

christ church, BRay



Rector: Rev. Baden Stanley 087 9484407
Parish Office: 286 2968
email: christchurchbray@gmail.com
website: www.christchurchbray.org
In Touch email: intouchbray@gmail.com

MAY 2011

in touch



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Susan Leeson

Mobile: ++ 353 87 9735335
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Web: www.susanleeson.com

FROM THE RECTORY

Baden's Easter Vestry Address



Nearly 14 years ago Avril and I, and our dog Rocky sat in John and Rosemary Leeson's sitting-room for our interview for the position of Rector of Bray. In the course of the meeting two things in particular stand out. Firstly John's prophetic point that 'the people of Bray parish are just waiting to be asked.' The second was a question which I asked the parochial nominators – 'Is Bray a loving parish?' Over the years I have found both these things to be true. The amount of work, support and availability that you as parishioners offer to the life, ministry and witness of this church is huge. More and more people are offering before they are asked. Community is alive and well in Bray parish. The second aspect of that meeting, about this being a loving parish, has also been true. Your care and nurture for Avril, Jonathan, Luke, Bethany and myself has been greatly appreciated, especially in difficult times. However it has been particularly evident in the care and support and concern shown by so many following the tragic fire and death of Andy O'Brien earlier this year. It was evident in the phone calls, texts and emails; it was evident in the gentle words of encouragement; it was evident in the attendance by so many at the Service of Reflection held that week as we sought to bring comfort and solace to Andy's family and friends. It was also abundantly evident in the care, concern and support for Mary Maconchy who was loved by all of us as a friend and parishioner. Mary's death last summer drew to an end her courageous battle with Motor Neurone disease, but it was her determination not to be defined by her illness that resonated so deeply with us. It was also evident in the love and care for Prim and her family when Rob passed away so suddenly. One of the greatest tributes to both Mary and Rob is that remembering them brings more smiles than tears. They, and all who died this year, Abby Kavanagh, Elsa Leslie, Norman McMurray and Sophie Popham, are part of the 'Living Stones of Bray' who have enriched our lives and deepened our sense of community.

On a happier note, we welcome Kirsty Lynch who so recently joined us as Youth Pastor. It is almost exactly 2 years since Rev. Alan Barr announced he would be leaving us. Over those two years the Select Vestry has embarked on a comprehensive process to bring about Kirsty's unanimous appointment. We very much look forward to Kirsty's ministry with us and I encourage you all to come alongside her and support her as together we build our Christian community.

Later in this meeting we will be hearing a report from our re-emerging Stewardship Team. 2013 sees the 150th anniversary of the opening of Christ Church Bray and in that year we want to celebrate our parish history over many hundreds of years but we also want to look forward to a future that is overflowing with possibilities. Under the banner 'Honouring the Past – Celebrating the Future' we want to manifest the Christian Hope which we have learned from our history, and which will be a significant beacon as we head into an uncertain future.

I want to thank everybody who worked so hard on behalf of the Parish as we continue to serve God and the community around us.

Baden

Select Vestry 2011/12:

Ruth Graham, Carol Reynolds, Francis Harte, Jan Irvine, George Wilkin,
Jack Meath, Joe Roe, Alan Mulligan, Albert Hill, Jim O'Connor, David Salmon, Nicola Gray.

Hon. Treasurer: Joe Roe

Hon. Secretary: Nicola Gray

Church Wardens: Rector's – Jonathan Craig
People's – Catherine Boyd

Glebe Wardens: Rector's – Edmond O'Donovan
People's – Esther Sutton

Sidespersons: Alan Mulligan
Joe Long

Diocesan Synodspersons:

Alan Mulligan
Carol Reynolds
Esther Sutton

Supplemental:

1. Sandra Shaw
2. Sheelagh Harte
3. Ann Mulligan

Parochial Nominators:

Sarah Greene
David Reynolds
Helen O'Connor
Albert Hill

Supplemental:

1. Michele McNerney
2. Alan Mulligan
3. Sheelagh Harte
4. Len Bryan

Parish Recorder: Joe Whitten

Joe Whitten, our Recorder always has an eye for raising the level of our Church income. His latest suggestion would be to add €1 extra to your weekly envelope. Another suggestion might be to remove any copper coins from your change and put them aside for the church.

If you think either idea is feasible - why not give it a try!

Thanks

To Hilary Salmon and the Flower Arranging Team for the beautiful arrangements for Easter.

Thanks

To those who cleaned the church and polished the brasses.

Thanks

To the Task Force who have our grounds in such great nick and fixed the Rectory fence over the Easter weekend.

Thanks

To John Morris and all the choir members for their wonderful Easter music

Thanks

To all involved in running a successful Easter camp

Special Thanks

To Baden, our Rector, for his thoughtful addresses and extra visiting over the Easter period.

Where would we be without them all!

Church Cleaning:

Please add your name and phone number to the list at the back of the Church if you can help with the cleaning of the Church. The more names, the less often each person will be called on.

Going on Holiday?

If you are worried about leaving your home unattended - worry no more! Just call John at this number and rest assured all will be well on your return. 087 6159604 DS



Church Fete C.D.s & D.V.D.s Stall

Spring is a time to clear the attics and other corners of the house, so please keep our stall in mind when doing so.



We are looking for C.D.s of all sorts and types of music, what you don't want anymore may be someone else's pleasure. Classical, pop, blues, jazz, traditional, rock etc etc all welcome!

D.V.D.s would be great: children's films, general films and T.V. series.

Computer, D.S and playstation games of all kinds would also be great: ask your children what they don't use any more and bring them in.

L.P. Records can sometimes be sold as we have a few customers who collect them. Any enquiries phone Ros at 01 2861959.



We hope to have the usual number of bedding plants, at the Fêbut really appreciate your own plants, possibly divided from your herbaceous border or grown from cuttings or seed! Please get gardening, bring us your plants and then

There are boxes at the back of the Church to receive any items, crockery for the plate smashing, bottles, books, cosmetics, jewellery, dvds, etc. etc.



TOYS 'n TOYS
(Mums/Dads and Toddlers Group)
Resume 7th Sept!
Tuesdays 10am - 12pm







Church Family Room
Contact Joanna 087 2944656
Or Sheelagh 2764868



Sunday Rocks

For new readers, may I explain Sunday Rocks is our name for the group of children that meet during service every Sunday except when we have our special Family Service, when they should remain in Church with their parents.

At Sunday Rocks we divide children into 3 groups so that we can match our teaching to each child's interest and ability to understand.

For example,

This Month we have learnt about Palm Sunday where Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, while followers waved small branches of palm and shouted **"Praise to David's son. God bless Him who comes in the name of the Lord ."**

We also told the Easter story, where Jesus was crucified on the cross, He died and was buried. Then on the third day He rose again. An event we celebrate on Easter Sunday.

This year Sunday Rocks are collecting money for Barretstown, a special place in County Kildare where children with terminal illnesses can go with their families to create special memories, all the while receiving full medical care. We would appreciate it if you could encourage your children to donate a small amount of their pocket money each week towards Barretstown, which is run entirely on donations.

Illori will be having her confirmation day on June 12th and so the older class will be staying in church to support her. The younger children will be having a special together time during this service. On 19th June we hope you can join us for our Sunday Rocks Prizegiving.

Sunday Rocks in May will be on 1st, 8th, 15th and 29th May

God's Grace Be With You All
God Bless from the Sunday Rocks Team





Christ Church Bray



GARDEN FETE

“COUNTDOWN”

SATURDAY 21ST MAY

10.30 - 2.30

- **PLEASE KEEP THINKING ABOUT ANY NEW/GOOD AS NEW ARTICLES YOU OR OTHERS HAVE WHICH CAN BE DONATED TO THIS YEARS FETE**
 - **TEAS AND REFRESHMENTS NEED ALL THE SUPPORT YOU CAN GIVE, IF YOU FEEL YOU CAN MAKE SOME SANDWICHES, BISCUITS OR CAKES ETC. PLEASE CONTACT LINDA O’BRIEN ON 087-2928111 (OR ANY OF THE TEAM)**
 - **FOR DONATIONS OF CHILDRENS TOYS, PUZZLES, BOOKS AND GAMES PLEASE CONTACT JAN IRVINE.**
 - **ANY UNWANTED DVD’S, COMPUTER GAMES, CD’S, TAPES OR RECORDS (NO HOME RECORDINGS) PLEASE CONTACT ROS BREMNER.**
 - **FOR ANY DONATIONS ON ANY STALLS PLEASE CONTACT THE HOLDER, MYSELF OR THE PARASH OFFICE.**
- o CAKES - ESTER SUTTON - BOOKS – DAVID/WENDY COSTELLO – AVRIL STANLEY – JOE WHITTEN; BRIC-A-BRAC – SARAH GREENE; CAKES/TINS – ESTER SUTTON; DVD’S – ROS BREMNER; COSMETICS – TONY BOHAN; FURNITURE – TOM SHIELDS, JIM O’CONNOR, ALBERT HILL; ARTS & CRAFTS – NICOLA GREY; GIFTS FOR ALL & SWEETS – CATHERINE BOYD; PLANTS – HELEN BURKE-BARNWELL**
- THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND HELP IT IS MUCH APPRECIATED. ANY ISSUES PLEASE CONTACT ME ON 2864873 – EVENINGS OR THE PARISH OFFICE.**

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NEWS FLASH!

US PRESIDENT'S VISIT MAY CLASH WITH CHURCH FÊTE

Should this come to pass, our local organisers hope to be able to keep Fête Supporters in the picture with the help of the big screen in the Teas area in the Church! So do come and enjoy the fête.



Concert for Organ Restoration Fund Christ Church, Bray



Saturday 16th April 2011 at 8 pm

The Church of the Most Holy Redeemer Singers, directed by their conductor Pat Carey, treated us to a wonderful evening of music in aid of the Organ Restoration Fund. The programme of music was very varied, ranging from the 12th century chant of Hildegard of Bingen, through the polyphony of Victoria and Allegri to the romanticism and colourfulness of 19th and 20th century composers (Faure, Rheinberger, Stanford and Saint-Saens) and included 3 folk songs – Russian, Maori and Argentinian (tangos).

The singing was beautiful, with clear enunciation and expression which the acoustics in the Church amplified to great effect. Particularly notable was a song called 'Little Bird' by a modern composer (Eric Whitaker) which required the choir to produce a range of interesting effects – such as whistling and flapping sheets of paper.

The choir was joined by soprano Sarah Power, a native of Bray now based in London. Sarah was prominent in the Allegri 'Miserere' where she soared effortlessly to the high notes to give an ethereal quality to the sound. Sarah also sang the Mozart 'Laudate Dominum' (accompanied by the choir) and a sparkling rendition of the 'Alleluia' from 'Exsultate Jubilate'. In the second half, Sarah treated us to a recital of five varied pieces - including a very moving lullaby 'A Stoirín Bán'. Sarah was joined by Margaret Bridges, a member of the choir - and another very talented Bray soprano – in a duet from Mozart's 'Marriage of Figaro' in which the two singers conspired together convincingly to write a letter to trap the Count.

The evening was one to be remembered and bodes well for future planned events in the series. Thanks are due to the choir, soloists, accompanists (Derek Verso and Aileen Cahill) and their conductor – for giving of their time and talents to support us. Thanks are also due the members of the parish who provided 'front of house' services such as refreshments and ticket sales/collection and helped to make the evening so enjoyable.

We look to May 28th when Bray Choral Society will be performing John Rutter's 'Mass of the Children' and also making a donation towards the organ fund.

Tony Swaine

Dates for Your Diary

Sun 1st May	8.30am Holy Communion 1; 11.00am Holy Communion 2. 1.00pm – 4.00pm Festival of Hope in Killruddy Gardens.
Wed 4 th May	8.00pm Stewardship Team meeting in the Rectory.
Sat 7 th May	Murder Mystery night in aid of Bray Methodist Church Funds in St. Andrews School, Bray from 8.00pm.
Sun 8th May	8.30am Holy Communion 2; 11.00pm Morning Prayer; 12.00 noon Confirmation Class.
Wed 11 th May	8.00pm the Select Vestry meet in the Parish Life Centre.
Fri 13 th May	7.00pm Bray Methodist Church 'Prayers for our Nation'
Sun 15th May	8.30am Holy Communion 1; 11.00am Holy Communion 2; 12.00 noon Confirmation Class.
Sat 21 st May	Parish Fête from 10.30am – 2.30pm.
Sun 22nd May	8.30am Holy Communion 2; 11.00am Family Service; 12.00 noon Confirmation Class; Soup Lunch in Bray Methodist Church at 12.00 noon in aid of Christian Aid – all welcome.
Sun 29th May	8.30am Holy Communion 2; 11.00am Healing Service; 12.00 noon Confirmation Class; 12.15am Reading Workshop in the church.



Don't Forget—Copy for the next issue to be in by Sunday 22nd May





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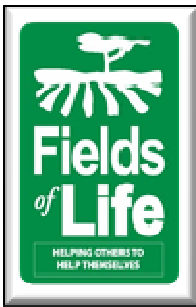
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***Journeys of Hope
Holiday
Club***







Carol & David Reynolds will be going to Uganda with Fields of Life in August to help run a Summer Camp for 200 pupils who will be finishing secondary school this year. We would welcome your support in funding and praying for the camp programme - please watch this space.

Car Boot Sales:

Car Boot Sales will be starting on Saturday, 11th June and running twice monthly during June, July and August. Teas and Cakes will also be on sale. A good way to turn unwanted items into cash and support Parish funds at the same time. If you can help on any of the dates, please contact Shirley in the Parish Office..

June 11th and 25th. July 9th and 23rd. August 13th and 27th. September 10th.

WICKLOW HOSPICE CONCERT



Did you know that a harper is a male who plays the harp ? And did you know that the sound of both the ancient Irish travelling harp, as played by Turlough Carolan, and the classical concert harp echoing through Christ Church Bray is possibly one of the most wonderful sounds ever heard. We, who were lucky enough to have been present in Christ Church for the recent Wicklow Hospice Concert were totally and utterly spoilt; not only did we have the sheer joy of both these harps being played by the celebrated harpist - Rev Anne Marie O'Farrell (Rector of Sandford and Milltown) but we were further blessed by the addition of the glorious voice of Regina Nathan together with the men of the Wicklow Male Voice Choir who were using this occasion as a final rehearsal prior to travelling to Bangor to defend their Male Voice Choir of the Year status, judging by what we were treated to they cannot have failed. What a night, regretfully very few people attended this night of nights but those of us who did will never forget it and would urge you all to support any future concerts held in Christ Church which is simply a perfect venue for musical sound, (I know that I, for one, will be eagerly scanning the forthcoming events guide from here on in !) Incidentally the Wicklow Hospice needs your support so please remember them in your prayers and pockets !!

Deirdre Lynch

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Mother's Union



At our April meeting, Denise Butler led us in considering the words of the Lord's Prayer, very familiar words but still apt today in our relationships with others. Joan Cunningham from the Blackrock Hospice will speak to us on the topic of Palliative Care at our meeting on May 9th. This is an open meeting and all are welcome to join us at 8pm in the PLC.

We hope to travel to Castletown House in Kildare for our outing this year. The date decided on is Saturday, June 18th. If you would like to join us on this trip, please contact Nicola at 2860820 or Ann at 2863511.

A reminder that Carol will be delivering our box of "extras" for Darndale Creche after our next meeting. Any items you wish to donate should be brought to our meeting on May 9th.

Nicola

Garden open in aid of charities during May and June

St. Joseph's, Old Connaught Avenue - beside Festina Lente - 2821585

For Bray Cancer Support on May 27th, 28th and 29th.

For Wicklow Homeless, Five Loaves on June 4th, 5th and 6th

Midday to 6pm



BRAY METHODIST CHURCH

Is holding a "Murder Mystery" Evening in St Andrew's National School on Saturday 7th May at 8pm.

Admission includes dinner and games

Cost €25 in aid of their church funds.

Details from 086 1004430

John Kingston

CHRIST CHURCH – PARISH OF BRAY

Rector: Rev. Baden Stanley 0879484407

The Rectory, Church Road, Bray

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Parish Office:

Tel / 2862968

e mail: christchurchbray@gmail.com

website: www.christchurchbray.org

Organist & Music Director: John Morris

Junior and Senior Choir Practice - Sunday mornings @ 9.45 - 10.45 am.

Tots & Toys - Joanna 087 62944656

Sheelagh 01 2764868

Mothers' Union Enrolling Member: Nicola Gray

Meets 2nd Monday of the month in PLC @ 8 pm.

Youth Pastor - Kirsty Lynch

Hall Bookings - Parish Office

Bellringing David McNerney

& Jason Warnock

Sunday Rocks: Dorianne Paso

Meets during services every Sunday except 4th Sunday

Sunday Services - 8.30 am. Holy Communion

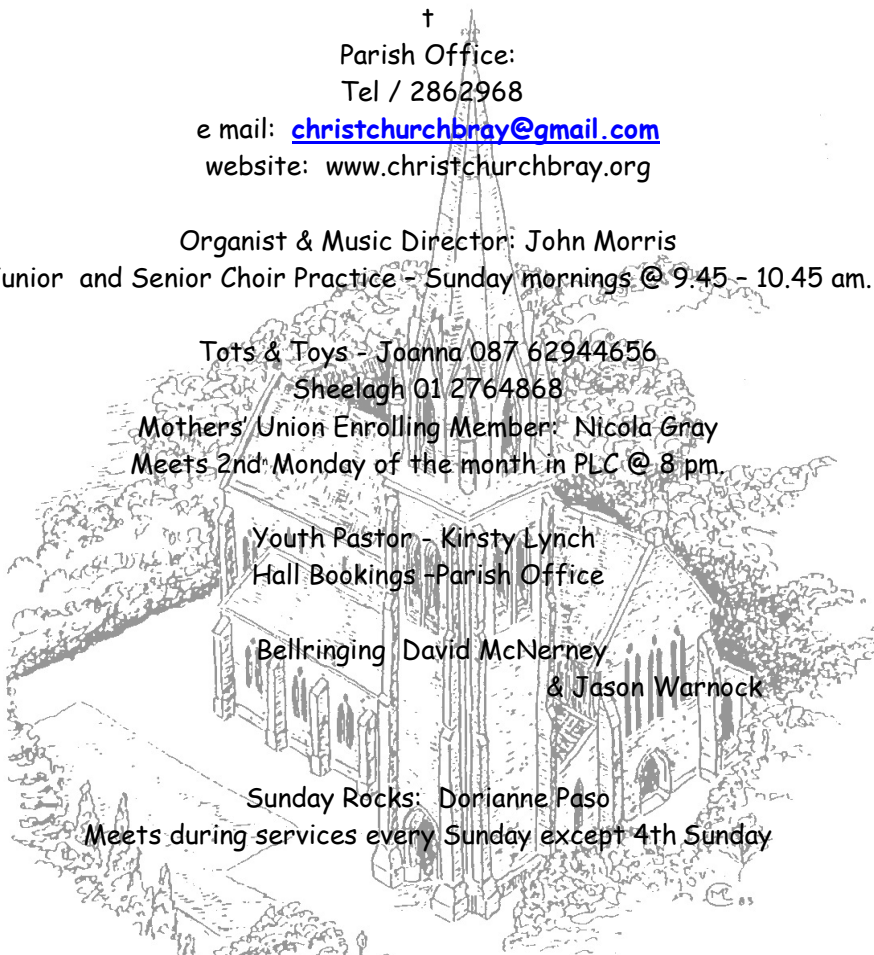
11 am. Family Services

1st and 3rd Sundays Holy Communion

2nd Sunday - Morning Prayer

4th Sunday - Family Service (all ages)

5th Sunday - Healing Service



AN EASTER CAROL

The moon and sun stayed in the sky that night,
Sun curved on the hill, lowly peeping
Past his ordered time.

The moon, attending on her queen
In shining radiance proclaimed.

"The placing of a newborn child
In such a stable, in the manger
In creation with our hearts the Lord is here"
How I could wish my place was there.

Grey beards in shock in fair Jerusalem
Eye-lids that drooped so easily, stayed wide
To have the sight of one
Who met their questioning with easy smile
Filling their minds with holy truth.

"Who is this childish; God-revealing boy;
In the shadow, in the stillness
So easily among us in the gateway?"
How I could wish my mind was there.

The crowd grew greater as the light burned high,
The small breeze of morning had no power.
After the food, the baskets filled with crumbs,
People turned happily to him who talked
Telling them new rules for their humanity.

"Blessed in mercy, blessed is love.
The world is mine, the mountains and the lake.
So Simon, lend me your boat please!"
How I could wish my eyes and ears were there.

Speaking He looked at them with gentle eyes,
"Friends", they all rose and wondered,
"This is the bread for strength, the wine for thought
Both in remembrance in our need
There to take, to join in the Spirit of God".

"To humanity become a priest of Christ,
To Divinity incline your mind".
This is the trust, the love the honesty.
Oh how I wish I tasted that first blessing.

He carried the bloodstained cross
As others had borne before,
Hung there on nails. They lifted Him
High for the passing, laughing crowd.
"See how the God will die", they called.

In with the massive nails, into the bursting heart
Run the grey lance of war for victory;
And yet His cry called God loudly for "Father".
How I could wish that my sad ears were there.

One moment stood and looked, as if to embrace Jerusa-
lem,
One hand in blessing and they knelt in love.
When heads were lifted the air was still
And the sky azure, held by a ring of clouds.
"He has gone and we must stand alone".

In all our future. Into our constant love.
They could not see but yet they knew the truth;
The Lord is in His place in Heaven's peace.
Have no fear. Heaven is here. Heaven is here.

Iain Montague

Bray Choral Society - Christ Church, Bray - Saturday 28th May 2011

"Bray Choral Society is holding its next concert on Saturday 28th May 2011 in Christ Church, Bray.

The programme comprises John Rutter's "Mass of the Children", motets by Stanford, Bruckner and Rheinberger and on a lighter note, two spirituals arranged by Bob Chilcott "Ev'ry Time I feel the Spirit" and "Nobody knows the trouble I've seen".

For this performance we are delighted to welcome the choir from St Cronan's National School, Bray who will be joining us in the performance of the "Mass of the Children".

The Bray Choral Society was formed twenty five years ago with the intention of performing major choral works. We have appeared at the National Concert Hall on several occasions and have toured to Germany, Austria and Wales.

The choir rehearse every Tuesday at 7:45 pm in St Kilian's School, Bray during school terms. If you have an interest in singing major choral works, please contact our Music Director, Frank Kelly at St Kilian's Community School, tel 01-2828126.

VOX Choir – Christ Church Bray – 7:30 pm Saturday 4th June 2011

VOX is a Norwegian chamber choir of 12 members from Oslo. The choir was established in 2003 and consists of members from different semi-professional Norwegian choirs. Under the direction of Hans M. Borchgrevink they have recently performed two sacred concerts in Lisbon in 2007 given in Santa Isabel and Estrela Basilica; a Norwegian folk tunes programme at the Academy of Rauland, Norway 2008 with front-line Norwegian folk singers; a secular and a sacred concert in the Azores; a concert in San Matteo, Genova 2010 and a concert with the theme of "folk-song influence on national sacred music" at the Oslo National Art Gallery during the Russian Icon Exhibition 2010.

VOX presents European secular and folk music, as well as selected à cappella sacred and secular works from the Renaissance, the Romantic and the Neoclassic periods. Composers include Byrd, Dufay, Sermisy, Palestrina, Ecchenius, Rachmaninov, Stravinskij, Vagn Holmboe, Debussy, Poulenc, Bardos, Duruflé, and the Norwegian composers Grieg and Nystedt.

Both this concert and the Bray Choral Society concert on 28th May will benefit the Organ Restoration Fund.

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