Members of the Choir of St Stephen’s Church were recently entertained to lunch at the home of the organist, Siobhan Kilkelly. Thank you Siobhan!

Mervyn Jones has resumed computer classes for the over 55s in the Friendly Room and there are still a few places available. If anyone thinks they might be interested in gaining some basic computing skills – learning to send an email, downloading photographs or using skype - contact the Parish Office for further details on 6767727.

From February the Eucharist will be celebrated in St Ann’s Tuesday to Friday at 12.45 p.m. Prayers will be said at 12.45 on Mondays. Stewards from the Church’s Ministry of Healing will continue to assist on Tuesdays when prayers for those who are ill are said, and the ministry of the laying-on of hands is offered. Numbers attending have fallen somewhat recently so if you happen to find yourself in the city centre at lunchtimes Monday to Friday, and in need of spiritual nourishment, please do come along.

Black Santa cheque service next Sunday

The €32,000 raised by the 2018 Black Santa Appeal will be distributed to local charities on Sunday 10th February at Morning Prayer, 11am. The speaker at the service will be Mr Geoff Scargill of Protestant Aid, one of the recipients of funds from our annual charity collection.

Round orange, round orange, you serve as a sign.....

St Ann’s Church had its very first Christingle Service on Sunday 27 January, at the Family Service. A Christingle is a symbolic object used in the Advent, Christmas and Epiphany services of many Christian denominations. Christingle, a word of German origin, means ‘Christ Child’ and is used to celebrate Jesus Christ as the ‘Light of the World’. The authentic origins of the Christingle can be found in the Moravian Church but many churches in the Church of Ireland now hold such services. Indeed, there are several hymns included in our hymnal for use at these, one of which was sung at our own service, ‘Round Orange, round orange, you serve as a sign...’ A Christingle usually consists of:

An orange, representing the world. A candle pushed into the centre of the orange, then lit, representing Jesus Christ as Light of the World. A red ribbon wrapped around the orange or red tape, representing the blood of Christ. Dried fruits and/or sweets skewered on cocktail sticks pushed into the orange, representing the fruits of the earth and the four seasons.

St Ann’s & St Stephen’s Churches Dublin
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Round orange, round orange, you serve as a sign.....
The Kids’ Club will meet on February 10, 17 and March 10. There will be no Kids’ Club on Feb 3 or March 3 due to services in both Churches or on March 17 due to the Bank Holiday weekend. Parents are asked to make every effort to attend the FAMILY SERVICE on the 4th Sunday of the month as special arrangements are made for these occasions with regard to the hymns and address which ideally require the presence and participation of the children. Thank you.

Safeguarding Trust Training for Kids’ Club volunteers and staff

Some of you will know that the legislation which relates to Safeguarding Trust, the Church of Ireland’s Code of Good Practice for those working with children, has recently been updated. This requires that all staff and volunteers, i.e. those who assist with the Kids’ Club, must undergo refresher training. The Vicar has arranged for Olive Good, the Diocesan Safeguarding Trust Coordinator to facilitate this on the evening of THURSDAY 7TH MARCH at 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Centre. If at all possible, all those who currently assist with the Kids’ Club are requested to be present.

Good Friday Service

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 10. There are plans, as in past years, to join with the other Churches of the St Ann’s Rural Deanery for a series of services / Bible studies. When these have been finalised, details will be announced in Church. Meanwhile, parishioners are asked to note the date of Good Friday, April 19 when the speaker at The Good Friday Three-Hour Liturgy will be Dr Kieran O’Mahony OSA. He is an Augustinian friar and biblical scholar who lives in St John’s Priory (John’s Lane), Thomas Street, Dublin. A member of the Board of the National Bible Society of Ireland, Kieran is a renowned retreat leader and author, and a regular contributor to many events organised by the Church of Ireland.

We look forward to welcoming a speaker of such high renown to Dawson Street and would ask that you make a note of the date now!

St Ann’s Church

International Choral Festival Concert on Friday 22nd March 8 pm.

Good Friday Service

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Before Bach and After

The third programme of Before Bach and After will get its first outing on Sunday 3 February in St Ann’s Church at 3.30pm. Featuring a stunning programme that alternates two Bach motets, a cantata and a fugue, this concert also features contemporary works by Julia Wolfe, Santa Ratniece and Anne Boyd as well as a vocal re-working of Bach’s Fuga V, shifting the focus of the texts and indeed the musical inspiration significantly beyond and away from the Western tradition. In May, this concert will visit Limerick and Cork for further performances. For attendees of this performance, Tim Thurston will be in conversation with CCI CEO Majella Hollywood prior to the concert at 2.30pm and all ticket holders are welcome to attend. Definitely not to be missed!

This programme is the third in a series of four spread across the 2018-19 season in which Chamber Choir Ireland will present the complete motets of Bach, together with related works by Brahms, Schütz, and a variety of medieval and contemporary composers.

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