

The morning sun rises across Powerscourt Graveyard; Trees are illuminated in golden light and angled shadows fall across the graves. The squirrels have embraced the peace of this place, skirting and leaping the wide trunks of trees by Cremation plots and the

Rectory hedgerow is teaming with life. A walk through the village is a different experience the days. The sound of traffic is replaced by the *scrawp* of rooks in the tall trees and it is as if the whole world holds its breath and all of nature is watching.

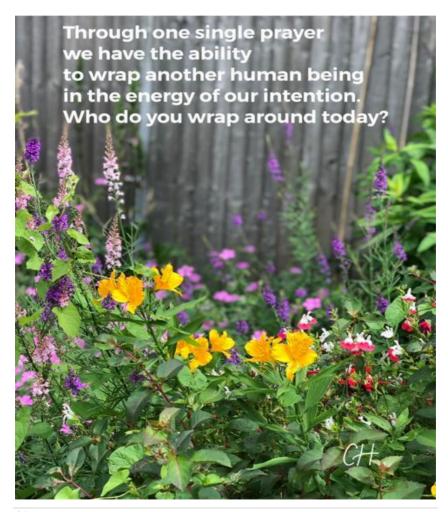
There is a different energy here now.

Scientists tell us that we are primarily energy. I find this fascinating. If this be the case then there is a collective energy building across the entire world. It is an energy of outreach, support and sustenance; well-meaning and deliberate. A strengthening foundation which lies beneath the poverty of physical presence. It seems that humanity is saying 'this is how we choose to respond.' People are pulling out gifts and talents; ideas and encouragements and praying, for all they are worth, for those who are not afforded the luxury of sanctuary from this virus, but instead stand at the coalface with the ones who are suffering.

At home, children are baking and creating; families are engaging in various activities and re-learning how to be together again in a new way. God, let us be encouraged by this and please never let us return to exactly as we were; instead let us learn (at great cost to so many) how to breathe in the beauty of this earth, our gardens, our close relationships; our compassion and selflessness and above all, that rather miraculous emerging unity that has, overnight, obliterated the walls that divine us as a human race.

Know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families at this time. Please contact me if you need any help or support, know of anyone who does or if you would like to offer any particular services or assistance.

May God bless you and keep you and those you love safe and well in his care.





## **MOTHERS DAY**

The country is slowly going into lockdown and we are being asked to stay apart and in our homes as much as possible. No physical contact, and no standing next to each other unless we are six feet apart. As I walk around in this 'new world' mostly on my own, I keep wondering "why does this feel familiar?" And then it hit me.....it is reminding me very much of how I felt when John died five years ago. I was alone in my house, I went for long walks in nature, I cried, and I felt very lonely even though there were people around me. I was anxious and fearful because my whole world had changed and was upside down. Everything I had taken for granted, and the illusion that I had 'control' over my world was in freefall.

Today on Mother's Day my beautiful granddaughters aged 5 and 3 arrived with their mum (my daughter) and decorated my sitting room window from the outside with their gifts of artwork that they had spent hours creating the previous day. It was full of colour and hearts and smiley faces. I opened the door when they had finished, and as we all kept the required six feet apart my arms were aching to hug them, and my heart was



breaking with both grief and joy. I had prepared a little bag of treats for them both, and as my daughter and myself were trying to hold back the tears, my two little angels were waving goodbye, happy with their treats and secure in their little world of loving family.

I know this grief of separation and fear of the unknown while it may have familiar triggers to my old feelings, is completely and utterly different. This is not just life changing it is world changing, and so much more dangerous. In a way I am much less anxious now because I have the hope that this too will pass. But we MUST be vigilant and listen to what we are being asked to do by the WHO (World Health Organisation and the HSE (Health Service Executive). That is why today I stood six feet away from my daughter and grandchildren... not in isolation but in solidarity. Each time we do it for ourselves we do it for each other. It's no longer about I and ME, it's about US and WE.

Go safely with love and blessings.

# Sheila Lindsay



News from the Pews 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020







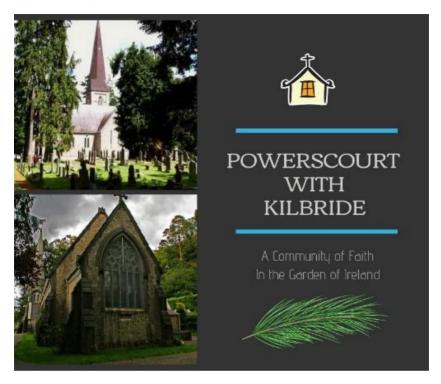
We have emailed to the Parish today 'God's word for this Week', which is the service sheet Palm Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

# COPPERPOT HAS SOME VERY EXCITING NEWS!

We are delighted to announce that Copperpot has been very busy getting himself camera ready. He will be hosting his very own Palm Sunday Service which will also be posted online. He can't wait to see you all there.



## **SUNDAY WORSHIP**



Palm Sunday Service will be available online from early Sunday morning. Please follow the below links to view the service.

https://www.facebook.com/The-Grouped-Parishes-of-Powerscourt-with-Kilbride-1514315732033467/

http://www.powerscourt.glendalough.anglican.org/test/sunday-worship/





Hymn for the Day and Sunday Self-Service

As part of our offering in the current situation, we are encouraging everyone to join us in singing our Hymn for the Day, found below, updated daily Monday to Saturday usually in the early afternoon. The words will appear on screen as the music plays. The full playlist can be found here.

For Sundays, we will be supplying Sunday Self-Service: a short service including hymns, readings, and prayers, which you can find updated each week at the bottom of this page. You will be able to follow using the order of service which accompanies the recording.

**RSCM Hymn of the Day & Sunday Service** 

Church Music Dublin

**Facebook** 



For Children that are at home there are wonderful resources available on the below website including crafts, bible stories, hymns, games and activities for all the family.

## http://www.cm.ireland.anglican.org



Our wonderful friend Lynn Storey from the Children's Ministry and Kilternan Parish have set up an Easter Lego Challenge. Have a look at the below clip and get the Lego chest out. It will run from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday.

https://www.facebook.com/KilternanParishChurch/videos/2123 85653191024/

As the PDF is a very large file, I have not included it in the News, but I have shared it with Beth Stack and Edwina Allman from the Mustard Seeds. We can all pass you on a copy if you are interested. I hope to post it also on the Parish Website.

Please share with us some of your Lego projects!

# **Prayers for Children During Coronavirus**

My treasure lies in little things, I know this to be true, My home, my health, my family, The little things I do. The hands I fold to say my prayers Are washed and very clean And those I love are tucked up safe 'Though sometimes they're not seen. I thank you God for little things, And for this world I pray, That you protect each little child And keep them safe today You are a God who's REALLY big There's nothing you can't do But treasure lies in *little* things, So these I give to you.



By Rev. Cathy Hallissey

## POWERSCOURT NATIONAL SCHOOL DUCKLINGS

In March Powerscourt National school got involved with a hatching project where the school would play host to an incubator and 24 duck eggs. The program lead by Mr. Middleton, Ms. Cox and Liam Corrigan was going very smoothly. Then the schools closed and to not disturb the eggs The Corrigan Family volunteered to take on the role of caring and tending to the eggs daily. This required a large amount of work as sometimes the eggs needed to be checked up to 3 times a day.



Photo Credit: Liam Corrigan

The program was however a huge success and yesterday morning, 1 day after the duckling's due date, a beautiful little duckling named Snowflake hatched. Witnessed by Dan and Liam Corrigan. A few more arrived in the afternoon and we now await the arrival of the rest of their brothers and sisters.



Photo Credit: Liam Corrigan

We are all so grateful to the Corrigan family for the dedication and love that they have shown to the ducklings and to the whole project. I know when speaking to Liam it had become for him more of a mission of hope when our health and safety have become so vulnerable. We are reminded that even in the toughest of times the beauty and wonder of nature is steadfast and that life will continue clearer and brighter than ever.

## **PARISHIONERS GALLERY -**

We thought you might like to know how some of your Parish friends are filling their time.



Photo Credit: Stephanie Lloyd



Photo Credit: Carol Robinson Tweed

Special Request We are aware that there are a small number of parishioners that have no access to internet or email. Could we please make a small request that if you know of anyone who would not have received the service or the 'News From the Pews' and would like it,

could you please print and pop it in a friends letter box or let us know and we will post them a copy. We would be very grateful for this.

Keep updated with what is going on through the following resources:

#### PARISH FACEBOOK

https://www.facebook.com/The-Grouped-Parishes-of-Powerscourt-with-Kilbride-1514315732033467/

#### **PARISH WEBSITE**

http://www.powerscourt.glendalough.anglican.org/

## **DIOCESAN WEBSITE**

https://www.ireland.anglican.org/

#### **CHURCH REVIEW**

https://dublin.anglican.org/news/church-review/about-church-review