Mc Gee who is studying pre nursing in Inchicore College as a pathway into Nursing as being a great role model for future students of someone that didn't allow the disappointment of not receiving her first choice in the CAO to stop her from achieving her dream of becoming a nurse.

School Principal Bernadette Fitzgerald thanked Mr. Harris for his time and she also personally thanked TD Emer Higgins for all of her work on the new building project which is imminent. She then invited Mr Harris and Ms Higgins to view the plans for the new school extension. We would again like to thank them for taking time out of their busy schedules to visit us on what was an exciting day in our school community.

Carol Service: On Monday 20th of December, we had our Annual Carol Service, again this year we had to hold this event through zoom webinar to ensure the safety of our entire school community. We were delighted that Fr. Tom could join us in school to lead the prayer service. We also had prayers of the faithful from members of the Student Council. In between the lighting of the advent candles we were treated to some beautiful carol singing from students and staff. Well done!



Happy New Year from the staff & volunteers at Liffey Sound 96.4FM. We are on-air Monday to Fridays 3pm- 11pm and 8am- 10pm on Saturdays & Sundays.

www.liffeysoundfm.ie or catch up on Facebook Liffey Sound 96.4FM- Lucan's Community radio station!



Lucan Newsletter Office is **NOT OPEN** at the moment, but leave your ads, queries or notices in the **letter box at St. Mary's Parish Centre, before 10pm on Wednesday night**, and we'll collect and look after them. Alternately email notices/reports to any of the following:
Community / Schools/ Local History
marylucannewsletter@gmail.com

Sport / Politics
roselucannewsletter@gmail.com

Parish Notes / Fund Raising
annalucannewsletter@gmail.com

Anniversaries etc / Advertising Queries
catherinelucannewsletter@gmail.com

Christmas Tree Recycling

South Dublin County Council Christmas Tree Recycling service will be available until Monday, January 17, offering the opportunity for households to dispose of their Christmas trees responsibly.

Lucan Locations:
Beechpark open space
Sarsfield Park open space
Hayden's Lane Car Park in
Griffeen Valley Park
Foxborough open space



Found

Sum of Money found on Christmas Eve on the Lucan Road. Phone 085-1505366.

Back Home

If I had the power to turn back the clock,
and go back to that house at the end of the block.

The house that was home when I was a kid,
I know that I'd love it more now than I did.

If I could be back there at my mother's knee,
and hear once again, the things she told me.
I'd listen now as I never listened before,
for she knew so well what life had in store.

And all the advice my dad used to give...
his voice I'll remember as long as I live.
But it didn't seem really important then,
what I'd give to live it all over again.

Wells Family - 1st ever taken
What I'd give for the chance I once had,
to do so much more for my mom and dad.
To give them more joy and little less pain,
a little more sunshine-a lot less rain.

But years roll on and i cannot go back,
whether I was born in a mansion or a shack.
I can start right now in the hour that's here,
to do something more for the ones I hold dear.
And since time in its flight is traveling so fast,
I can't spend it regretting that which is past.
But I'll try to make tomorrow a happier day,
By doing my Good unto Others...Today.

(Author Unknown)



Emer Higgins TD – Fine Gael

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78 The Orchard, Lucan.

Athbhliain Faoi Mhaise:

Unfortunately, we are starting another year from a place none of us want to be in. With Omicron variant rampant in our communities, many people had their Christmas plans upended, and our testing centres and our health service are under huge pressure.

Testing capacity has been vastly increased to respond to the spread of disease – from 100,000 PCR tests per week, we are now providing over 300,000 PCR tests per week. Antigen tests will be sent to those under 39 to help cope with these peak weeks.

However, we remain ever hopeful. Over half of our adult population is now boosted, vaccines are being rolled out to under 12s and advances in science and research will continue to bolster our protection against Covid-19.

Christmas Tree Recycling:

Drop off from 4th – 17th January at Beech Park, Sarsfield Park, Hayden's Lane car park in Griffeen Valley Park.

Cllr Shane Moynihan - Fianna Fáil

(Palmerstown-Fonthill) Ph: 087 7840898

Email: smoynihan@cllrs.dublincoco.ie

[facebook.com/cllrshaneMoynihan](https://www.facebook.com/cllrshaneMoynihan)

Twitter: @shanemoynihan

Athbhliain faoi mhaise!

Happy New Year to the Lucan Newsletter team and readers. I have no doubt that the Newsletter will continue to be a source of comfort and invaluable information during 2022.

Lighting on Castle Road:

I was delighted to learn that the Council will install outreach canopies on Castle Road this year to improve the lighting, especially near the bus stop at Earlsfort. I raised this need, following concerns expressed by local residents about public safety.



Enrolment 2022

St. Thomas' J.N.S.

Esker, Lucan, Co. Dublin

Junior Infants (2022)

**Closing date for applications
is January 28th 2022.**



Please see our website www.stthomasjns.com
for further information regarding the registration
process.

*To be able to look backwards and say
'This has been the finest year of my life',
that is glorious. But to be able to look ahead
and say. 'this coming year can and will be
even finer, that is even more glorious.*

*Take time to think –
It is the source of power.
Take time to read –
It is the foundation of wisdom.
Take time to play –
It is the secret of staying young.
Take time to be quiet –
It is the opportunity to seek God.
Take time to be aware –
It is the opportunity to help others.
Take time to love and be loved –
It is life's greatest gift.
Take time to laugh –
It is the music of the soul.
Take time to be friendly –
It is the road to happiness.
Take time to dream –
It is what the future is made of.
Take time to pray –
It is the greatest power on earth.*

*My face in the mirror
Isn't wrinkled or drawn.
My house isn't dirty
The cobwebs are gone.
My garden looks lovely
And so does my lawn.
I think I might never
Put my glasses back on.*



SPORTS

LUCAN HARRIERS A.C.

On a very wet Christmas morning the Goal mile returned to Lucan Harriers new track after the 2020 version had to go virtual. It was the 20th consecutive year that Lucan Harriers had an organised event and a lot of this is down to Gerry Martin, who has been the main organiser of the event over the years.



The O'Toole family

All ages turned out and didn't let the rain and wind dampen the Christmas Spirit. Runners and non-runners of all abilities took part. Most ran for fun, others taking it a bit more seriously, either way it was a great event. It took place from 10am



to 12 midday, so it gave people plenty of time to get home and digest their breakfast before further indulging in their Christmas Dinner.

Many members of Lucan Harriers and neighbouring clubs took part on the day, many more took part virtually by registering

online. Other local sports Clubs such as Lucan Sarsfield's and Weston Hockey also turned up in their club colours, as well as some of the local soccer clubs. We also had the Fastest Santa in the West.



The Aherne family

Plenty of Green Goal Tee Shirts were on display as well as the Red and Black of Lucan Harriers

Approx €3000 was collected on the day while more has yet to be credited to Harriers contribution through the online registration A big thank you to the volunteers and to everyone in the Lucan community who support this event this year and every year.



Pat and Blathnaid O' Dwyer

LUCAN HARRIERS A.C.



Deirdre Counihan, Sinead Farrell, Bernie Stapleton



Caro Kearney and Annette Durkan of Lucan Harriers



From Left Colm O' Connor, Aidan Montague, Will Byrne, Pat O Dwyer, Derek Lynch, Rob Brannigan, and Colin O' Gara

Below: Sinead Farrell, Will Byrne, Lynne Ganadin



Eddie and Sue Doyle



From the RTE Archives



Some screen-grabs from this short little video from RTE Archives twitter feed, which introduced Hall's Pictorial Weekly on 17th November 1976.

Left: Sheila Corrigan with daughter, Denise, in front of Vesey Terrace.

The famed Coffee House, where the road goes up to Laraghcon these days.



Kevin Moffett from Dodsboro, was out on his High Nellie!

Below: Hetty Saunders from Vesey Terrace was doing her bit long before Tidy Towns was heard of in Lucan.



Mr. Toolan and son Michael at the door of their Spar Shop in the Village.

Such excitement back then!