



ST. GABRIEL'S NOTES

3rd January 2021



Happy New Year



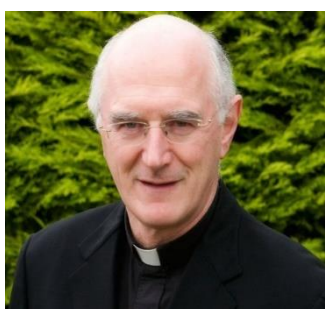
It is heartbreaking once again to have Mass with the doors closed and nobody present. The church is open each day after the 10.30 Mass until 4pm and hopefully you will find it an oasis of calm and peace in this difficult time. Still plenty time to visit our cribs.

Thankfully we were able to have our Christmas services and are grateful to a large number of people who helped make them all so successful:

- ✓ The Sacristans who carefully prepared everything needed for each Mass and the cleaners who kept the Church in pristine order.
- ✓ Our maintenance team provide the wet wipes and hand sanitisers for our safety. They also regularly clean and seal the entire premises with our Fogging machine.
- ✓ And they produce our magnificent cribs — this year the very talented Brendan thought up and produced the magnificent silhouette crib figures in the Sanctuary, for the benefit of those who can only see us on webcam.
- ✓ The choirs were reduced to one or two singers and an accompanist, but were still in full voice and provided wonderful music at each Mass.
- ✓ Our stewards have made their mark as an essential part of our parish team and provided their excellent service at each of our Christmas Masses, as well as directing families who came on Christmas Eve to visit the Crib, and so much more.
- ✓ The Parish Pastoral Team helped distribute tickets for Christmas Masses the week before Christmas, and 600 tickets were gone in less than half an hour! We are sorry to all of you who were disappointed and hope you able to watch Mass on the webcam and visit the Church and the Crib in your own time.

We are grateful to everyone who has sent in Christmas Dues. While all our parish funds, as well as the Diocesan funds, have suffered severely over the past year, we are aware that many are experiencing financial difficulties due to the Covid and fully appreciate that you may not be in a position to pay your Christmas Dues.

Welcome Archbishop-Elect Dermot Farrell



Dermot Farrell was born in 1954 in Garthy, Castletown-Geoghegan, Co. Westmeath. He studied for the priesthood in St. Patrick's ~College Maynooth, and was ordained on 7th June 1980.

After a long list of appointments he was appointed as Bishop of Ossauory and ordained Bishop in St. Mary's Cathedral Kilkenny on 11th March 2018

We welcome him to his new position as Archbishop of Dublin and wish him many successful and fruitful years in this role.