

Ethiopian Celebrations at St Mary's

For a number of years now, at the request of Archbishop Diarmuid, St Mary's has been host to the small The Ethiopian Tewahedo Church here in Dublin. The church is made up of somewhere between 40-60 members, more on the important feast days. Abba Yohanes, an Ethiopian monk, has been with the church since he replaced another monk who used to come from London. During his time here, he has received degrees in theology from both St Patrick's College, Maynooth and Trinity College Dublin.

The church dates back to St Frumentius, Bishop of Akum d. ca. 383. who is credited with bringing Christianity to the Aksumite Kingdom, the origins of the Ethiopian Tewahedo Orthodox Church.

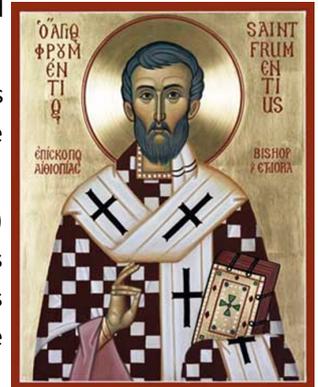
The Church considers itself to belong to the One, Holy, Catholic (Universal) and Apostolic Church founded by Our Lord Jesus Christ. It is Holy because its founder, Jesus Christ, is Holy; it is Catholic because the whole world is its province and because it is universal in time and place; it is Apostolic because it was established on earth by the Apostles of Christ.

It belongs to the group of Orthodox Churches termed "Non-Chalcedonian". Together with the Roman Catholic Church and the Byzantine Orthodox Churches they comprised the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church for four centuries until the division arose on account of the Greek-Roman Council of Chalcedon in 451 A.D. which insisted that Christ had the two natures of Humanity and Divinity. The other members of this family are the Coptic, Armenian, Syrian and Indian Churches.

The church has exactly the same sacraments as the Roman Catholic Church. It also celebrates the same great feast days but celebrates them usually a week or more later than we do. Last week they celebrated the feast of *Timkat* or Epiphany. It is celebrated on January 19th (corresponding to the 10th day of Terr in the Ethiopian calendar.) Timkat celebrates the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River. This festival is

best known for its ritual re-enactment of baptism (similar to such re-enactments performed by numerous Christian pilgrims to the Holy Land when they visit the Jordan)

During the ceremonies of Timkat, the Tabot, a model of the Ark of the Covenant, which is present on every Ethiopian altar (somewhat like the Western altar stone), is reverently wrapped in rich cloth and borne in procession on the head of the priest. The Tabot, which is otherwise rarely seen by the laity, represents the manifestation of Jesus as the Messiah when he came to the Jordan for baptism. The Divine Liturgy is celebrated near a stream or pool early in the morning (around 2 a.m.). Then the nearby body of water is blessed towards dawn and sprinkled on the participants, some of whom enter the water and immerse themselves, symbolically renewing their baptismal vows. Here in St Mary's this re-enactment took place outdoors in the Bishop's Garden, using a small inflatable child's pool.



**St Mary's
Parish
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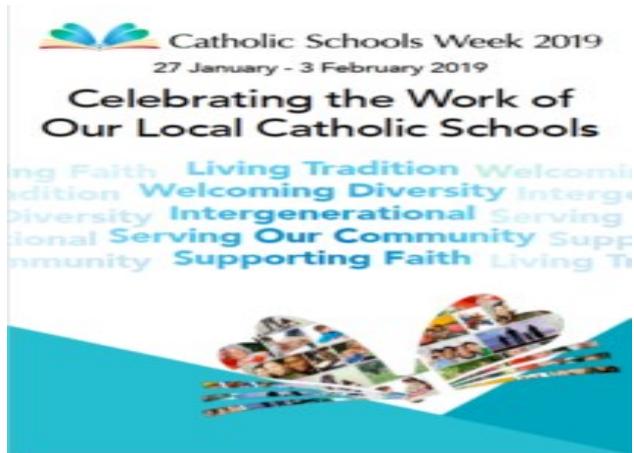
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Streaming and Website www.stmaryshaddingtonroad.ie email: info@stmaryshaddingtonroad.ie

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

Streaming also at www.churchservices.tv/haddingtonroad

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Catholic Schools Week 2019 will run from 27th January to 3rd February 2019. The theme for Catholic Schools Week this year is Catholic Schools: Celebrating the Work of Our Local Catholic Schools.

As Irish society changes, it is important that we reflect on the unique contribution of Catholic schools to our collective goal of education. Each Catholic school shares an ethos that is inclusive, welcoming and vibrant. Each school works towards a vision of each student as made in the likeness and image of God (imago Dei). This means that we work towards helping each child, irrespective of background, ethnicity or creed, reach their full potential academically, spiritually and socially. To be in the likeness and image of God means that we have the capacity to truly care for ourselves, each other and the environment around us.

While each Catholic school shares this profound commitment to this vision, every school does this differently. Each school is influenced by the community it serves; be it large urban schools, small rural schools, schools with a wide variety of ethnicities and every school in between. For this reason, every Catholic school works in a unique and distinctive manner in educating each child to holistically develop their talent, skills and potential.

Saint Paul writes in his first letter to the Corinthians; 'For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.' Each Catholic school is a vital member of the one community which is called to work towards the Kingdom of God. Each Catholic school contributes to this mission in a unique way. This year, we celebrate the unique contribution and work of our own fine Catholic schools, soon to be one in St Christopher's Primary School.

Building update. As people will have noticed, the building is now progressing very well and should be well finished for the school year starting at the end of August. Thanks to our teacher, parents, students and everybody involved in this transition for the great efforts they are making to make sure that it is as seamless as possible and that our children remained the happy young people they are in 'Haddiers' as it moves into this important new phase in its long history.

Thoughts on Our Children's Education

"A child must know that he or she is a miracle, that since the beginning of the world there hasn't been, and until the end of the world there will not be, another child like him or her." ~ Pablo Casals

"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken adults." ~ F. Douglas

"To take children seriously is to value them for who they are right now rather than adults-in-the-making." ~ Alfie Kohn

"Every day, in a 100 small ways, our children ask, 'Do you hear me? Do you see me? Do I matter?'" Their behavior often reflects our response." ~ L.R. Knost

"A child can teach an adult three things: to be happy for no reason, to always be busy with something, and to know how to demand with all his might that which he desires." ~ Paulo Coelho

"You cannot make people learn. You can only provide the right conditions for learning to happen." ~ Vince Gowmon

In Memoriam

Masses this Weekend

Recently deceased:

Mary Sweeney

Pat Meehan

Anniversaries

6pm: Ruben Taphouse, Anniversary

9.30: Mairin Elliott, 1st Anniversary

11am: Virginia Hogan, Anniversary

6pm: Peggy and Bill Tone: Anniversary

Maura Shine, Anniversary

2nd/3rd February

11am: Martin Nealon, Anniversary

5pm, Jack Connior

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

Church Collections Last Week

First Collection: €960

Share Collection: €745

Weekdays: €420

THANK YOU

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