My Dear Parishioners,

By now most of us are back into the routine of the year. With students retuning and holidays coming to an end it is time for us to settle back into another year. Let us all hope and pray we are able to continue along without the disruption of last year.

Today we welcome the little ones who arrive at school for the first time. Most are very excited and some a little anxious, not to mention their parents, especially for those parents with their first child starting school. While the returning students commence on Friday. May this year be very different from the last, not only for the students, and for all of us.

Tomorrow (Friday) Patricia McNicholl, in the Parish Office, is leaving us. Patricia, who has worked in the Parish Office for over seven years, has provided a welcome and warm greeting to those who have who have come to the Parish Office. Likewise in her communication via the phone or emails has supported and engaged with all. Patricia has assisted me in the administration of our Parish and provided that first contact and taken responsibility for maintaining the Parish Office needs. I thank Patricia for her contribution to the life of our Parish and community and wish her well in the next fraise of her life.

With Patricia leaving I’m in need of assistance in our Parish Administration Office. I’ve attached the position paper, which is for 12 hours a week on Wednesdays to Fridays, outlining the requirements and responsibilities. You are welcome to share this with anyone you know who may be interested.

On Monday, Kevin Walsh, a long time parishioner, died after a long illness. May we all remember Fay, Kevin’s wife, their children, Martin, Susan & Siobhan in our prayers and thoughts as they bid farewell to Kevin.

***If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.***

These are the words of the Psalm in our Mass this weekend. Our voices are very important, for most it is the way we share our thoughts with those within hearing of us. In a similar way it is the way we receive most of the information we hear. Therefore it is perhaps the most important way we listen to those around us. If we don’t listen then are we engaging with those around us? We all know that sometimes we might hear but not actually listen to the one who is speaking to us. Sometimes we get caught up in our own thoughts and hence don’t hear what the other person is saying to us.

Perhaps you might ask yourself, ‘how often do I do this’? Yes it is important that we don’t harden our hearts. For when we ‘harden our hearts’ then we are not giving of ourselves to those around us, our focus may be centred elsewhere.

In a very similar way we are need to spend time listening the Lord, our creator and the one who gives us life and nourishment to go about doing all we engage in each day.

As we commence another year, it is time for us to consider how we might engage in various activities around our Parish. Please find attached an invitation to offer your assistance in various way over the next twelve months. Your support is vital to the continuing support in both the Liturgy, planning and maintaining of our Parish community and property.

The links for our weekend Masses are:

Saturday 30th January 6.00 pm Mass link:  <https://forms.gle/xEuJTbLWzdW7JVMf8>

Sunday 31th January 8.30 am Mass link:  <https://forms.gle/BDnkF8RfLCcoT4eo9>

Sunday 31th January 10.30 am Mass link:  <https://forms.gle/4cfuEd1QKggxoCK16>

I’ve also attached the children’s work sheet for this Sunday and a copy of the Scripture for the Liturgy of the Word.

Take care and my God bless us all,

Peter