

NEWS — from the — PEWS


I suspect we will miss the free access to Powerscourt Golf Course pathways when Golfing resumes again as restrictions are lifted. For our family, to take an hour at 5pm before the gates close and walk one of the varied and numerous loops has turned out to be one of the most memorable and enjoyable parts of each day. As we work towards restoring bodies which have been

**'A glance to my left gave me reason to pause.
The setting sun had found a hiding place between the
trunks of a young copse wood; their brittle arms
held it suspended in gentle reverence to the day.
Perhaps, like me, they didn't want to let it go.'**



*A Rector's Diary March 2021
- Powerscourt Golf Course*


inactive due to illness, the appearance of an idle bench or two along the way is a welcome sight, but the ways are gentle and each small hillock presents an easy furrow beyond it. How long did it take to create such a beauty of man-made lakes and planted woodland? We try to imagine the bare trees in full bloom and as thickly populated as the evergreen forests and copses. Thank you Powerscourt for permitting us to have a 'birds-eye view' of these grounds. I wonder should I take up golf?



A BUNCH OF LOVE FOR MOTHERS DAY

To celebrate Mothers Day the wonderful ladies of the parish are organising bunches of flowers for Mothers.

They can be collected from the front porch of St. Patrick's Church, Powerscourt this Sunday, the 14th from 2pm

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A Place of Prayer

Over the past year or more in particular, St. Patrick's graveyard has been visited by local people and those from farther afield who choose to spend time at the graves of loved ones or simply to pause and reflect in the beauty of this gentle place.

Most recently we received notification that one of the graveyard's headstones had been drawn upon. This incident prompts me to encourage everyone to be vigilant and aware, when entering the graveyard, that it is a place of prayer and comfort for many, not to mention a jewel in the crown of Powerscourt Parish and one to be carefully enjoyed by all ages.

Rev. Cathy

‘Sometimes’ said the horse. “Sometimes what” asked the boy. “Sometimes just getting up and carrying on is brave and magnificent”. Charlie Mackesy.

The above quote is from a beautifully illustrated book called **The Boy, the mole, the fox and the Horse**. It’s aimed at everyone, ‘whether you are eighty or eight’... and it is a beautiful read.



The last month has been a bit of a challenge trying to stay positive and upbeat as I struggle with frustration, being patient and at times wondering is there an end in sight to ‘Covid 19’ and the myriad of threads attached to it. It is hard to believe that we are a year travelling this journey.... One of the things that I find helpful is to take a moment to reflect on what has been positive for me, or how I have changed as a result of this experience. It helps me not to get caught in the negativity, the loss and desolation that has been experienced by so many of us on our Island and across the world. How do we continue on this journey as we experience these changing times?

There is light at the end of the tunnel that is for sure. Sometimes it may feel dim and at other times it shines brightly. This is what draws us on, knowing that in the light, there is hope and as we shine the light in ourselves we also shine it for each other.



Illustration: Extracted from *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse* by Charlie Mackesy/Ebury Press

“One of the most beautiful gifts in the world is the gift of encouragement. When someone encourages you, that person helps you over a threshold you might otherwise never have crossed on your own”. John O’Donoghue.

Submitted by Sheila Lindsay.



This week's online Service:



Upcoming Services:





We have now worked our way through five generations of the Sandys family, and we are not done yet! However, this is the LAST.

The Rev Michael had eight children, and several remained living in this area. One was Elizabeth Sandys, sister to Robert, the Powerscourt manager. Elizabeth married Wills Hill

Mecredy, a Dublin Solicitor. They have a memorial in the old church of Powerscourt and produced another eight children. A son, Henry Sandys Mecredy, followed the law in his father's business, and is buried in the new graveyard in this prominent position. You can see that he wished his whole family history to be remembered! And the dates make interesting reading.

In memory of

HENRY SANDYS MECREDY MATCD

Of 5 Longford Terrace, Kingstown

July 30th, 1891 aged 88

And of Hester Hope James, widow of

John Hope James MD of Enniskerry

Died August 24 th 1891, aged 81

Maria Louisa, widow of Henry Sandys Mecredy MA

Daughter of John Hope James MD

Died Dec 8th 1900, aged 69

Also two daughters, Bessie Mecredy, 1914, and MaryLouisa Stewart Mecredy, 1951.

In spite of the dates and ages, Hester was the mother-in-law of Henry.

Dr. John Hope James was buried in Powerscourt Old graveyard in 1842, and Hester had been a widow for nearly 50 years.



Henry Sandys Mecredy also paid for the South transept window in memory of his father, Wills Hill Mecredy, who, the glass tells us, died at Cookstown "near this place", in 1852. Official records state he died at Summerhill in Dublin, where he also worked his "extensive practise". Is there a confusion here with the house called Summerhill in Cookstown, now the hotel?

In front of this imposing headstone, is another, in very worn granite. This is the resting place of The Rev Henry

Capel Sandys Mecredy 1871-1924, his wife and daughters. Rev Henry was the son of the solicitor, and in 1907 became Rector of Powerscourt church, following the footsteps of his great grandfather. He lived in the new Rectory, (now called the Old Rectory) on the Cookstown Road. While there he celebrated the 50th anniversary of our church, purchasing the brass font jug, and possibly the font basin, to mark the occasion, and in

memory of his godfather, Rev McDonagh, who was a previous Rector of this parish from 1867-1874.

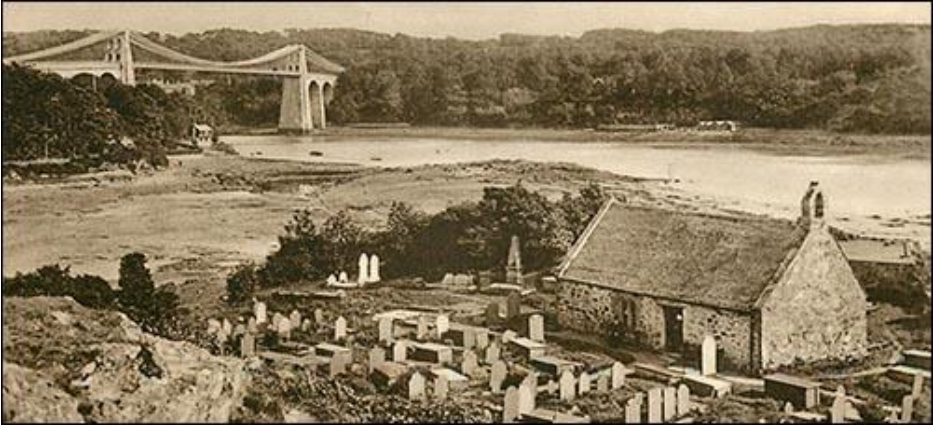
The Rev HCS Mecredy's wife was Helen Montgomery, who died in 1960.

They had two daughters, buried here:

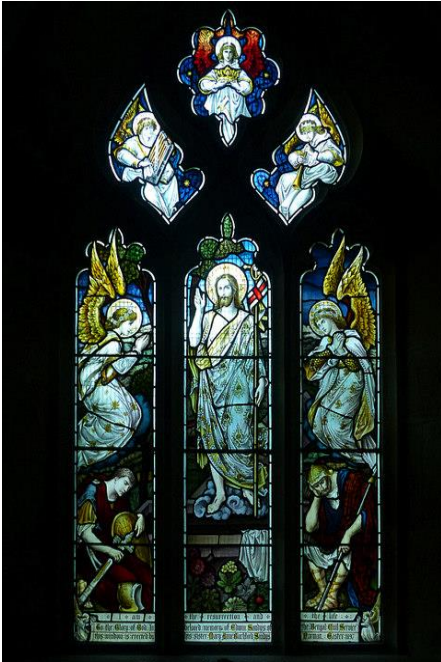
Louisa Hope Mecredy, born in 1904, became a CMS missionary in India, and Doris Helen Sandys Mecredy, born in 1907

Another of Elizabeth's children was Robert Mecredy, an Indian Army Lieutenant, who made newspaper headlines in 1862 by disappearing without trace while travelling from London to Holyhead to catch the boat for Ireland. He and his luggage took a cab from his lodgings, on his way to the train station. And neither he nor the luggage were ever seen again. A huge search was made, detectives were called in, advertisements posted, his finances examined, and his uncle, Colonel Henry Capel Sandys, brother of Elizabeth, wrote to the newspapers about it. He lived in Anglesey and his nephew was expected to visit him on his way to Holyhead but had never arrived. The whole case was investigated several years later, to establish whether he could be regarded as dead. The Judge summed up that " the unfortunate gentleman has met with some mischance"

The Colonel, who retired there from the East India Company, is remembered in Anglesey, because he donated a piece of land to the community of Menai, and it is still known as " The Colonel's Wood". He also had the misfortune to lose a son to a tiger. A stained-glass window to Edwin Sandys of the Bengal Civil Service, was commissioned by his sister in the beautiful little church of St Tysilio's, which dates from 630 AD, and sits on an island in the Menai Straits. The tiger is not depicted.



St. Tysilio's Church, Menai Bridge



Three-light window with Christ arising from the tomb, flanked by angels, with soldiers asleep below. Musical angels above.

Church of St Tysilio, Menai Bridge, Anglesey

east wall of the chancel

Signed: Jones & Willis, London, 1896.

Text: 'I am the resurrection and the life' (John 11:25).

Dedication: 'To the Glory of God, In beloved memory of Edwin Sandys of the Bengal Civil Service this window is erected by his sister Mary Anne Blachford Sandys Norman. Easter 1897.'

'Headstone of the Week', submitted by Judy Cameron

Church of Ireland Parish Choirs Online

directed by

Kevin O'Sullivan

John Stainer's

The Crucifixion

produced by

Big Red Box Media Ltd.

Tenor

Rev. Jack Kinhead

Bass

Brian Hennessey

Organist

Dr. David O'Shea

from 12 Noon on

youtube.com/c/KilternanParishChurchofIreland

Sunday 28th March



with help from
Grouped Parishes of
Sandford & St Philip's

CHURCH MUSIC
DUBLIN

St. Mary's Parish, Enniskerry



– Lenten Series of talks *‘Hitting a Wall – Staying Motivated in 2021’*

During the season of Lent a series of Talks will be delivered by webcam or Zoom from St Mary's Parish Church. The Talks will mainly be centred on areas of social injustice, Christian responsibility and personal health and well-being.

The next Talk will be this Thursday evening, see below:

“The Story of a 21st Century Refugee Family and their welcome in an Irish Community” –

Ahmad and Shahera Bourhan

7.30 p.m. Thursday 11th March By Zoom

To register for this Talk you must contact the St. Mary's Parish Office and leave your email details. Telephone 01 2760030 (10-1 Monday to Friday) or email to stmarys@enniskerryparish.ie

Ahmad and Shahera Bourhan, along with their two young boys, entered Ireland in December 2019 through an initiative called Community Sponsorship Ireland (CSI).

The Bourhan's settled into Dublin 6 with the support of a local CSI group called Home from Home D6.

CSI aims to mobilise the compassion that exists in Irish communities by encouraging community members to mobilize to sponsor a refugee family. Sponsors commit to providing financial, emotional and settlement support to help newcomers as they settle into their new communities.

Community sponsorship aims to create lasting bonds between new members of the community and their neighbours. Enniskerry is hoping to participate in CSI through the Enniskerry Welcomes initiative.

The presentation which will take the form of an interview conducted by Kevin O'Leary, Migration Caseworker, with the Irish Red Cross, will cover the Bourhan's journey from Syria to Ireland, what it has been like settling in Ireland, their thoughts on integration and their thoughts on community sponsorship. This is a great opportunity for parishioners to talk to a couple that have availed of this new complimentary refugee resettlement pathway.

UPCOMING TALKS IN THE LENTEN SERIES:

On Thursday 18th March a Youth Worker will give a Talk looking at LGBTQ+ issues and on Thursday 25th March Tina Roche who is involved in the Enniskerry Sustainable Development Community Project will give a Talk.

All Talks will be at 7.30 p.m. and details will be published on www.enniskerryparish.ie

Submitted by Phil Kenna on behalf of St. Mary's Church, Enniskerry



Dear Parishioners,

Many thanks to those who sent us on your address.

During these days of isolation it is important for us to keep in touch with you and a good opportunity for us to update our parish lists.

Would you be kind enough to take 30 seconds to respond to this email by typing out your full address and Eircode (if you know it) and return this to Mandy at office@powerscourtns.ie. This would be most helpful.

‘The Living Room’ by Zoom



Our Living Room concept began by embracing the Wednesday Fellowship Group and encouraging it to expand. The Group now takes time to review Portraits of the Scriptures and it's amazing what emerges in

conversation through the workings of the Holy Spirit! Now, under present restrictions, this little group has expanded even further as it is now held as a zoom meeting and possible for people to attend who may not be from the locality. With this in mind we encourage you to join us on Wednesday Mornings at am on Zoom. If you would like to take part in this group please contact the Rector at cathyhallssey@hotmail.com.

Chorister Recruitment for St. Patrick's Cathedral



The search for new boy and girl choristers is always necessary, but the process of recruiting has not been made easy due to the pandemic.

Saint Patrick's is renowned for its standard of choral singing.

Membership of the Choir provides opportunities for choristers to gain experience and to build confidence. During the last few years, the choristers have performed regularly on live television and radio, in front of VIPs, including the President, and His Holiness The Pope, on the stages of The Gaiety Theatre, and the National Concert Hall, with both the RTÉ Symphony, and Concert, Orchestras. As well as this, they have gone on

choir tours and were involved in singing for no fewer than five critically acclaimed CDs the most recent of which was released in December 2020.

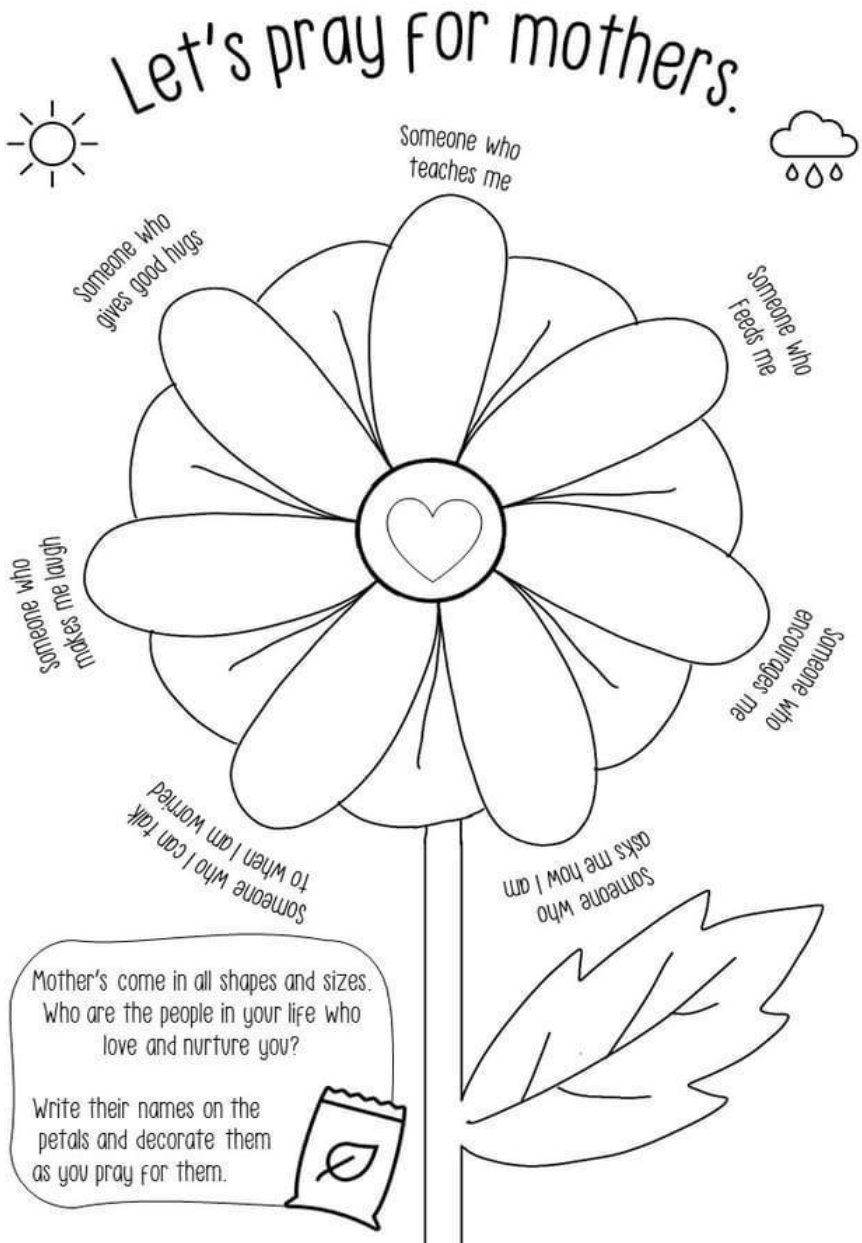
Please encourage any parents who would be interested in their child/children undergoing a voice trial to contact Mr Nicholson by e-mailing him at music@stpatrikscathedral.ie Alternatively, they are welcome to write to him: Mr S Nicholson, Master of the Music, Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Saint Patrick's Close, Dublin, D08 H6X3.

Could you offer Luna a home?



Lola who is 2, a house cat and is fully house trained. She is used to living with children and a dog but due to current circumstances needs to be rehomed. If you could offer Luna a home, please give Rev. Cathy a call on 086 3583104. Thank you.

Children's Corner





For those looking for resources for Mothering Sunday - check out the following video - perfect for including in online service, assembly or virtual Sunday Club.

<https://vimeo.com/392673993/e318a47ff5>

Mother's Day 2021 – Animation

Whatever type of mum you are, today is about you.



https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=266568691709792&id=107738287592834



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>