

WELCOME TO

Mary Immaculate, Refuge of Sinners, Rathmines

Sunday 24 May 2026 Pentecost Sunday

Parish Office Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 10am - 1pm

Address: 52 Lower Rathmines Road, Dublin 6

Telephone: 01 497 1531 Email: secretary@rathminesparish.com

Please visit the parish website: www.rathminesparish.ie

www.facebook.com/rathminesparish Webcam: www.rathminesparish.ie



HOMILY

Today we are celebrating the great and uniquely Christian mystery of Pentecost. It begins with a picture of frightened people, people crippled, imprisoned by fear.

Fear of a very deadly sort, a kind of quiet dread that gnaws away at us. So quiet in fact that we may not even be able to give it a name. Far from prodding us to fight or run, this sort of fear does quite the opposite. It drags us down, ties weights to our hands and feet. It tells us, as it told the Apostles, "Lock yourselves in your room. Find a corner and stay there. Don't try anything, because nothing you try is going to work out anyway. You don't have the ability, the strength, or even the charm to accomplish anything very valuable. Make no effort, take no risk, because if you do, you will fail."

The Apostles, newly commissioned by Christ to go out to all the world as his witnesses, locked in a room, frightened of everything outside of that room. Frightened of persecution, certainly, but frightened too of ridicule, their own ignorance, the immenseness of their vocation, and the likelihood of their failure.

And had the event described for us in this first reading not happened, that would have been the history of all of humankind. But it did happen. Again, with the weakness of human nature, God merged the strength of his own divine nature. With the coming of the Holy Spirit, the apostles and all believers were given the ability to go beyond themselves, to draw on more than they ever thought they had.

We, too, have that spirit of courage, that ability to go beyond ourselves. We are called, just as were the apostles, to a deep experience of the presence of the Spirit in our lives.

We are called to let him work wonders through us. And he does. Every one of us has had such an experience. Anytime we make an investment of ourselves in someone else's welfare, an investment of time or energy or talent or wealth, and do so really fairly certain that there will be no reward, perhaps not even any gratitude ... anytime we ask God for help, and keep on asking, even though there seems to be no help coming ... anytime we say with confidence that God is indeed Lord of the World, that he gives it purpose and meaning, even though that can be pretty hard to see sometimes, anytime we make a real act of faith, just let ourselves go, completely, perhaps even desperately into God's hands, and experience that surrender as a victory, then we are truly caught up in the movement of the Spirit. We are going far beyond what human beings can do on their own. As the Gospel tells us, God has indeed breathed on us, and we have been filled with the Holy Spirit. **Fr Andrew**

Please join us for **Tea & Coffee this and every Sunday after 11am Mass** in the Parish Centre. All are welcome. Also after **10am Mass every Thursday**

MASS TIMES RATHMINES CHURCH
Saturday 6pm (Vigil)
Sunday 11am, 6pm (Folk)
Tues/Thurs/Fri 10am
Preceded by Morning Prayer - 9.45am
Confessions Sat 5.30pm or by appt

MASS TIMES RATHGAR CHURCH
Saturday 10am
Sunday 9.30am, 12.15pm
Mon/Weds 10am Tues/Thurs 6pm
Eucharistic Adoration
Mon/Weds/Sat 10.30am - 11.30am
Monday to Saturday 6pm - 7pm

Our **Rathmines Folk Group** are going on their summer break from this weekend, and we wish them all a well-deserved break. We thank them for their ongoing and valued contribution to Rathmines parish and look forward to their return in early September. **Please note the 6pm Sunday evening mass will continue until the end of June but will then be suspended for the months of July and August.**

Our warmest congratulations to all the children from St Louis Senior Primary School who received their **First Holy Communion** in Rathmines Church this Saturday. Please keep them in your prayers.

Copies of **Archbishop Farrell's Pastoral Letter for Pentecost, Come, Holy Spirit, Fill Our Hearts with the Fire of Your Love** are available at the back of the church and we invite you to take one home with you.

Sunday 17 May 2026 Share Collection €361 First Collection

CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS RATHMINES
youthministry
@rathminesparish.com
Instagram
@yarathmines

NEXT EVENT
Saturday 13 June 2026

KILKENNY PILGRIMAGE TRIP

MEETING POINT
9.30am
Dublin Heuston Station
Or 11.45am Kilkenny (MacDonagh) Station

Including Vigil Mass 6pm St John's Kilkenny
Please see our poster & flyers for more info

Prayer for Examinations
If you or someone you know is studying for exams at present, you might like to look at our **Prayer for Examinations** on www.rathmines

The monthly **St Vincent de Paul Church Gate Collection** takes place this weekend after all masses. Please give generously.

Rathmines Parish hosts a weekly **Youth Led Holy Hour with Music, Prayer and time for reflection every Tuesday evening from 7.30pm to 8.30pm** in the church. All are welcome to attend.

Coeliac Help
If you wish to receive a

Parish Priest
Fr Andrew O'Sullivan
Tel. 01 497 1531 / 497

Parish Secretary
Mary Ryan
Fri

Parish Office
Mon/Tues/Thurs/

The Diocesan Child S
contacted confi

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Rathmines Parish Pastoral Council is a faith-based group whose purpose is to lead and serve in the spirit of the Gospel, warmly welcoming and connecting with parishioners and the wider community.

Parish Pastoral Council Members

Fr Andrew O'Sullivan PP, Geraldine McSweeney, Sr Sofia Cho, Angel Agito, Mary Mcgaughan, Bridget Murphy, Ann Dolan, Joe Costello, Jackie Brennan, Angela Meta and Andrew Moran.

OUR PARISH PARTNERSHIP

Rathmines Rathgar Beechwood Harold's Cross Mount

Dear Parishioner,

You are warmly invited to join us in the Church of Mary Immaculate, Refuge of Sinners on **Wednesday, 10th June at 6.30pm** for an evening of reflection and conversation about our church and its place in our lives and community.

Our church has been selected as one of five churches included in the **Dublin City Places of Worship Project**, an initiative under the Dublin City Strategic Heritage Plan, supported by the Heritage Council and with the cooperation of the Archdiocese of Dublin. This recognition reflects the importance of our church—not only as a beautiful building, but as a living place of faith, memory, and community in the city.

The purpose of this gathering is to share the historical research and survey work that has been carried out to date and the **Statement of Significance** that will be completed for our church. This is a way of capturing and expressing why this place matters—architecturally, historically, spiritually, and socially—but also in terms of the lived experience of those who worship and gather here.

The evening will be in two parts:

- Firstly**, members of the project team will present their findings. Gráinne Shaffrey of Shaffrey Architects will outline the architectural survey work, and Dr Ellen Rowley and Bushra Mansoor will share insights from the historical and archival research.
- Secondly**, they would very much like to hear from you.

This is an opportunity to reflect together on what makes this church special: your memories, your experiences, and what you feel gives this place its unique spirit.

While expert research can tell us much, it cannot capture the full meaning of this church without the perspectives of the parish community. I warmly encourage you to attend and to take part in this important conversation.

Kind regards,

TALLAGHT CHORAL SOCIETY

Illuminare

Sunday 24th May 2026
7.30pm

Church of St Agnes, Crumlin

Illuminare - E. Hagenberg
Holy Spirit Mass - K.A. Arnesen
Dr Lynsey Callaghan, Conductor
With the Irish Choral Sinfonia
Tickets €25 - tcs2026.eventbrite.ie

PRAYER FOR STRENGTH

Every day I need you Lord, but this day especially, I need some extra strength to face whatever is to come.

This day more than any other day I need to feel you near me to fortify my courage and to overcome my fear. By myself, I cannot meet the challenge of the hour

...
How much frail human creatures need a Higher Power sustaining them in all that life may bring.

And so, dear Lord, hold my trembling hand Be with me Lord this day,

RCN (Registered Charity Number) 20016166