

NEWS — from the — PEWS

Christ church Cathedral opened its doors to 70 confirmation candidates on Tuesday 9th November last. Although, unfortunately, there was no choir or organist present, those who attended were treated to the wonderful cathedral experience and found it to be quite remarkable. Speaking to the Archbishop

afterwards, he said that he had never confirmed as many candidates at one time, yet the whole procedure of moving children up the church and back to their seats was carried out by the vergers with ease and efficiency. Each candidate was accompanied by two family members and the Service was live-streamed from the Cathedral for other family members

who could not attend. Bearing in mind that this was only one service of several to be held, it is indeed heartening to see so many young people step forward to journey with Christ for the rest of their lives. My thanks go to Gillian Davis our Youth Leader who has an incredible gift with



young people and whose input into our pre-confirmation classes was gratefully received by all. This year we have 9 new Confirmands. Please remember in your prayers Isla Chambers, Dan Corrigan, Nathan Heatley, Marcus Murphy, Nathaniel Miller, Oran Allman, Pia White, Laila Rose Allen McKee and Isabella Martin-Rossiter and ask that you remember them in your prayers going forward. Of the many tasks set to us clergy, spending time with young people who have made their own decision to follow Christ is a pleasure and privilege. I'd like to thank our

group for their willingness to engage and rediscover the heart of their faith with me.

Hearts were lifted as, at the very beginning of his faith journey, the congregation of Powerscourt welcomed Master Felix Michael Teehan for Baptism on Sunday last. Felix was accompanied by his Mum and Dad, Kirsty and Richard and three Godparents! May God bless and protect this small soul on this journey for the rest of his life.



AN UNCHARTERED COURSE.

The Powerscourt National School PTT AGM took place during this week. The guest speakers were Wayne Hamilton and Sarajane Connolly from Rise Counselling who spoke about the pressures put upon children as a result of the pandemic and useful skills to assist with the relief of anxiety and stress. It is hoped that Rise will also visit our Parish some evening in the next few weeks to address mental health issues surrounding Covid19. Now is the time to talk!



During an opening address, I commended the strength of leadership of our Principal Mr. Stephen Middleton who has solidly steered his ship through unprecedented and uncharted waters. I assured those present that ‘the vista is completely different when

viewed from the eye of the storm' and asked parents to support, build up and believe in the valuable teaching team and their work within a school that nurtures the type of self-belief and self-acceptance that places a child firmly upon the path to successful Secondary School Education.

Photographs of the final two trees that were kindly donated by Andrew Bailey being planted flowing the service on 31st October.



The trees now flank the right-hand side of the driveway leading to the lower carpark. We are most grateful to Andrew for this kind donation to our church grounds.

Photographed, Rev. Cathy Hallissey, Andrew Bailey and Barbara Davis, Secretary of the Powerscourt Select Vestry.



Watching for the Light

For three consecutive Wednesdays through Advent, beginning on 1st of Dec, St. Patrick's Church opens its doors from 7pm-8pm for a quiet reflective time of music and prayer. Opportunity will be provided to light a candle for a loved one during this time or to come for a blessing or prayer with Rev. Cathy.

1st December
8th December 7pm – 8pm
15th December



Rectors Wish List

As things slowly return to normal, we would like to spruce up our children's area in St. Patricks Church. If you would like to help with this, we would be delighted to receive the following items:



Large cushions (bright colours no patterns)

Many thanks, Cathy



FOLLOW THE STAR FESTIVAL & MARKET SAT 11TH DECEMBER 2021

FOLLOW MARY, JOSEPH & DONKEY ON A
JOURNEY FROM ST.MARY'S CHURCH AT 4.30
AND JOIN THEM THROUGH ENNISKERRY
VILLAGE WHILE THEY KNOCK AT THE INNS
AND MAKE THEIR WAY UP TO
THE LIVE CRIB AT POWERSCOURT CHURCH

CRAFT & FOOD STALLS
POWERSCOURT CHURCH & SCHOOL

CONTACT US @FOLLOW_THE_STAR_FESTIVAL

Sat 11th Dec - 12noon till 6pm



Support for Local Charities - Smiles all Round!

A big thanks to the Kilmacanogue Horse Show Committee who kindly selected the Charabanc as one of its charity partners for the 2021 Kilmacanogue Horse Show. A socially distanced get together was held outside the Powerscourt Golf Club to present the charities with their donations from the show. Cathy attended to represent the Charabanc Committee and is pictured receiving a donation from the Show President, Liam Allen and Show Chairman, Harry Williams.



11 charities in total received a donation from the 2021 Kilmacanogue Show and along with the Charabanc these included Wicklow Dementia Support, Irish Kidney Association, Purple House, Lakers, Newcourt School Bray, Purple House Cancer Support, Wicklow Hospice, Riding for the Disabled, Kilmacanogue Senior Citizens and Kilmacanogue GAA.

Also pictured is a group shot of the 8 charities who were able to attend to collect their donations on the day.



Photographs and piece kindly submitted by Sharon Williams

Tea and Coffee Rota for Autumn 2021



November 14th

Judy Cameron

November 21st

Edwina Allman

November 28th

Elizabeth Mahon &

Dorrie O'Rourke

We need more Volunteers – If you think you can help, please contact Marjorie Mold on 087 647 2668 or 01 2863499



William A E West-Erskine and Alfred E West were two of the seven children of the Reverend William James West, Rector of Delgany 1847-59

The elder brother's full title is The Hon. William Alexander Erskine West-Erskine MLC.

Their mother was Elmina Erskine, daughter of William Alexander Erskine of

Co. Fermanagh.

The eldest son, named for his grandfather, took his mother's surname when he inherited her property. He emigrated to Australia in 1861, and took up farming, breeding Hereford cattle. He was best known as a politician and became an MLC (Member of the Legislative Council of South Australia). He was a man of strong opinions, but was, according to an obituary, a loyal and affable friend. He resigned his seat in 1891, and set off on an extended visit to America, and a home trip to Ireland. It is believed that he intended to return to Australia but died while in Ireland in 1892 at the age of 53.

His brother Alfred Edward West (1851- 1919) lived at Kilcronney House with his wife, Florence Levey, a Canadian from Quebec, and their children. Florence is also buried here. Alfred served as a Lieutenant in the Wicklow Rifles and was High Sheriff of Wicklow in 1915. On the day of the Easter Rising, he was caught up in the fighting and unable to reach home, his car having been commandeered to transport wounded soldiers. He took refuge in the Kildare Street Club and wrote a description of the days and events as they occurred. These are now in the club Archive, lodged in the National Library. He died in 1919 aged 68.

The Headstone immediately in front of this one, commemorates Alfred's son Cyril Charles West (1878-1953), who was a Lt Colonel in the Black Watch, fought in the Boer War and in WW1. His wife, Ursula May Sealy West, nee Gillman, who died in 1974, is buried with him.

Cyril Charles had a sister, Hazel Valerie West (1881-1954) who became famous in 1922 and known in the press as "The Ulster Admiral" or "The Lady Admiral of Lough Erne". At the time, she was 40, newly divorced, and living on her steam yacht, when she was swept up in the Battle of Belleek, using her ship to transport government soldiers who had been cut off during the fighting. This was not part of the Civil War, but you will have to look it up, if you are interested, Irish history being somewhat confusing at that period.



To see a fascinating little video of this indomitable woman at the helm, Google Hazel Valerie West, and look for her on the ifiarchiveplayer.ie. I was particularly charmed with the washing line on the yacht where an array of Irish linen tea towels flapped in the breeze.

Hazel Valerie was married to Colonel Herbert Curling Laverton, OBE of the Black Watch, and later to Augustus West, possibly a relative. Col Laverton was a friend of Mervyn Richard, 8th Viscount Powerscourt, and a touching memorial stone was erected by him to his friend in the Killing Hollow valley just below the Pepperpot Tower in Powerscourt

Gardens. The wording is surely significant, but we can only guess at Laverton's work in the Valley.

*In loving memory
Of my dearest friend
Col Herbert C Laverton OBE
The Black Watch
Died 10th Jan 1923
This stone is placed in the Valley
In which he worked so often
And loved so well.
Powerscourt*

Kindly Submitted by Judy Cameron

FLOWER GUILD VOLUNTEERS WANTED

WE are looking for some new names
on the Sunday Flower Arrangers List.

It normally needs about 3 bunches of
flowers plus greenery but of course it's
great if you have garden flowers



Volunteering is required about 3 times per year.

If you are interested to get involved, please contact Marjorie

Mold 087 647 2668 or 01 2863499

Bray, Powerscourt and Kilbride Mothers' Union



On Monday we had a short MU meeting and we held it in the PLC, newly painted, thank you Maurice, and warm despite having all the doors and windows open.

We met to gather some Christmas gifts for Darndale Crèche which we have been supporting for many years now. We didn't make shoebox presents this year but gathered up many selection boxes and colouring books and pyjamas.

This year we are also supporting the Women's refuge with personal items for women and gifts for new-born babies.

We brought our own supper, packed our gifts into some black bags ready to bring to our MU Council meeting at the end of the month. Ann led us in prayer when we were able to support in prayer the children in the crèche and the women in the refuges. We also prayed as we always do for the worldwide Mothers' Union.

We will be holding in prayer for 16 days those who experience gender-based violence and abuse from 25th November to 10th December. If you would like to be a prayer supporter too, please ask Carol Reynolds to put you in the WhatsApp group.

The Mothers' Union Prayer

Loving Lord, we thank you for your love so freely given to us all. We pray for families around the world. Bless the work of the Mothers' Union as we seek to share your love through the encouragement, strengthening and support of marriage and family life. Empowered by your Spirit, may we be united in prayer and worship, and in love and service reach out as your hands across the world. In Jesus' name.

Amen

© Connor Diocesan Mothers' Union

Kindly submitted by Georgina Masterson

The joint parishes of Powerscourt with Kilbride operate within the Policies and

