



St Mary's  
Parish  
Haddington  
Road

Serving  
the  
Community

Serving  
the  
Family

Serving  
the  
City



## St Mary's and Church Services TV—Much Progress

Three years ago, following a very generous response to our *Joy of the Gospel* campaign, the pastoral team at St. Mary's undertook a number of initiatives aimed at evangelisation and a broader provision of pastoral services in our parish. One of the most successful of these has been a very fruitful relationship with Church Services TV, an Irish based company that allows parishes throughout the country to broadcast their masses and other parish services to a much wider audience through the internet.

This had two purposes. The first was to replace the old radio service we used to bring mass to the housebound, while the second was to bring St Mary's into a broader pastoral contact with the wider world, while allowing parishioners and others living abroad to maintain a real contact with our parish.

We are delighted that many of our housebound parishioners are now able to follow daily mass in their homes, while our wonderful team of Eucharistic ministers continues to bring communion to the housebound. The St Mary's package of services are much appreciated. In addition to Church TV, we have our parish website, <http://www.stmaryshaddingtonroad.ie>, which provides essential information for both parishioners and visitors, and our newsletter, which seeks to further faith formation as well as keeping parishioners informed of events in the parish and the wider Church.

We recently had an analysis of our Church Services TV results from the service provider. The results were very positive and certainly justifies the modest investment this service costs us. In analysing the response for the month of April only – although it included Easter – they found that there were **3,260** unique connections to our site. These could have been by individuals, households with more than 1 person, communities or Nursing Homes who made connections for a total of **14,146** times during the month and stayed with your services for a total of **4,899** hours. This in itself is a very impressive result, which indicates that a significant number of people follow our daily masses, our Sunday masses and, in this period, our Easter Triduum. Most of these were in Ireland but we also have many viewers in the UK, USA and elsewhere who 'come to St Mary's' either frequently or occasionally through this miracle of modern communications.

It is difficult to overstate the importance of this outreach and its potential for genuine evangelisation. These people are effectively our 'unseen parishioners or community'. They may well be faith-seekers who want to see what goes on in a real faith community, also people have who may lost the faith but who wish to keep or re-establish contact with a living community before making another step. At this point, in consultation with our providers, we need to explore ways to increase numbers and initiate some interaction with that community. We need to use this wonderful medium to the maximum of its vast potential for evangelisation.

This becomes all the more important in light of the fact that RTE will be closing their religious service broadcasts on Longwave radio, soon. They have asked Church Services TV to 'supply' its quality feeds to them through their online digital platform on their main website with immediate effect.. You can see the connection here - <https://www.rte.ie/eile/spirit/> with a larger connection further down their page. The effect of this will increase our exposure and bring further traffic to St Mary's on a regular basis in due course as all masses will be transmitted live everyday of the week, not just Sundays.

Commenting on the inclusion of a link to Churchservices.tv on the new [rte.ie/eile/spirit](https://www.rte.ie/eile/spirit/) site, Roger Childs, Commissioning Editor of Religious Content for RTÉ, said:

*"I am delighted that churchservices.tv have kindly agreed to let us include a link to their site on our own, because it offers a way for RTÉ's online viewers and listeners to connect with Masses and Services from any of 141 churches and communities (and counting) across Ireland and the UK, including, hopefully, ones near, or of significance, to them, seven days a week, and at times that suit them.*

*"While this is not RTÉ content and is not intended to be of a professional broadcast standard, it significantly enhances the scope of the Christian worship we make available to our online users, without diminishing RTÉ's own commitment to broadcast Masses and Services. As far as RTÉ, Churchservices.tv and our online viewers and listeners are concerned, the new informal partnership is a win-win-win."*

Contacts: Fr Fachtna McCarthy, Administrator, Fr Patrick Claffey C.C. Fr Josip Levaković C.C. Tel 01-6600075

Streaming and Website [www.stmaryshaddingtonroad.ie](http://www.stmaryshaddingtonroad.ie) email: [info@stmaryshaddingtonroad.ie](mailto:info@stmaryshaddingtonroad.ie)

Child Protection: <http://www.stmaryshaddingtonroad.ie/ministries/child-protection/> also [www.csp.dublindiocese.ie](http://www.csp.dublindiocese.ie)

Streaming also at [www.churchservices.tv/haddingtonroad](http://www.churchservices.tv/haddingtonroad)

Funded by Living the Joy of the Gospel Campaign

St. Mary's Parish Celebrating Community

# SUMMER GARDEN PARTY

SUNDAY 26 MAY  
12.15-3PM PARISH HALL

€20 (Conc. €16) Family €50

All proceeds in aid of Church refurbishment fund for repair of bench kneelers and restoration of statues in the Church with the Generous Support of Members' Pharmacy in Association with Local Businesses

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## GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

This weekend of 11 and 12 May, we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday. This Sunday will continue to be an irreplaceable occasion to reflect on the importance of the ministerial priesthood and on prayer for vocations to the priesthood. This is an urgent call for the future of our diocese.

There will no longer be special collection today as it is - with the smaller number of seminarians - the funds collected over the past years are now sufficient for the near future.

In his message for the World day of Prayer for Vocations Pope Francis says that there can be no greater joy than to risk one's life for the Lord! He encourages us, especially the young, not to be deaf to the Lord's call. 'If he calls you to follow his path, do not pull your oars into the boat, but trust him. Do not yield to fear, which paralyses us before the great heights to which the Lord points us.



### Jean Vanier (1928-2019)

#### Faith in Action

Jean Vanier, who has died of cancer aged 90, was the founder of L'Arche communities for adults with learning disabilities, living alongside those without them. He once said: "I had no plan, I just met people and people with disabilities awoke my heart."

In August 1964, having giving up his job teaching philosophy at the University of Toronto, he bought a small, run-down house without plumbing or electricity in the village of Trosly-Breuil, north of Paris, and invited two men with learning disabilities – Raphaël Simi and Philippe Seux – to share it with him. Both had been living in an asylum and were without family.

Believing the men's overwhelming need was for friendship he thought the small house could provide the support of domestic life, with the three of them shopping, cooking and washing up together.

Today L'Arche (the ark) has 150 communities, in 38 countries including 12 in the UK, supporting 3,500 people with learning disabilities, with day services as well as residential homes. Most of the communities are small and residents, often stay for decades.

In 2015 he was awarded the £1.1m Templeton prize, for making "an exceptional contribution to affirming life's spiritual dimension".

For complete obituary see <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2019/may/07/jean-vanier-obituary>

### The Irish Catholic's Upcoming Conference

#### *Ireland: The Future is Pro-Life*

Join us on Saturday, 25th of May, 2019 for an afternoon of reflection and analysis as we invite some of the most prominent pro-life voices in the country to come together one one stage and tell us how we all can continue to fight for a future of Ireland that is pro-life.

Full price: €30 Booking essential.

Visit [www.irishcatholic.com/shop](http://www.irishcatholic.com/shop) to book event tickets or e-mail [events@irishcatholic.ie](mailto:events@irishcatholic.ie) or call 01-6874028

#futureisprolife

### In Memoriam

11am: Cis Cassidy

### Masses and Confession

**Sundays:** Vigil, 6pm (Saturday), 9.30am, 11am, 5pm

Croatian Community Mass 6.30pm

Daily masses 10am and 12.40pm, Saturday 10am only

-Rosary daily after 10am mass

**Adoration Blessed Sacrament, Weds 10.30-12.40**

### Last Week's Collections

1<sup>st</sup> Collection: €1,017

Share Collection: €676

**THANK YOU**