



CHURCH OF THE
ANNUNCIATION
RATHFARNHAM

JUBILEE 2025

MASS

**Celebrating 150 years
since the Laying of the
Foundation Stone**

Bishop Paul Dempsey
Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Dublin
Very Reverend Martin Canon Cosgrove
Very Reverend Michael Coady

27th April 2025



Entrance Hymn: Official Hymn for Jubilee Year of Hope

Refrain:

Like a flame my hope is burning,
May my song arise to you:
Source of life that has no meaning,
On life's path I trust in You.

Celebrant: In the name of the Father and of the Son and
of the Holy Spirit. Amen

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRESENTATION OF SYMBOLS AND COMMENTARY

PENITENTIAL RITE

Gloria: Sung (JP Lécot)

Refrain: Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

OPENING PRAYER

**First Reading: A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles
(5:12-16)**

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm 42 Fr. Joseph Walshe: Sung

Response: Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
So my soul is yearning for you my God.

Second Reading: A Reading from the Book of the Apocalypse

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet,

'Write down all that you see in a book.

I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said,

*'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One,
I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld.
Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'*

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia: Sung (O'Carroll)





GOSPEL

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

Response: And with your spirit

A reading from the Gospel according to John (20: 19-31)

Response: Glory to you, O Lord

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them,

Peace be with you, and showed them his hands and his side.

The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again,

'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

When the disciples said, *'We have seen the Lord'*, he answered, *'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.'*

Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them.

The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them.

Peace be with you' he said.

Then he spoke to Thomas,

'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands.

Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.'

Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!'

Jesus said to him: *'You believe because you can see me.*

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord

Response Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

Creed

Prayers of the Faithful

Offertory Hymn: O God You search Me and You Know Me
(Bernadette Farrell)

Holy Holy: Sung (Bodley)

Memorial Acclamation: Sung (Sexton)
We proclaim your death O Lord, and profess your Resurrection
until You come again.

Amen

Lamb of God: Sung (Deiss)

Communion Hymns: Ave Verum (Mozart)
Ubi Caritas (Taize)
All in the April Evening (Robertson)

Recessional Hymn

Dominican Magnificat

Response: Magnificat, Magnificat, Anima mea dominum
Magnificat, Magnificat, Anima mea Dominum



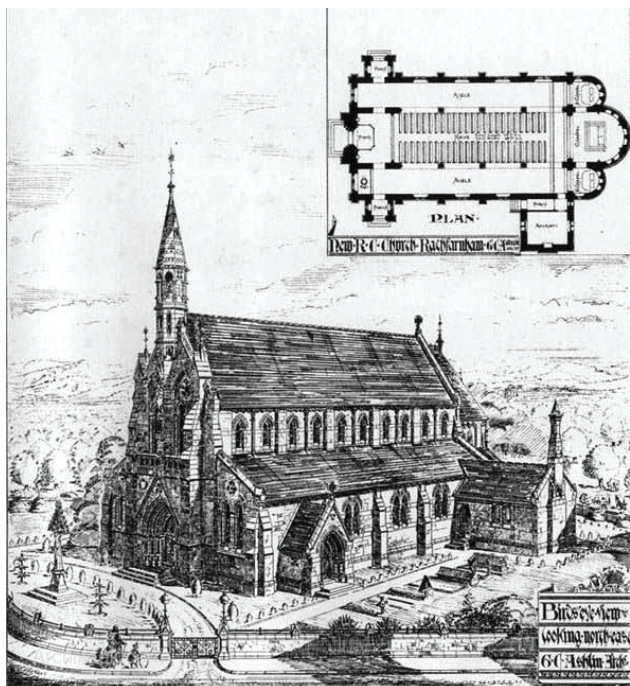
WE WARMLY INVITE EVERYONE TO JOIN US IN OUR 150TH JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS COMMEMORATING THE LAYING OF THE FOUNDATION STONE OF OUR BELOVED CHURCH



V. Rev. Martin Cosgrove & Fr. Michael Coady

The history of Christianity in Rathfarnham goes back to the 6th century, when the local bishop, Naithi, later St Naithi, established seats of learning at Donnybrook, Kilgobbin, Dundrum and Rathfarnham. It is believed that Naithi converted the local chieftan, Farnham, to Christianity, and asked him for a site on the rath overlooking the bend in the River Dodder, to establish a church. Hence the name – Rath-Farnham. This was the first church in Rathfarnham.

This year, we embark on a meaningful journey together, celebrating the essence of hope, faith and community. It is a time of reflection, renewal and rejoicing as we commemorate a significant chapter in our parish's history – the laying of the foundation stone of our beloved church. The foundation stone, laid 150 years ago on 29th April 1875, symbolises the strength and vision of those who came before us, building not just a physical structure but a spiritual home for all.



Key Historical Moment:

The Foundation of Our Church

The church, dedicated to the Annunciation, had its foundation stone laid by Cardinal Paul Cullen on Easter Monday, 29th April 1875. The Freeman's Journal reported that the ceremony was attended by a large number of clergy and parishioners, including many local residents. During the event, a beautifully designed silver trowel was presented to Cardinal Cullen by Rev. Robert Meyler. A glass jar containing a parchment scroll with the date of the ceremony, the names of key participants, and current coins was also placed in the foundation. Read more on the history at <https://rathfarnhamparish.ie/history/>

Celebrating Partnership, Parishes and Faith

Throughout the year, we will honour the strong connection that unites our partnership parishes, every event is an invitation to gather and celebrate our shared journey. Through these events, we celebrate the unity and faithfulness that make our parish life so enriching. Together, we aim to build on the firm foundation laid by our ancestors, carrying their hope into our daily lives and interactions.

An Opportunity to Renew

Our journey of hope extends to everyone, especially those who have felt distant from the Church. We warmly invite everyone to reconnect with their faith through a range of opportunities designed to inspire reflection, renewal, and belonging. We are committed to fostering an inclusive environment and actively engaging younger generations. Through music, youth focused activities that are close to your heart, and events like the Blessing of Pets and the Carol Service, we aim to create a welcoming space for all. By embracing acts of hospitality, joy and shared faith, we nurture an environment of hope and community for everyone.

Living with Hope and Spirituality

At its heart, this year is about more than events – it's about how we live out hope through our spirituality and how we celebrate the lives and contributions of others. Every shared meal, every heartfelt prayer, and every kind word strengthens our parish and our faith.

Looking Ahead

With each milestone to the recurring opportunities for engagement throughout the year, we embrace the hope that anchors us. As we walk together, let us remember the firm foundation laid by those before us and build a future filled with light, love, and faith. Join us in celebrating, our history, and one another. Let us carry forward the legacy of faith that began with the laying of our church's foundation stone, inspiring generations to come.

Jubilee 150 Celebrating 150 Years of Faith & Community



Our Jubilee 150 branding honors 150 years of devotion, service, and unity in our parish, symbolised through powerful imagery:

Dove of the Holy Spirit: The hands form the shape of a dove, representing the Holy Spirit's presence and guidance throughout our 150-year journey of faith.

Sacred Halo: A symbol of divine favor, the halo reflects Mary's role as the chosen one and the spiritual foundation of our parish for a century and a half.

Prayerful Hands of Devotion: The cupped, prayerful hands

embody Mary's words, "I am the handmaid of the Lord." They also represent our parish family's commitment to prayer, service, and unity over the past 150 years.

Embrace of the Cross: At the heart of our Jubilee emblem, the cross signifies Mary's offering to God and the steadfast faith of our parish, guiding generations in Christ's love.

Radiance of Light: The surrounding rays symbolize Jesus as the Light of the World, just as He has illuminated our parish's path for 150 years, inspiring us to continue spreading His light.

Schedule of events for 2025 - 2026

April 2025

27th April: 11:30am Concelebrated Mass - 11:30 am with Archbishop Farrell as Principal Celebrant followed by an opening ceremony with Professor Dáire Keogh. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

May 2025

9th May: Historical Talk with Tony Duffy. Refreshments served.

17th May: Communion St Mary's Boys School.

24th May: Communion Loreto Grange Road Primary.

June 2025

8th June: 7pm Pentecost feast day - Music and reflections.

13th June: Interfaith Golf.

15th June: Summer BBQ - Food, tea/coffee, treats. Entertainment/face painting & music.

22nd June: 3pm - Mass for sick. Refreshments served

July 2025

6th July: A walk in Glendalough trip with a ceremony after and a meal at Lynham's.

August 2025

30th August: Sports Day with local sporting

September 2025

9th September: 5 day trip to Lourdes.

19th September: Volunteers appreciations evening

October 2025

4th October: Blessing of Pets

17th October: Folk Group concert-40 of years music

19th October: Mission Sunday
TBC Harvest Festival

November 2025

21st November: 7:30pm - Remembrance of the Dead.

December 2025

Carol service concert

Marley Park Carol Service

31st December: Prayers to mark the close of the year.

January 2026

News Years Day Mass

Catholics School week

18th January: Ecumenical day for all faiths - church unity week,
25th January

February 2026

15th February 2026: Marriage anniversary and newly married couples mass. Refreshments Served

18th Feb - 2nd April 2026: Lent - Parish mission

March 2026

17th March 2026: St Patrick's Day festival of Faith

April 2026

Time Capsule and closing event



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