

# NEWS — from the — PEWS

It never ceases to amaze me how nature and the seasons within the year continuously rotate and change. It seems that, regardless of what happens within our daily lives, the vast world of nature around us is resilient in its constancy. Like clockwork the seasons change, not overnight but incessantly, even as we sleep! I take my marker from the hens, roosting five minutes later every night and rising earlier every morning. Now buds have begun to appear on the Chestnut tree and there is more than a hint of warmth



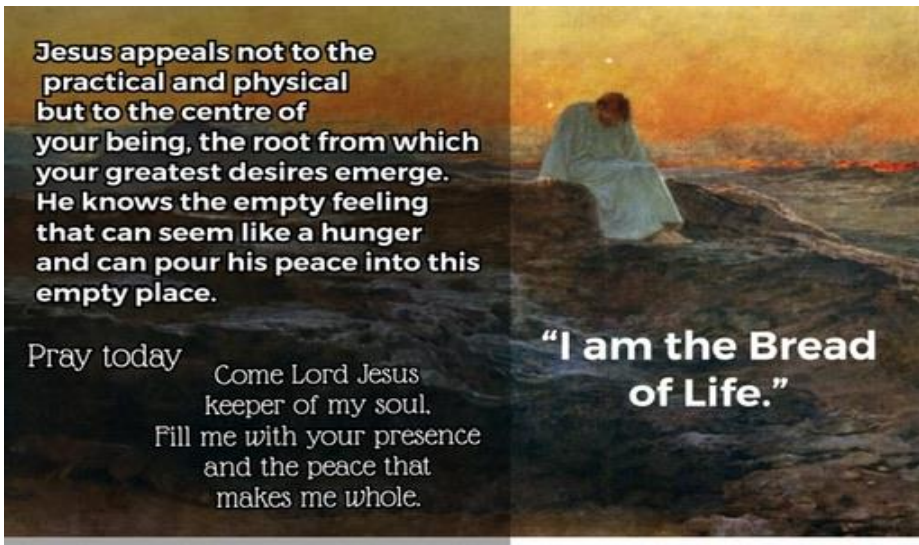
"There are no extravagant prayers required; no vast knowledge of scripture and no pious positioning of oneself, merely a dedication of a pocket of time with an eager heart and a listening ear."

behind the sun's rays. From this comes a myriad of prayers and short reflections speaking of God's constant love and care.

Our Lenten Season this year is embedded within Lockdown and all the changes this brings. Lent is naturally a time best used for reflection and perhaps there are many of us who have been reflecting over this past year in the extended quietness afforded us 'when the busy world is hushed..'. It strikes me continuously how vital quietness and reflection are within our faith, and the spiritual nourishment that can be attained from purely

sitting with an intent on connecting with a higher source. There are no extravagant prayers required; no vast knowledge of scripture and no pious positioning of oneself, merely a dedication of a pocket of time with an eager heart and a listening ear. Our prayers go to those who find that the sitting in silence Lockdown has forced upon us is unbearable and who are, at present, suffering from poor mental health as a result of this. How can we respond to this within our small neck of the woods? Who are the people who immediately spring to mind in your life when you read these words?

Our first week during Lent reflects on the first of the many “I am” sayings of Jesus – “I am the Bread of Life”. My prayer this week and for



the duration of this Lenten time is that those who are particularly struggling now in the silence of their homes may be awakened to a presence as constant as the ever-changing seasons. May Christ, the Bread of Life fill each loss and provide the strength that guides them forward into brighter days.

## Enniskerry Traders

This week we have invited *The Parting Glass* wine shop and *Nature In* health store to tell us about the stock they carry and what you can expect to find when you visit them.

### The Parting Glass – Church Hill.



#### Opening Hours:

**11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday to Saturday**

**12.30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday**

**Tel: 01 2767876**

**Mobile: 085 3835794**

**Website:**

**[www.thepartingglass.ie](http://www.thepartingglass.ie)**

Dom Brice tells me:

“Whether you are looking for one bottle or a couple of cases, you’ll find something to tantalise your palate on our shelves. We can give you recommendations for matching food to wine, but our philosophy is drink what you like, not what people tell you, you should like!

We have over 600 wines in stock from all over the globe; why not travel the world with your tastebuds!!! Wine is something to

be enjoyed; it’s a relaxed social thing, not something that needs to be over complicated or overpriced! The job of anyone working in the Wine trade is to demystify wine and sell it with passion and a smile – hopefully we manage both!”



## **Nature In - Health Food Store, Church Hill.**



### **Opening Hours:**

**10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday**

**10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.**

**Closed on Sundays**

**Mobile: 087 6950908**

**Website [www.naturein.ie](http://www.naturein.ie)**

“We are small local *Independent Health Food Stores* based in beautiful Enniskerry Village (Church Hill) and Newtownmountkenedy (Fishers).

What you can find in our shops:

- *Food Supplements*
- *Vegetarian and vegan nutrition*
- *Sports nutrition*
- *Natural medicine*
- *Eco-friendly and zero waste products*
- *Body care and household products*
- *Handcrafted gifts made locally*

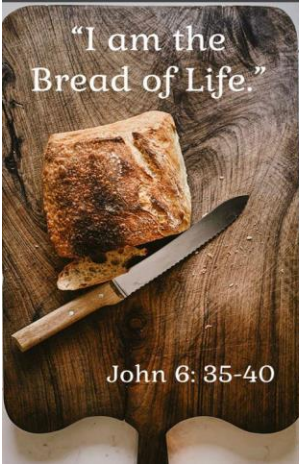


Looking forward to your visit. Veronika and Lubo”

Next week we will bring you more information on Enniskerry Traders.

*Submitted by Barbara Davis.*





"I am the Bread of Life."

John 6: 35-40

**The Gospel this Sunday tells of Jesus' temptation in the Wilderness. It's particularly interesting that the evil forces attempting to destroy the Messiah first went to work on his human needs.**

**It's important to make a clear distinction between our physical and spiritual needs and nourishment. Our bodies are quick to tell us when we hunger.**

**This week we think about the spiritual nourishment given to us by Jesus himself and the way his peace can calm the restless needs within us.**

**The National Bible Society of Ireland**, are excited to begin a six week journey into a type of 'wilderness', where we have the opportunity to engage and reflect on our mental health.



For six sessions they will be using the **'Lifting the Lid'** resource, put together using material from a joint initiative between 'Mind & Soul' and 'Livability' (for more, see <https://www.mindandsoulfoundation.org/>).



Our heart is to create a nurturing space where we can thoughtfully engage with biblical text during the season of Lent, and conversationally explore key themes we encounter on our inner and collective journey toward mental wholeness. To that end these sessions will cover:

- **Valued:** Zacchaeus
- **Cared for:** Elijah
- **Listened to:** Emmaus
- **Accepted:** Weeping woman

- **Understood:** Jairus
- **Beloved:** Prodigal Son

In conjunction with the relevant biblical texts, each week will look at different dimensions of mental health, including questions around challenges to mental well-being, addiction, anxiety, disconnection or restoration.

There will be six facilitators - one for each session. Each facilitator is trained in either ministry, counselling, art therapy or biblical scholarship and brings a unique skill to the overall conversation of mental well-being.

They are conscious that the issues raised can be sensitive and deeply personal - this forum will not and does not seek to solve such issues. Rather, it seeks to gently draw our attention to the reality that these are challenges faced by many of us each day.

These six sessions are intended therefore to offer a tangible piece of hope, as we navigate the current wilderness in which we all find ourselves.

So, join with The National Bible Society this journey of discovery, where we will **'Lift the Lid'** each **Monday evening from 7.30-8.40pm** during Lent, and reflect on six key areas that are important in nurturing and sustaining good mental health.

To register, simply click here

- <https://www.nationalbiblesocietyofireland.ie/> onto our website, or here - **'LIFTING THE LID' REGISTRATION LINK**

<https://bit.ly/3rXMhuW>, and fill out the short and easy registration form. A zoom link will arrive in your inbox. Any issues which arise with registration please contact [julia@nbsi.ie](mailto:julia@nbsi.ie). Please feel free to share with your church community as appropriate.

<http://www.gashgardens.ie/>

# Spring

**By Gerard Manley Hopkins**

Nothing is so beautiful as Spring –

When weeds, in wheels, shoot long and lovely and  
lush;

Thrush's eggs look little low heavens, and thrush  
Through the echoing timber does so rinse and wring  
The ear, it strikes like lightnings to hear him sing;

The glassy peartree leaves and blooms, they brush  
The descending blue; that blue is all in a rush  
With richness; the racing lambs too have fair their fling.

What is all this juice and all this joy?

A strain of the earth's sweet being in the beginning  
In Eden garden. – Have, get, before it cloy,

Before it cloud, Christ, lord, and sour with sinning,  
Innocent mind and Mayday in girl and boy,  
Most, O maid's child, thy choice and worthy the winning.



## The Sound of Hope & Unity

Each Sunday at 12 noon  
our Churches will ring  
their bells as a sign  
of Hope, Unity and Outreach  
and in remembrance  
of those suffering at present  
and Front-line Workers.

*'Pause and Whisper a Prayer'*



They open in the  
morning light and close  
their petals to the night;  
and slowly move, once  
day's begun, to keep  
their faces to the sun.

*Light-Seekers*

Praying through the wisdom of nature

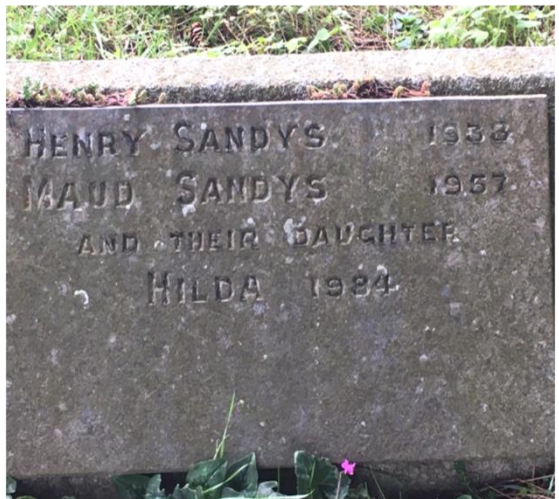




**Hilda Sandys 1891-1984**, was the last of several generations of this family who lived in Enniskerry and worshipped in this church. When she died in 1984 ,Canon Stokes said of her at her funeral, "93 years ago, Henry and Maud Sandys drove from Ballyorney where they lived at Charleville cottage, to this church for the baptism of their daughter Hilda , two

months old, by Mr Boyle....her body has been brought to rest here where her Christian Pilgrimage began, and where it ends. And with her ends a name which has been in this parish since 1775, when her forefather came here as Rector."

In WWI she was a VAD, the Voluntary Aid Detachment, nursing in Flanders. For this work, she was awarded the RRC, the Royal Red Cross, a distinguished service medal. These medals were not given to every civilian who served in action, and she went to Buckingham Palace to receive her award from the King. In 1919 She worked with the Peace Commission with refugees and displaced persons.



In WW2, she joined the WAAFs, the Women's Auxiliary Air Force, and became an officer in command of a squadron. She was born to shoulder responsibility, especially in the care of the young women who were put in her charge. Canon Stokes, who was good at this, reminded those at her funeral that it was the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 'D day landings', a fitting reminder of her lifetimes work with the forces.

In the 1960s she retired to Ireland and a new home in Kilmacanogue. There, she became a central figure for her nephews and nieces, and expert at children's' parties, a baker of delicious cakes, and a menace on the roads in her Morris Minor. She is fondly remembered as Miss Sandys, well known in the church, and the parish.

*'Headstone of the Week', submitted by Judy Cameron*

## **Enniskerry Gardening Club**

You will be pleased to hear that Ethni Seymour, Hon Secretary of the Enniskerry Gardening Club has organised a Zoom Talk for **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 8 pm** by *Mary Keenan* of Gash Gardens.

The topic is 'HELLO SPRING' and will suggest things to do to be ready and plants as they are now. Those of you who visited the gardens, with us, a few years ago will remember how wonderful they were and how much we enjoyed our visit. Might I suggest you go to their website to whet your appetite.



<http://www.gashgardens.ie/>

# Spring into Heritage

## BUCKETLIST

30 ways to experience heritage #springintoheritage



AND LASTLY...SHARE THIS Heritage List WITH A FRIEND!



[WWW.BIODIVERSITYIRELAND.IE](http://WWW.BIODIVERSITYIRELAND.IE)

## Children's Corner



Ireland Reads is a new campaign from Irish libraries, Children's Books Ireland, NALA, booksellers, publishers and others to get the whole country reading this month in the lead up to **Ireland Reads Day**

**on Thursday, the 25<sup>th</sup> of February.**

The aim is to get everyone to pledge to 'squeeze in a read' on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February, Ireland Reads Day – whether that's reading a book, a newspaper, a comic – whatever works. On Thursday 25 February we're inviting people of all ages to get reading.

Why? Because taking some time for yourself to relax and do the things you enjoy (like reading) is important to help look after your mental wellbeing.



Take the pledge below and see how many minutes people all over Ireland will be squeezing in to read on Thursday 25 February. Ireland Reads is a public libraries initiative, in partnership with publishers, booksellers, authors and others under the Government's **'Keep Well' campaign**.

Please visit [www.irelandreads.ie](http://www.irelandreads.ie), where you can:



- Let us know how long you're going to read for on Ireland Reads Day, February 25th. We'll send you a reminder closer to the day.
- Get some reading inspiration – simply enter the type of book you like best, how long you have available to read each day and the website will suggest a book and tell you how long it will take to read it.

All over the country, libraries and partners will be holding events and activities online in support of Ireland Reads. Check the Ireland Reads website or on your local library website.

Unfortunately, libraries and bookshops are closed right now but you can always get thousands of eBooks, audiobooks, magazines and newspapers online through your library. Simply visit [www.librariesireland.ie](http://www.librariesireland.ie) to join or to find out how to use Borrowbox, RBDigital and PressReader to get access.

Please help to get Ireland Reading!



All videos can be found on our Facebook Page

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

or on our Parishes YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOXYER9cLb4mj3tuNcYdExQ>

# I'm STARVING God!

*Rev. Cathy Hallissey*

I'm starving God because, you see -  
there's always somewhere I should be,  
something to do, some place to go,  
I hunger for these things and so -  
I ask that you may  
give me grace  
to operate  
a slower pace  
that, if I hunger,  
I succeed  
in knowing that  
it's YOU I need!

*Amen.*

**Jesus said "I am the Bread of Life!"**



# LENT & EASTER

Children's Ministry Network & Sunday School Society for Ireland



## CONNECTIONS

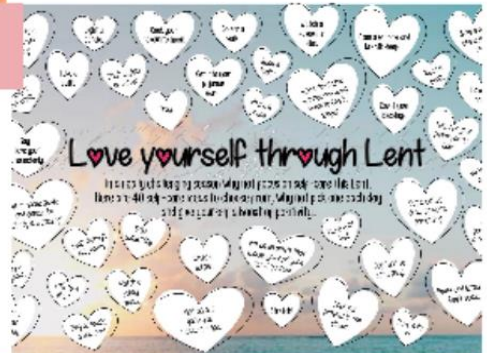
- **Connection Over Content:** Simple but effective ideas for connecting with families this Lent & Easter.
- **Family Time:** Family devotionals to breathe, read, wonder & pray.

Available [HERE](#)

## ACTIVITIES

- **Easter Trails** that can be done as a household or as a parish.
- **Holy Week Lego Challenges.**
- **A focus on Self Care** this Lent.

All can be found [HERE](#)



## GOD'S BIG EASTER STORY

A HOLY WEEK JOURNEY FOR FAMILIES



## RESOURCES

- **Mothering Sunday Video** from Home for Good.
- **Liturgical Resources** from TatH & ROOTS.
- **Easter Songs** for all ages.

All available [HERE](#)



Lent and Easter, Children's Ministry Websites from above:

*Connections*

<http://www.cm.ireland.anglican.org/connection-connecting-with-families-and-family-devotionals/>

*Activities*

<http://www.cm.ireland.anglican.org/activities-trails-challenges-self-care/>

*Resources*

<http://www.cm.ireland.anglican.org/resources-liturgical-mothering-sunday-songs/>

Sometimes it's hard to find things to do with children to fill the days at home. Why not visit our Dioceses Facebook Page for ideas!



<https://www.facebook.com/Dublin-Glendalough-Kids-107738287592834>