



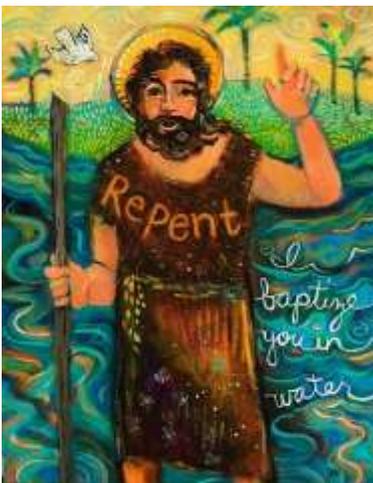
Established 1967

www.lucannewsletter.ie

Sub. 80c

Sunday 22nd November 2020

Celebrating Advent in the pandemic.....



The season of Advent begins on Sunday November 29th and lasts for the four-week leading up to Christmas. Advent is traditionally a time of waiting and of preparation when the readings of the Sunday Masses introduce us to the themes of making straight the path of 'he who comes' by personal prayer and a spirit of repentance. John the Baptist is a key figure in the season, the 'wild man of the desert' calling all who will listen, to wake up and get ready for the main event which is soon to happen. John presents preparation for Christ as a time for cleansing, cleansing from injustice, dishonesty and wrongdoing of every kind. It's all a time and an opportunity for putting right the wrongs of our past and putting mercy and justice in the driving seat of our lives. He urges us to use our positions in life as a means for furthering the welfare of others and ensuring that those on the margins are not frozen out. John holds a strange fascination not just for the people of his own day but for all who hear of his 'alternative' lifestyle, his unfashionable wardrobe and

strange diet, which has echoes of the hippies of the 60's although with a much more noble end in mind. His life and preaching were highly effective and the crowds flocked to him in the wilderness entranced by his call to renewal and a fresh start. All kinds of ordinary folk were drawn to him, people who perhaps were coming to the realisation that there is more to life than meets the eye, much more than material things can ever satisfy.

Advent 2020 finds us in the middle of a global pandemic, at an unprecedented point in time when many things that we did on 'auto-pilot' have simply become impossible. Much of the activity that occupies so much of our time has ground to a halt. We certainly have more time on our hands than we ever imagined and the luxury of time to reflect on what is of true importance and what is a mere distraction.

The next few weeks offer a spiritual opportunity to prepare in a meaningful sense for the celebration of Christ's birth. We would do well to focus on John the Baptist during these weeks and to heed and answer his call to wake up and get ready. John symbolised that new beginning by a washing in the waters of the Jordan. Washing both cleanses and refreshes, it renews and reinvigorates. John's baptism was but a pale reflection of what was to come in the baptism offered by Jesus, in his Baptism all sin would be wiped away and the newly baptised welcomed into the very life of God himself, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. May the coming season of Advent wake us up to the reality of who we truly are. May it challenge and inspire us to as St. Paul puts it "live lives worthy of your (our) calling." ***Ephesians 4:1***

Philip Curran
St. Mary's Lucan

Lucan Citizens Information Centre

www.citizensinformation.ie

The CIC office is closed for personal callers until further notice.



During the COVID-19 pandemic, you can find comprehensive integrated information online at citizensinformation.ie/covid19/ and you can get daily updates on what's changed on Twitter at @citizensinfo. You can also get information and advice from: The Citizens Information Phone Service: Call 0761 07 4000, Monday to Friday, 9am – 8pm.

Our national call back service: Visit citizensinformation.ie/callback to request a phone call from an information officer. A limited number of appointments are being made in Citizens Information Centres offices where social distancing can be facilitated.

The CIC office is closed for personal callers until further notice.

NB: Please note the following change to our email address

People can ring 0761 07 5000 and leave a message, and someone will return their call, or they can email dscis@citinfo.ie and someone will reply to their email.

MABS - Money Advice and Budgeting Service

If you're behind in your mortgage payments, you may be worried about losing your home. Talk to your lender. If you can't - talk to MABS. MABS now has a dedicated confidential, free, and independent mortgage arrears service. MABS is a one-stop-shop for mortgage debt advice and referral.

No matter what your situation is, MABS will help you work out the next steps.

Take control of what happens next.

Call MABS today on 0761 07 2000 for independent information, advice and referral.

Treoir

The national federation of services for unmarried parents and their children.

Treoir provides a free, confidential, specialist information service for unmarried parents, living together or apart, their extended families and those working with them.

Information is available on Legal, Social Welfare and Parenting issues.

<https://www.treoir.ie/about/about-treoir/>

Helplines

Still Here Campaign - if your home isn't safe support is still here. <https://www.stillhere.ie/>

Women's Aid provides information and support services for women and children who are victims of domestic violence. These supports include a 24-hour helpline (Freephone 1800 341 900) and a court accompaniment service. More information is on womensaid.ie.

Men's Aid (*formerly known as Amen*) is a voluntary organisation which provides a confidential helpline, a support service and information for male victims of domestic abuse. You can contact AnyMan Support Services on (01) 5543811.

Going to College

Information on going to college including paying for college, student grants and tax relief on college fees is available on https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/education/t hird_level_education/colleges_and_qualifications/going_to_college_life_event.html



CRAOL, the umbrella organisation for community radio in Ireland held their annual Achievement awards online last Friday the 13th of November.

Congratulations to our own Technical Support Officer, Jon White who picked up a Gold award for his technical ability in 2020. Jon trained so many volunteers to record their programmes remotely during the Covid pandemic.

Congratulations also to our volunteer, Kelly Darcy who picked up a Silver Award for her programme, "Hot Hits". "Hot Hits" is broadcast on Saturdays at 4pm. Each week Kelly plays tracks from Irish hip-hop and urban artists. On the show, she features tracks from subgenres such as Afrobeats, Trap, R&B, Drill and many more. Kelly has interviewed many Irish artists where she delves into their back-stories, gets the secrets behind their songs/projects and finds out what is next for them. Irish Hip Hop artists don't get much air time on commercial radio and Kelly provides that platform for them!

Stay safe and well, the Liffey Sound team.

www.liffeysoundfm.ie or catch up on Facebook

Liffey Sound 96.4FM - Lucan's Community Radio Station!



LUCAN



Christmas Community Spirit

Let's spread a little joy this Christmas
This year has been extremely hard on everyone in our community but especially our elderly. Debi Nevin from Lucan has decided to do something extra special this year and needs our help.

Debi's mum Joan is a resident of one of our local nursing homes. Joan has lost many of her dear friends to covid and hasn't been able to spend time with friends and family. Now like many more Joan may not be able to spend Christmas at home.

So let's spread a little joy.

We are calling on our local schoolchildren to write cards or letters to brighten up their Christmas.

We are also asking for gift donations, to give everyone in our three local nursing homes a little present to let them know we are thinking of them and how special they are to us.

Gifts and cards can be dropped to **Lucan Garda Station** or anyone who wishes to donate can also email noreen.c.barrett@garda.ie and items can be collected.

Santa will make a special delivery the week before Christmas, so we would ask that donations be dropped by the 12th of December.

Thank you to everyone in advance. Gifts may include: Chocolates, Sweets, Toiletry Sets, Perfumes, Soaps, Socks, Scarfs, Blankets, Books, Arts and Crafts, Stationery, Knitting Supplies, Puzzles Jigsaws, Magazines, Costume Jewellery, Hairbrushes etc.

We would ask that all gifts be unwrapped and in a gift bag. All items will be sanitised and quarantined for the required time.

Official committee members canvassing for gifts are Debi Nevin & Anne Rogers.



Woodville Downs Residents Assoc. including Esker Lane

Right turn onto N4

The latest proposed busconnects route from Lucan to the city centre has been published. Whereas they have conceded by maintaining the right turn westbound on Woodies bridge towards Ballyowen junction, they've made the two lanes in this direction into one. The consequences of this decision will have serious traffic ramifications.

Traffic going towards Ballyowen junction will have to queue behind right turning traffic westbound. A filter light option for right turn will not be enough to keep flow of traffic due to the narrowing of the lane to facilitate a cycle lane. There will be knock on delays to traffic coming into this junction from Foxhunter slip road and Ballyowen junction to allow for reduced green light times.

There is a clear risk if this option is chosen that later re-evaluations of traffic might decide to close right turn versus alternative route for cycle lane. We have already been told that if right turn was closed traffic have extra 7 minute travel option of going to Liffey Valley junction or through congested Lucan Village to go westbound on N4. Some traffic would probably use Hermitage estate entrance as a u-turning option. Denying existing access to the N4 and creating more congestion and pollution is a clear possibility here.

Residents, businesses, schools and commuters through this junction and indeed Lucan village should take this crucial opportunity to lodge an objection against the current change in layout of these lane and seek an alternative option for a safe cycle lane without drastic traffic impact.

Our association hopes that those who objected to the Foxhunter development plans will join this objection also.

Closing date is December 16th Busconnects.ie

Contact us: woodvilledowns@hotmail.com

Lost

Pair of Ladies Glasses lost on Wednesday morning 18 /11/2020, on Meadow View Grove Hillcrest / Dodsboro.

Contact: 087 2359271

Found

A Sum of Money one night last week on the Dublin side of St Marys Church.

Contact: 0876781552

Parish Notes

St. Patrick's Esker/Doddsboro/ Adamstown

www.stpatrickslucan.ie



All Masses will be livestreamed only during level 5 measures on www.stpatrickslucan.ie

Sunday Masses:

Vigil Saturday 7pm, 9am 10.30am Family Mass and 12 noon.

Weekday Masses:

Monday to Friday at 10am.

November Altar List of the Dead:

We will keep all last year's names in our Altar list of the Dead for this year. If you want to add new names to the list, please email:

stpatrickschurchlucan@gmail.com

Private Prayer:

Church is open for private prayer, weekdays 10 am to 12 noon.

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

Divine Mercy, Lucan South

www.lucansouthparish.net

All Masses will be livestreamed only on www.lucansouthparish.net

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 6.30pm,

Sunday 10:30am and 12.15pm

Weekday Mass:

Monday to Friday 9:15am. Saturday 10am.

Private Prayer: While the Church is not open to parishioners for Mass, the Faustina Chapel is open for private prayer from **10am to 12 noon**

Monday to Friday. Please remember to sanitise your hands when you enter and wear a face covering if you would like to visit the Church so it can remain a safe space for everyone.

St Mary's, Lucan

www.lucanparish.com

Masses will be available on the webcam at www.lucanparish.com

Sunday Masses:

Vigil Mass Saturday: 6.30pm

Sunday: 11am

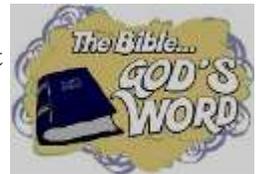
Weekday Masses:

Monday to Saturday: 10am

Praying with Scripture

Praying with scripture is now resuming on zoom. Over the past two weeks we have tested it with a small group and it has worked very well.

If interested contact
Cheryl Murphy at
086 834 3754
to register



Mass of Remembrance

Candles:

There are some candles awaiting collection from the Church. They are on a table beside the sacristy. If you are unable to get to the Church maybe you could ask a neighbour to collect the candle for you.



Private Prayer:

The church will be open daily from **10.30am to 6pm – Monday to Saturday** (funerals permitting) and **noon to 6pm on Sundays** for private prayer. Please ensure social distancing when visiting the church and use hand sanitizers provided when entering and leaving.

Church Art Calendar 2021

Available in the Parish Centre.

Parish Office is open:

Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri.

From 9.30am to 1pm. Cost €2.

Please ring door bell.



Music at Maynooth University



In normal times the Music Department of Maynooth University runs a weekly series of live music recitals open to the public during each semester. COVID19 has put an end to this live musical activity as it has done to every other live cultural activity that would normally have an audience. However the Music Department, not to be defeated, has reorganised their programme for the first semester of the academic year 2020/2021 and has been recording the scheduled concerts for subsequent transmission on their utube channel.

The concert that has been available on the channel since Thursday 19th November may be of interest to some readers of the Newsletter. As part of the series Lucan resident **Michael Grant** (Piano) and his good friend **Pdraig O'Rourke** (baritone) have recorded a recital of songs by Ludwig van Beethoven, marking the 250th anniversary of that composer's birth this year as well as a selection of songs by Franz Schubert. The recital can be found by following this link.

<https://youtu.be/Uh73c-WRV38>

Christmas Cards

Available from St Mary's Parish Centre:

Christmas Novena Mass Cards

Christmas Mass Bouquet

Also available

Charity Packs of cards

in aid of

Peter McVerry Trust

Nagarhope (pack of 12 - €5)

All available from 23rd November

Opening hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from **9.30am - 12.30pm.** **Please ring door bell.**



"TO BE OR NOT TO BE"?

How precious is LIFE?

When I was 11 yrs old in 5th class in school, I was asked to write a short essay on Euthanasia. I understood it had something to do with ending the life of a human being and I was horrified at the concept.

At home we always had animals, dog, cat, tortoise, birds, and over time one or other had to go to the vet and sometimes never returned which caused a long period of sadness and grief in the whole family. We had become emotionally attached, and of course it would have been wrong to leave an animal in pain.

Human beings I understood at this early stage in my life were totally different. Created in the image and likeness of God. Life being God's gift to us and one day we would return to God having lived out our lives in his service. Our decision is not when we die but how we live.

We have some of the best hospitals in the world, in Ireland. We have Hospice care for terminally ill people who are given the opportunity to die with dignity.

In countries where euthanasia exists, older people are afraid to go to hospital!

Could those suffering from depression or mental illness make rational decisions? At 11 yrs old I never expected that we here in Ireland would have this topic debated in our Dail in my life time. It was given 75minutes debate with each person from those opposed given 4 minutes to speak before it passed its second stage.

What has happened to us?

Agnes Garvey.

Alternative Dictionary (?)

Accordion – bagpipe with pleats

Baby – a lot of noise at one end and no sense of responsibility at the other

Bacteria – back door to the cafeteria

Bore – a man, when asked how he is – tells you

Chicken – a creature you eat before it's born and after it's dead

Friend – a person who dislikes the same people you do

Anniversaries

CLARKE (ALBERT - NOBBY)

4th Anniversary - 28th November

'If Roses Grow in Heaven'
If roses grow in Heaven Lord
Please pick a bunch for me
Place them in my husband's arms
And tell him they're from me
Tell him I love him and miss him
And when he turns to smile
Place a kiss upon his cheek
And hold him for a while
Because remembering him is easy
I do it every day
But there is an ache within my heart
That will never go away.
Missed forever and always by your Breda xxx



CLARKE (ALBERT - NOBBY)

4th Anniversary - 28th November

Dad,
I'm holding back the tears today
Remembering anew
Those wonderful and precious years
Spent happily with you
And I can't think of anything
I wouldn't give to see
That lovable familiar face
That meant so much to me
Just to spend a day with you
And laugh with you again
For since you've been gone Dad
Life's never been the same
Loved and remembered always by Robert, Karen, Lisa, Dawn, Sandra, Lynsey, Alan, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandchildren and great grandchildren xxx

EIFFE (BREDA)

6th Anniversary - 22nd November

Another year, how time does fly
It's a tough hard world to say goodbye
How I miss the chat
And the 'auld' mug of tea
Those were the days
Meant the world to me
You'll never be forgotten
You're the star that shines so bright
I still have me "auld" mug of tea
And look up Ma and say goodnight.
Sadly missed by your loving son Viv and Joanne xx
Also remembering Da (**Jimmy**) xx



JARVIS (ELIZABETH - ANNE)

9th Anniversary - 27th November

Mom,
There are no words to tell you Mom
What losing you has meant
But now each day brings memories
Of happy years we spent
You'd want us all to smile again
And that's just what we do
Every time we reminisce
With loving thoughts of you
You're with us when
Each new day dawns
And when we say goodnight
Our guardian angel here on earth
And Heavens shining light.
Remembering you with so much love today Mam, your loving children, Ken, Linda, Elaine and Anne Marie, grandchildren Richard, Katie, Ava and Jack and extended family.

Birthday Remembrance

MORRIS (BILL)

17th November

8th Birthday away from home

Birthday wishes are sent today
To our star in the sky not far away
Engraved in gold on a cloud above
Just for you Dad with all our love.
Happy 97th Birthday Dad.
Your loving daughter Jean, son-in-law Desie, sons Billy, Harry, Joseph and Jerry

Granda Bill

Happy birthday Granda Bill
From all the kids down here.
We should raise a glass and cut some cake
But we can't even share a beer
Your character lives on in us
That wisdom and good cheer
And we will all stay strong til this virus is gone
Then we will party for a whole year.
Love always, your grandchildren Karen, Lisa, Kevin, Breeda, Andy and Rachel and great grandchildren Laurajane, Daniel, Nikki, Kelsie and Craig x

BAPTISM CANDLES

Available from St. Mary's Parish
Centre or Sacristy. **Cost €5.**





Can you believe it – In just over a week's time, Sunday 29th November will be the **First Sunday of Advent!**

It feels like we're just tumbling through 2020, between Covid, Brexit and U.S. elections, not to mention all the things and events we've gone without. Please God, there is light at the end of the tunnel with all the talk of vaccines – they're like buses, all coming at the same time!

Christmas Lights in Lucan!

Haven't heard a dicky bird yet, but hopefully at least, the tree in the Village Green will be lit.

Presentation Day - We send best wishes to all the Presentation Sisters as they celebrate the Presentation Feast Day this Saturday 21st November.

Wanton Vandalism! It was very disheartening to see the damage caused by fire to the playground in Hermitage Park last Sunday. You have to wonder just what is going on in the minds of the arsonists – if this is the future of Ireland, we're all in trouble!



What could this be? From St. Mary's Camera Soiree, we are debating whether it is some exotic creature from the bottom of the sea, or just a 'crisp'? The mind boggles!

Covid Chrimbo! (see advert across)

Well done to **Hannah** and **Kaytlyn**, students at Lucan Community College who have launched a Christmas decoration business in the past week.

OXYBORONS

1. Found missing
2. Open secret
3. Small crowd
4. Act naturally
5. Clearly Misunderstood
6. Fully empty
7. Prety ugly
8. Seriously funny
9. Only choice
10. Original copies
11. Exact estimate
12. Tragic comedy
13. Foolish wisdom
14. Liquid gas

And the newest motehr of all oxymorans is: **SOCIAL DISTANCING!**

A COVID CHRIMBO

a covid chrimbo sale

- Reindeer Food €2
- Reindeer Hot Chocolate €2
- Round Turned Snowman €10
- Wood Sliced Snowman €5

- Add our facebook – a Covid Christmas
- Message us on facebook
- You can personize your Snowman with writing on the back!
- Make it a deal and mix and match your items!
- You can also pm us on Instagram @acovidchrimbo



SCHOOL NEWS



Adamstown Community College

Congratulations all round!



Congrats to Shane O'Neill who just before our Spring Covid Lockdown became Dublin Boxing Champion at 66kgs, pictured above after the win. He spent an amazing week before the summer at a specialist Boxing Training camp in Canada. Shane's hope is to have the opportunity soon to box in the All Ireland's and eventually represent Ireland in the Olympics.



Congrats also to past pupil Grace Oladipo who was recently honoured for her significant contribution to university life at UCD. The 'Contribution to student life awards' are open to 3rd year BCL and Business and Law students. Grace is pictured with Rob Cain partner in Arthur Cox who along with Professor Jason Last UCD

Dean of students and Paul Ward Associate Dean of Law judged the event.

Graces achievements include her work as an UCD Access Leader, an International Student Campaign Co coordinator and SU Class rep.

If that was not enough Grace is also responsible for setting up the UCD Gospel Choir and also a non-profit organization who provide care packs to the homeless.

Speaking of college life, plans are afoot for our upcoming Colleges College Awareness Week. 6th years are busy completing CAO registrations. It's all go here on those fronts.

Stand Up Week: Monday 16th to Friday 20th of November, Adamstown Community College is hosting Stand Up Week which celebrates the LGBTQ+ Community.

Students have been working very hard to create decorations for the school with positive messages that contribute to our welcoming, safe and diverse community which we are proud of in ACC. Some activities in the week include wearing colours of the rainbow, a poster competition, teaching about correct terminology and student presentations with information they have learned from Belong To, the national organisation for LGBTQ+ and Young People.

AWARE Life Skills for schools: Fifth years are participating in this 4 week programme. Many Thanks to Austin Dunne for facilitating these workshops which foster for young people an understanding of the usefulness of CBT techniques.

Restorative Practice Training: Our senior mental health ambassadors, the Cara Aires, participated in a training session last week from Michelle Stowe who is a lecturer in Maynooth University in Restorative Practice. Adamstown Community College strives to provide a restorative approach to our daily interactions. Restorative Practices focus on building positive relationships with one another, which contribute to our positive mental health. The students completed the training and will now participate in peer to peer presentations and activities which relate to Restorative Practice.

Finally in the Christian tradition, November is considered the month of the year when we remember and pray for our deceased loved ones. We remember those family members and loved ones we have lost both of staff, students and parents. We especially remember our valued staff member Josephine Moynihan whom we lost last year. Ms. Halloran our Deputy Principal is in our thoughts at the recent loss of her Dad.
Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha

Coláiste Phádraig CBS

Tráth na gCeist: Coláiste Phádraig continued our strong recent tradition of success in the Tráth na gCeist Boird Feachtas as our 2nd yr team advanced to the National Final after the recent Dublin regional round held on Thursday 12th Nov.

Having claimed the prestigious National Title a remarkable three times in the past six years (2015, 2017, 2018) and the Dublin title four times in the same period (2015, 2017, 2018, 2019) the school entered two teams this year. Due to COVID-19 regulations, each school was responsible for organising and running the Tráth na gCeist on the same day. The questions and resources were emailed to each school two hours before the start of the quiz, which was held in our school canteen.

Traditionally there are two students from senior cycle and two from junior cycle on a team of four. However, this year junior and senior students were kept apart to avoid unnecessary mixing of year groups. Our senior team consisted of three 6th years, Michael Connolly, Ali Kalee and Alex Knowles, and they scored a respectable 36/60, with two poor rounds costing them a lot of points unfortunately.



Our junior team consisted of four 2nd yr students; Cillian Lawlor, Eoin McGarty, Alex D’Alba and Luke Gibbs. Considering that some of the questions, all through Irish of course, were hard to understand at times, they performed remarkably well to finish with a score of 40/60. These scores were then sent onto Feachtas, the organisers of the Tráth na gCeist, who compiled a scoreboard based on all of the results sent in that day from the participating schools.

In truth, our students were somewhat resigned to not qualifying as at least 45/60 is usually required to advance as one of the top two placed teams. However, the following morning we received the final scoreboard which had our 2nd years in 2nd place, just two behind the winning team. The students were understandably delighted (they are

all extremely competitive!) and they received 5euro Eason gift vouchers each and more importantly a place in the National Final to be held in March 2021. Tá siad go léir ag tnúth go mór leis an gCraobh an bhliain seo chugainn.

English: Ms. Lynch’s 5th yr English class were thrilled to receive correspondence from the renowned Irish poet Brendan Kennelly last week. The students began studying his poems recently as part of their Leaving Certificate English poetry course and Ms’ Lynch was immediately struck by the positive response his words had on her class. They started by studying “Begin”, a poem about persevering in the face of adversity and being grateful for the opportunity to begin afresh each morning. The students were genuinely inspired by the poet’s words which gave them a fresh perspective on their own lives. Each one of Kennelly’s poems gave the students a fresh outlook on human connectivity and aspects of life that we sometimes may forget about in the hustle and bustle of our everyday lives. Upon reading Kennelly’s poetry, the class were eager to contact him and to relate to him how impactful his poetry has been on them on a personal level. The class began writing letters to the poet, explaining just how much his poetry meant to them.

They also asked some questions about the inspiration behind some of his most celebrated poems. Ms Deane, who has a keen interest in poetry herself, got in touch with a contact from Poetry Ireland, in order to obtain an address that would ensure that Brendan received the letters personally. The students posted the letters but didn’t really expect a response. They were chuffed so when, on the 9th November, they received a letter from Brendan

Kennelly’s niece who explained that she had read each individual letter to him. She explained how the letters gave Brendan such joy and a huge boost. He expressed his delight to her to hear the student’s positive reaction to his poetry and was touched to know that his poetry is still touching people’s lives.

Enclosed with this letter, Brendan was also so kind as to send the students a signed copy of his poem ‘Begin’, which they expressed was their favourite poem from the selection of poetry they have studied.

The students are very appreciative of Brendan’s response and his kind gesture will no doubt get a mention when they are writing about his poems in their exams!

Lucan Community College

AAAAAALLLLLL ABOARD!!!

Lucan Community College has signed up to become a “virtual crew member” of the next NASA Mars 2026 launch. The Mars Sample Return Campaign is an effort to bring samples of Martian rocks and soil back to Earth, where they can be investigated in unprecedented detail, using all the capabilities of terrestrial laboratories. As currently envisioned, the lander launches in 2026 and arrives at Mars in 2028. Once the samples are returned to Earth by 2031, scientists plan to conduct detailed chemical and physical analysis in laboratories around the world to look for signs of past life on Mars.



If you would like to be a virtual crew member on this amazing mission. Click the link to generate your unique boarding pass.

<https://mars.nasa.gov/participate/send-your-name/future> .

To find out more about Mars future missions , <https://mars.nasa.gov/mars-exploration/missions/mars-sample-return/>

By Ms A. Byrne

Student Council: The Student Council has worked with management on many pressing issues on behalf of students for many years. Every year group is represented in each meeting. The most recent example of the work we have done, includes introducing trousers as an optional part of the girl's uniform and attending Regional Council for the Irish Second-Level Student's Union. Through these challenging times, *'we will work to make the school a better and safer place for the student body'*. We meet fortnightly with our teacher representatives, Ms Mc Manus and Ms Mulhern. We are proud to continue the great work we have been doing and will shortly recruit new members for the year ahead!"

By David Wright 6th yr.

Transition Year PE: The TY Leisure Pursuits group are delighted to be taking part in a self-defence course. This is a 6 week course allowing students to develop new skills and confidence in key elements of self-defence. Students will

receive a certificate of achievement at the end of the course and in some cases may receive a merit! We are thrilled to be able to offer this to our students at this time. They are really enjoying this new dynamic and challenging course. It is wonderful to see them learning in new ways.

Emma Geraghty (Head of PE)

Standup Awareness Week 16th-20th Nov:

It is important that every child feels safe and happy in school and as teachers that's what matters to us all. Research has shown that 6-10% of any group of young people may be LGBT+ so it's likely some of our students will benefit from having this week in school! LCC is a warm, inclusive, support environment, this really matters so much for our young people. No one should ever feel alone. There are several events organised including table quiz, flag raising and awareness raising in tutor groups.

At the raising of the LGBTQ+ flag Ms. Birnie hoped that the focus of the week helped to educate us all and to reflect on whether or not we have any unconscious gender bias in our

dealings with others. Do we assume that females like pink and girls play with dolls rather than Lego? Do we expect that different genders prefer different kinds of books, films, movies, clothes? Do we assume that certain school subjects are more suitable for one gender or that only one gender can follow a particular career path?



She concluded by adding that this week is about supporting every member of our school community and helping us to challenge our conscience and unconscious biases and to support each other.

Thanks to Ms McNeill and her team including Ms Gibbons, Ms. Flanagan, Ms. Bolger, Ms. Kenny, Ms. Carr and other staff and an enthusiastic and dedicated group of students who helped organise.

St Joseph's College

On Wednesday, our 5th year students had their belated **Graduation from Transition Year Ceremony**. Congratulations to Ms Butler (TY coordinator), Ms Forde (5th Year Head) and Ms Bligh (Deputy Principal) on a very successful event. We were reminded of the many TY activities that our students participated in last year. A number of special awards were presented and many of our TY students received their Bronze Gaisce medals during the ceremony. All students were presented with their Graduation Folders. Ashling Sharry and Aisling O'Dwyer were both awarded TY 'Student of the Year'. Well done Ashling and Aisling!



Ashling Sharry and Aisling O'Dwyer receiving their 'Student of the Year' award.

This week we celebrated **'Well-being Week'** in our school. Teachers were encouraged to incorporate wellbeing activities into their classes. Examples of activities included well-walks, Yoga, Meditation, Colouring, Origami and fun-quizzes. Our student Council organised lunch-time walks for students. Ms Ennis' TY Home Economics students made Christmas Snowmen cake decorations!



Ms Ennis TY class made these fabulous Christmas Cake Snowmen.

Congratulations to Lauren Dawson (Bank Manager) and her Assistant Manager Amy Gaynor and all the bank team who ran the **school bank** last year. Their successful efforts earned them €500 for the school, which will be used by the Business department for ICT equipment. Well done girls!



Mr McCabe and Ms Ward with the students who ran our School Bank last year.

Next week our students will complete their **Term Exams**. We wish them all the very best and hope all of their hard work pays off!

School website <https://stjosephslucan.com>
Follow us on Twitter: @STJosephs3

Palmerstown Camera Club

The Club invites all adults to our friendly, educational and entertaining club meetings on Wednesday nights. We normally meet in the Palmerstown Parish Centre but due to Covid-19 restrictions we currently use Zoom to run our meetings so it will be easy for you to attend.



Our club members range from Learners to

Advanced and there is opportunity for everyone to participate. To visit, free of charge, for one or two meetings, and to see how you can benefit contact
pccmemberssecre09@gmail.com
for more information and for the

Zoom link.

See you on Wednesday nights.

POLITICAL NOTES

Shane Moynihan – Fianna Fáil

Email: smoynihan@cllr.s.dublincoco.ie

Ph: 087 7840898. Facebook.com/cllrshanemoynihan

Twitter: @shanemoynihan Instagram: cllrshanemoynihan

Vandalism at Hermitage Park playground:

Like so many other people, I was disappointed and angered at the mindless arson attack that took place at Hermitage Park playground last Sunday night. It's so disappointing to think that somebody did this to a playground, especially one that so many of our children use, including my son. Our children are depending on us all to keep it safe for them so if you saw or see any suspicious activity here, please contact the Gardaí. Following representations, I made, the Council made the affected area safe this week and will engage in further necessary works in the coming week.

Cycle lanes:

Thanks to [South Dublin County Council](#) for completing the series of cycling pictograms on the cycle lanes on Ballyowen Road. This is something I have been following up on for some time.

Cllr. Emer Higgins – Fine Gael

Ph. 01 4013416. emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie

78 The Orchard, Lucan, Co. Dublin

Covid Cases Are Reducing In Our Community:

During the first two weeks in November 45 Covid cases were reported in the Lucan area, compared to 127 cases at the end of October and the rate per 100,000 has decreased from 380 to 134.6, which is now below the national average. Well done to everyone, let's keep it going!

Hermitage Park Playground:

The council were onsite to make the playground safe after a disappointing act of vandalism caused significant damage to the tunnel. Please contact Gardaí if you noticed anything suspicious.

Dublin Bus Community Spirit Awards:

Dublin Bus and its employees have launched this year's Community Spirit Awards. Any group located in an area served by Dublin Bus can apply for a grant of €1,000, €2,000, or €5,000. For more information and to apply visit www.dublinbus.ie

Remember!

Don't count the days,
Make the days count!



Little has changed in the Shed.

We remain closed for reasons obvious. We would love to reopen, right now, today, on a sunny afternoon

in November, welcoming callers as they arrive, but, sorry folks, it's just not possible. Not yet.

We know that our members are anxious to be back here again, to resume where we left off last March, with an empty, closed premises and lost about what to do, or how to proceed. With the passage of time, we are hardly lost any more, being confident that a new dawn is out there, somewhere.

We are preparing for meetings, which are no longer held in the "old way" in a room, face-to-face around a table, talking together, working through an agreed agenda. With advances in technology, meetings of many kinds can be conducted via "Zoom," which is only one of several kinds of platforms providing connections via chat and video telephony, for the purpose of conferencing, social interaction and distance education, to name but a few.

The cost is moderate and the service reliable and generally good. The most noticeable change is that a meeting can be held in this way from the comfort of home, at your kitchen table or sitting in your couch. You see your meeting participants on your screen and similarly, they see you.

For our members, arrangements are being made to hold a meeting to ratify the Shed's Constitution, while, early in the New Year, the plan is to hold a Zoom AGM. At present, various programmes are being suggested by our parent organisation, the Irish Men's Shed Association, all involving the use of this virtual means. This is something new and in its infancy.

Texting Codes

Since Youngsters of Today have their Texting Codes (LOL, OMG, TTLY etc.), the Oldies decided not to be outdone by these kids, and now have developed their codes too:

ATD – At the Doctor's

BFF – Best Friend's Funeral

BTW – Bring the Wheelchair

BYOT – Bring your own teeth

FWIW – Forgot Where I Was

GGPBL – Gotta Go, Pacemaker Battery Low

GHA – Got Heartburn Again

TFT – Texting From Toilet.



The GAA remembers those who lost their lives 100 years ago on **Bloody Sunday** on 21 November 1920



“We can’t gather together, so we ask you to remember from afar. Light a candle at dusk this Saturday evening to remember the 14 people who went to a match and never came home.”

The Dublin Senior Footballers will be wearing special Commemorative jerseys, when they take on Meath in the Leinster Final at Croke Park. Both Darren Gavin and Emmet O’Conghaile are the Lucan Sarsfields representatives on the extended Dublin panel, and we wish them all the very best of luck as they try to win the Delaney Cup for an incredible 10-in-a-row, and for the 15th time since 2005!!

Cumann Camógaíochta Átha Claithe are now seeking expressions of interest from those suitably qualified for the position of Dublin Camogie Senior Team manager. Expressions of interest should be made in the strictest of confidence by email to chairperson.dublin@camogie.ie, before the closing date of Monday 30th November, 2020, at 5pm.

The 12th Lock Café opening hours 6-9pm Monday to Friday and 9:30am to 1:30pm on Saturday. These times may change in line with Covid-19 guidelines. Now in stock: Brian Walsh hurls, grips and gum shields. Why not check out the Café’s new FaceBook page, <https://fb.me/12thLockCafe>, to see more special offers and Christmas ideas.

Club Shop opening hours: O’Neill’s club shop will be closed until Dec 5th due to Covid-19 Restrictions



at
Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club

“Come and meet your new best friends”

The Lucan District Credit Union Academy for girls and boys born in 2013, 2014 and 2015 only, continues on Saturday. To register your child for a place, contact David Moran, Club GPO, on 0879267607. Pre-registration with David is essential as due to Covid guidelines, as only pre-registered children can attend training. We are delighted to announce that on Saturday last, a new attendance record was set when 248 boys and girls attended the fun training sessions, all held in a safe socially distant manner. Congratulations to David and his teams of helpers.

Don’t Forget - The 2020 Annual General Meeting of Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club will take place on Thursday November 26th at 9pm. Attendees who must be current full members of the club, must also register with the club secretary in advance.

Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club Lotto Jackpot €3000.

There was no winner of the €2600 jackpot of the draw held on Thursday 12th November sponsored by O’Grady’s Hearing Care Center. The numbers drawn were **5, 9, 12, 13**.

The Lucky Dip winners of €30 each are:



Margaret Doyle, Pat Scully, Brendan Freeman, Shane Biggs and Colm Farrell.

The Jackpot for the next draw at 9pm on

November 19th will be €3000, sponsored by Griffen Bathrooms and managed by Mary Flannery. The draw will be held behind closed doors and live streamed on our Facebook page. Tickets can be purchased online at the following link: <http://bit.ly/LucanSarsfieldsClubLotto>. Thank You for supporting Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club



Lucan Library

Looking at the Stars with Astronomy Ireland



Wednesday 25th November, 7:00pm

Join us for an evening of looking at the stars. The galaxy that the Sun is a part of is so large it takes light about 100,000 years to cross it.

Earth is about 25,000 light-years from the centre of the Milky Way. Find out about the night sky and its many amazing sights in this talk which aims to help you make sense of what you see when you look up at night.

Please note: A valid email address is required to register for this event as your email address will be forwarded to the facilitator who will send you on the Zoom codes for the live workshop. Only one ticket is required per device.

Booking now open,

via <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/looking-at-the-stars-with-astronomy-ireland-tickets-128841860473>

Mindfulness for Christmas

Monday 7th December, 10:00am

This year, we will be experiencing Christmas like no other time before. Our mental health is hugely important and it is vital that we care for it for ourselves, which in turn helps those around us.

In this interactive mindfulness and meditation session with Patricia Fitzgerald, author of "Who Would You Be If...A personal development guide for women" we will look at ways to help you navigate through this time. We will also do some mindfulness meditation during the session.

This is a Healthy Ireland at Your Library Event.

Please note: A valid email address is required to register for this event as the Zoom links to this event will be emailed to the supplied address by the facilitator. Only one ticket is required per device.

Booking from Monday 30th November,

10:00am, via <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/mindfulness-for-christmas-tickets-128643761955>

The South Dublin Libraries Big Christmas Quiz Hosted by Alison Spittle

Thursday 10th December, 8:00pm - 10:00pm
Following on from the massive success of SDL's Big Summer Quiz, Alison Spittle is back to host the South Dublin Libraries Big Christmas Quiz! Our just-for-fun seasonal quiz has guaranteed laughs and banter for all ages! Grab your family, friends and pets, pour yourself a mug of hot chocolate, cosy up and get competitive!

Please note: A valid email address is required to register for this quiz. South Dublin Libraries will forward the email address you use to register to the facilitator who will then send an access code



to your email address to enable you to attend the quiz. Only one ticket is necessary per device. Booking from Monday 23rd November, 10:00am, via <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/alison-spittle-hosts-the-south-dublin-libraries-big-christmas-quiz-tickets-128510872479>

Decade of Centenaries Lecture Series

South Dublin Libraries is delighted to present this lecture series as part of our Decade of Centenaries programme, supported by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media. The lectures will take place online via Zoom every Thursday evening at 7:00pm in November. All events are free of charge and booking is essential at [ballyroanlibrary.eventbrite.ie](https://www.ballyroanlibrary.eventbrite.ie)

Dr. Myles Dungan: The War in the Shadows - A Talk on Michael Collins, the Squad and the IRA versus British Intelligence

Thursday 19th November, 7:00pm

Dr. Myles Dungan, PhD, is one of Ireland's best-known and most respected broadcasters, hosting current affairs, arts and sports programmes on both radio and television for more than two decades. A Fulbright scholar, educated at UCD and the University of California, Berkeley, he is the author of multiple books, including Irish Voices From The Great War (1995) and Mr. Parnell's Rottweiler: Censorship & the United Ireland Newspaper (2014), plus works on the Irish in America, the Great War, the Irish Crown jewels and golf. He is the presenter of The History Show on RTÉ Radio 1.

Booking now open,

via <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/decade-of-centenaries-lecture-series-the-war-in-the-shadows-tickets-126554755681>

Dr. Ida Milne: The Other Great Pandemic: Spanish Flu in Ireland, 1918-19

Thursday 26th November, 7:00pm

Dr. Ida Milne is a historian of disease, specialising in the 1918-19 influenza pandemic in Ireland and in infectious diseases of childhood. She is European History Lecturer at Carlow College. Her book, Stacking the Coffins, influenza war and peace in Ireland 1918-19 was published in 2018 and has come to be viewed as a handbook for understanding different societal impacts of the current COVID-19 pandemic. She is a frequent contributor to national and international media on the historic context for the current crisis.

Booking now open,

via <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/decade-of-centenaries-lecture-series-the-other-great-pandemic-spanish-flu-tickets-126555608231>

That's Life

We all have someone we hold up as a knight in shining armour. Surprise, surprise; I'm no different.



From a young age, my hero was none other than Ol' Blue Eyes himself, Frank Sinatra, a fabulous singer and showman with a voice that did justice to whatever he sang. Churning out endless hits on a regular basis was no bother to Mr. Artistic Perfection himself.

When I was 15 years old, there was a radio program sponsored by Jacob's Biscuits and hosted by a woman whose name was Frankie Byrne, otherwise known as the Agony Aunt. She would invite listeners to write to her to discuss their problems, and in turn, she would offer advice and solutions. Frankie always kicked the program off with her famous quote, "Today's problems may not be yours, but they could be someday". Always and without fail, she played at least one, and if time permitted, a second number by the above gentleman. This for sure set me up for the whole day and was where my admiration for the man began. Oh! I just loved that voice.

In 1989, billed as the ultimate tour, the trio known as The Rat Pack were to perform at the Lansdowne Road stadium. The group, all legends, included Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., and Dean Martin. Understandably, the demand for tickets outstripped supply and all sold out overnight. Due to ill health, Dean Martin had to pull out of the show at the last minute and was replaced by another famous name: Liza Minnelli. On the night of the concert, I found myself outside the stadium hoping to get a ticket on the black market, but to no avail. I did, however, enjoy the performance from a vantage point outside the park. The atmosphere was electric, and I felt part of it if only from a distance. Somewhat disappointed, I went home, promising myself that the next time around, things would be different. The years rolled by, and yes, the man was back in town to perform at the O2 arena. My family bought me a ticket for my birthday, and after weeks of waiting, the night finally arrived.

I was seated three rows from the front. The lights dimmed. Slowly the curtains opened. The voice had arrived. The cheers and applause were deafening. Soon things quietened down, and it was all about 'Doing It My Way' and straight into 'Fly Me to the Moon'. He then spoke and thanked everyone for coming and introduced his wife, who was in the front row. But this voice was the voice of an old man and not the Frank Sinatra that I had expected. He stood rigid, no body

movement, his left hand wedged in his jacket and never removed. I swear someone was moving his mouth because I got the impression that he was just going through the motions and had no more interest in being there or entertaining his audience. Was he just there for the money? Sad to say, I do believe that was all it was, and I think he could have been miming.

Michael Moore (Pen to Paper – Lucan Creative Writers Group).



PLEASE NOTE:

We are **NOT** operating from the Newsletter Office 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 any of the following:

marylucannewsletter@gmail.com

annalucannewsletter@gmail.com

roselucannewsletter@gmail.com

catherinelucannewsletter@gmail.com



St. Mary's Camera Soirée

It is hard to imagine that it is eight months since COVID 19 hit us and we had to leave the bungalow, and that there are only 40 days to the end of this most strange year.

Despite COVID19 the members of St. Mary's Camera Soiree have recorded for our pleasure the changing seasons. We are now into Winter but this fact leaves the great bunch of people who comprise the Soiree undaunted. They are still out and about taking great photos within the 5km at present.



Recently there have been some terrific sunrises in the Lucan area and some of the members have captured great shots. I'm afraid that these enthusiastic members get up far too early for me!

Despite it being mid-November, the remnants of soft Autumnal colours are still around in the leaves that have not yet fallen and again some beautiful images have been captured.

A casualty caused by COVID19 is that this year the group is unable to produce its calendar although I know that some are going ahead with the production of their own. We all look forward to the possibility of being able to meet however briefly before the end of the year somewhere, be it down by the Liffey, or in the back garden of the Parish Centre if we are able to move down from level 5 and public health guidelines allow. Since March there have been only three occasions when it was possible for members of the group to meet safely.



Until the next time stay safe!

