

# Douglas / Rochestown Parish



**St Columba's**  
Tel: 021 489 4128 (Office)  
Mobile: 087 2617143

**Mass Times**  
Sat Vigil: 6pm  
Sun: 9.30am, 11am & 12.15pm

**St Patrick's,**  
Tel: 021 489 6797 (Office)  
Mobile: 087 638 8655

**Mass Times**  
Sun: 11am & 12.30pm

**30 December 2018**



## News Desk

## Notices

### DEATHS

The death took place of **Joe Nolan**, Maryborough, dearly loved husband of the late Angela, loving father of Colum, Deirdre, Donal, Eithne, Desmond, Kevin, Sinéad and the late Dermot and Aileen. May he rest in peace. Ar dheis lámh Dé go raibh se.

### Offices re-opening Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan '19

### Christmas Dues Envelopes – please return dues envelopes- thank you!

**FIRST FRIDAY 4 Jan. '19 St. Columba's:** St. Padre Pio Prayers before 10.00am Mass. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after 10.00 am Mass until 11.30am. All are very welcome. **Alliance of the Two Hearts** will keep vigil from 11.30 - 1pm in Parish Centre.

### Visitation of the Sick

The priests of the parish are happy to visit the sick and housebound on the First Friday of every month. If you know of anybody who would like a visit, please pass on the word to one of the priests.

### THANK YOU!

Well done to the numerous people and groups who helped organize all the Christmas ceremonies in both churches. The church choirs, folk group, youth group, and enthusiastic congregations provided great music and singing. The altar societies ensured beautiful flowers and decorations were done. Thanks to Eileen Dineen for taking care of the altar linen. Thanks to those who erected and decorated the cribs in both churches. All the Ministers of the Word and Eucharist were available to assist with large attendances. Our church volunteers ensure that our churches are clean and welcoming. The church collectors and dues collectors, do a great job. Thank you to Catherine, (St. Columba's) and Breda (St. Patrick's). Thanks also to Tim & Eileen (St. Columba's), and to Kevin, printer. Special thanks to Parish Assembly members for their enthusiasm and dedication to the parish.

### THE DEEP END: When Jesus was small

In primary school we used to sing a song about Jesus' childhood. I don't recall the exact words, but the chorus went something like this:

*'Jesus was a happy child  
When he was small like me  
He used to laugh and run around  
And sometimes climb a tree  
Running here, running there  
Having fun like you and me.'*

There was a verse about his mother bringing him to school on his first day. The aim was clearly to remind us that Jesus was a real child who did all the things that other children do. In theological terms, it impressed on our young minds the humanity of Jesus, even as we heard the stories of the healings and miracles that expressed his divinity. This hymn came to mind as I reflected on today's Gospel. The story of the finding in the Temple is the only one we have from Jesus' childhood, so it takes on greater significance. It is both an ordinary and extraordinary family story, highlighting a typical family incident while also setting the scene for Jesus' future mission. What parent hasn't felt the panic of discovering their child is missing, and then been overcome with relief when they were found? But the story ends with the realisation that Jesus is far from ordinary. His parents don't understand his cryptic reference to 'my Father's affairs', but Mary stores up 'all these things' in her heart, accepting the mysterious workings of God.

We are left, with Mary and Joseph, to ponder who this child really is

**Intercom**

### Christmas Leftovers

Surplus gifts will be collected next weekend, Jan 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>, in aid of Edel House and other local charities. Drop your gifts into the sacristies in St Columba's and St Patrick's and please also **include gifts for men.**

### Seeing Your Life Through the Lens of the Gospels

**luke 2:41-52: 1.** Luke's skill as a storyteller comes through in the details of the story in a way that many people can identify with: the loss of a child, the frantic search, the seemingly offhand speech of the teenager. Let the drama of the story speak to you. Where do you find good news in it? **2.** In Luke's Gospel this story serves to give a glimpse of the future greatness of Jesus, the teacher of his people. Sometimes we can look back over our own life, or the lives of others, and with hindsight can see in childhood or teenage years a glimpse of gifts and talents that were later to blossom. Where have you seen this? **3.** 'Did you not know that I must be about my Father's business?' This seemingly insensitive reply by Jesus to Mary serves to highlight that in his life the mission given him by God would take precedence over family ties, painful though this would be. Perhaps you have known situations in your own life where there was pain for family members as you followed your own destiny? Where in the midst of the pain was the good news? **Intercom**