



# Clondalkin Village Parish

*Immaculate Conception & St. Killian Church*

**Clonburris**  **Knockmitten**

Parish Newsletter

**Sunday 24th December 2017**



## *JESUS, THE EVERLASTING WORD*

St. John's Gospel is the only one that does not tell us the Christmas story. No Bethlehem, no stable, no crib, no shepherds, no wise men. John is the most mystical of the four evangelists and he begins his Gospel in a style typical of him. "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God".

Jesus, the eternal Word, stepped into our world with its limits of time and space.

Why does John call Jesus the Word? Because the word spoken by God is the source of all that God created. In the Book of Genesis, we are given an account of the creation story. In the beginning God said "Let there be light" and there was light. Then God said "Let the waters gather in one place and the dry land appear". Then God said "Let us make man in our own image and likeness". The source of everything God creates is the word spoken by him to bring all things into being. This is not all airy fairy, mystical spiritual stuff, it is very practical. We human beings, made in God's image and likeness, share in his creativity. We too create - not quite in the same way as God, as only he can create out of nothing. Once we have the raw material there is no end to our creativity. It is our communication, our spoken and written words which are the source of everything we create.

Jesus was the Word who was with God and was God from the beginning. Then the Word became flesh, the Divine became human, Jesus came among us. 2000 years later what Jesus said, did and taught is known to us through the words communicated to us in the Gospels. The words first written by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John turned the world upside down when they were first heard. It would be hard to find other words that left their mark on humanity as profoundly as these words. Jesus, the Eternal Word, became flesh, the human became Divine so that he could divinize us. When we are divinized then we become all we are meant to be - we are fully alive and the glory of God is a man or woman fully alive. **Fr. Padraig**



## **Masses**

### **Clondalkin Village**

**Sundays:** (Vigil) Sat 7.30pm,  
Sunday 9am Gaeilge  
10.30am (Choral),  
12 noon (Family) &  
5.30pm

**Weekdays** (Mon – Fri) 7.30am  
and 10am. Sat 10am

**First Fridays** 7.30am, 10am.

**Holy Days** 7.30pm (Vigil), 7.30am  
and 10.00am

**Confessions** Sat 10.30 - 11am &  
6.45 - 7.15pm

### **Clonburris**

**Sundays** (Vigil) Sat 6.30 pm

**Sunday** 11am

**Holy Days** 11am and 6.30pm

### **Knockmitten**

**Sundays** (Vigil) Sat 6.30pm

**Sunday:** 10.00am & 12noon (Family)

**Weekdays** Mon to Fri 9.30am

**Holy Days** (Vigil) 6.30pm;

**Holy Day** 11am

**Confessions** Sat 6pm & by request

## **Parish Office Hours**

**Clondalkin:** Mon-Fri 9:30 - 12:30

**Clonburris:** Contact through Village

**Knockmitten:** Mon-Fri Mass times

## **Submissions for Newsletter:**

**Parishnewsletter1@gmail.com,**

**Office, Sacristy, by Tuesday**  
**not later than 4.30pm**

## **Contacts**

**Village** Office/Sacristy 01 459 3520

**Fr. Damian Farnon, Moderator**

**clondalkinchurch@eircom.net, www.clondalkinparish.com**

01 459 2665

**Fr Padraig O'Sullivan, Co-P.P.** 01 464 0441

**Knockmitten**

**Fr. Des Byrne CC**

01 459 2323

**Clonburris**

**Fr. Shán O Cuív CC**

01 459 3520

**Parish Pastoral Workers**

**Christina Malone**

085 7162152

**Frank Brown**

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**@Clondalkinvillageparish**

**Christina.malone@dublindiocese.ie**

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**CHURCH DUTY**  
**Altar Linen:** Mary Leonard  
**Flowers:** No flowers during Advent  
**Church Cleaning:** Betty Byrne & Rebecca Duggan

**Monday 25th Dec - Christmas Day**  
**Tuesday 26th Dec - St. Stephen's Day**  
**Wednesday 27th Dec - Charismatic Prayer**  
 Group *Our Lady Queen of Peace*. This Wednesday in Parish Pastoral Centre (downstairs). All welcome especially any newcomers or visitors to our area.



**Thursday 28th Dec**  
 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.  
 Morning: 10.45 to 11.45am in the Church.  
 Evening: 7.00 to 8.00pm in the Church. All welcome.



**Congratulations and Welcome**  
**Samuel Ayobami Michael, Adamstown**  
**Mary Tosin Michael, Adamstown**



### VIGIL MASS—CHANGE OF TIME

From **7th January 2018** the Sunday Vigil Mass will be celebrated at **6.30pm** on Saturday.

**Tuesday 26th December to Friday 5th January**  
 The daily weekday Mass will be at **10.00am** only.  
 The 7.30am Mass resumes on Monday 8th January.



### EUGENE GARRIGAN

*St. Brigid's Drive*

*Our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this time.*

### Sunday 31st December (New Year's Eve)

The annual Last Lights ceremony of quiet, candlelit prayer will take place in the Village Church from **4.00pm to 5.00pm**.



## Village Church



### Sunday 24th Dec

**6.30pm (Vigil)** Seamus Egan (An), Patrick & Mary Cosgrove and dec'd family members, Jack & Katie Fitzgerald and dec'd family members. Dec'd members of the Stynes and Breen families.

**10.30am** - James Snr & Bridget Norton (An), Mary Kirwan & Geraldine Larnihan (An) Theresa & Thomas Foley and dec'd family members William (Bill) Brannigan (6th An)

**12noon** - Madeleine Hodgins (An), William O'Neill (An) & Carol Walsh (An), Bernard & Margaret Tully & their son Bernard Joe, Johnny Delaney (An)

### Monday 25th Dec (Christmas Day)

All Masses offered for parishioners intentions.

### Tuesday 26th Dec

**10.00am** Noeleen Farrell (An and B'day Rem)

### Wednesday 27th Dec

**10.00am** - Michael McDermott (An), Nora Sheridan (10th An), Esther & Brendan Callaghan (An)

**Thursday 28th Dec - 10.00am** Patrick Smith

**Friday 29th Dec - 10.00am** Doreen Rackley (An)

### Saturday 30th December

**10.00am** Mary & Henry Aylward (An)

### Sunday 31st Dec

**7.30pm (Vigil)** - Fran Mulholland (1st An), Patrick & Mary Kniane, Derval Connell (2nd An), Marie Hegarty (1st An)

**10.30am** - Percy Reeves, Vera Phelan (MM), Mary & Noel McNamara, Kathleen McNamara, Eugene McNamara (1st An), Marie Hegarty

**12noon** Tony O'Neill (An), Martin McLoughlin Jnr (An)

### Monday Club 18 December 2017

As this is the last Monday of 2017 for the Monday Club we finished off our year with a Christmas Party.



We had a good attendance of the regulars who by all reports and expressions of happiness and delight, all enjoyed the goodies and the fun and surprises. After a quick decoration of the tables and the centre we were ready to put out the goodies on tables ready when they came in from Mass and Rosary. After various notices and correspondence were read out we were ready for a bit of music. Noel started the ball rolling by play his harmonica and tin whistle. This was then followed by a certain special person who only visits good people at Christmas. His name is Santa. He came bearing a huge bag of gifts to be distributed to all present. Everybody received a present which everyone seemed to be delighted with. Santa then did a magical trick by turning himself into a

singer/guitarist. He got us all singing Christmas songs like "Silent Night" and others. Frank you are a man of many talents,; a musician, graphic designer, entertainer, artist and comedian. Thank you Frank, you did a wonderful job. At this point I thank Kieran Walshe who did Santa for us for the past few years. He is sick with a bad cold at present, but Kieran loaned his Santa Outfit to us for the morning. Thank You Kieran.

We had a visit from Leah, a member of the LOCALISE group who come into entertain us at Halloween and St Valentine's Day. Leah was just coming by after doing her exams. Great to see her and we wish her well her exams. We were also joined by Flora and Fay, friends of Magdalena and Kay. Great to meet you and that you came into partake of the fun and games.

Today we donated towards the church and also to the Flower Ministry in the Church for Christmas flowers for our Church.

We had a letter from the Hospice giving an update on the amount raised which is near €450,000 which does not include donations yet to be received. We hosted the "Hospice Coffee morning in September when we raised €430 euro.

We participated in the Bealtaine Week in May when we entered our crafts and many of us won prizes. We also participated in the Brain Injury Research carried out by Trinity Research Centre based in St James's Hospital. We did not have many outings this year, only one to the National Concert Hall for "My Fair Lady" in early December. Hopefully we will change that in 2018.

However, we were not short of events to keep us busy. We had a visit from Fr Bala and gave a donation towards his work in his new parish in his native India. German Frank was a regular visitor to the Club but is now studying for the priesthood in Rome. We all wish him well and keep him in our prayers. As you can see from the brief summary of our activities over the past year we always have someone visit or something else going on.

As this is our last Monday for this year, I wish to thank, Joan, Collette, Frank, Anne, Martin, Stephen and to all who take part in all the activities of the club in the past year. Without you all there would be no club. What makes it great is the participation of everybody in whatever the activity might be, whether it be games, quizzes, or just a chat with friends. I wish everyone and those who are now unable to come, eg. Teresa Hyland, Margaret Ledwedge, Norah Keatley, a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful, Healthy and Happy New Year. We wish Sr Anne a speedy recovery in hospital. We will be back again on Monday 8 January 2018. Until then take care. **Kathleen R**







**David, Alanna and Grace** have trained and are now commissioned to serve as Altar Servers and they join **Grainne and Cathal** who have been serving Mass for the last 18 months. Should you be interested in becoming an altar server please contact: Christina Malone



The way we have prepared children for **First Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Reconciliation** has changed over the years. While the schools are doing a fantastic job through Religious Education sometimes parents are struggling to make sense of it all. Most of the preparation has been done in school and recognising the dedicated work taken on by the teachers, the parish will now, more and more, get involved with the preparation. We, the Parish of Clondalkin, are offering families opportunities to become involved with the journey over the next few months. Christina will invite children to come to the church once a month to explore the building, learn the liturgical year and get to know children from the other parish schools. We also invite parents to meet once a month to explore the liturgical seasons as well as look at the bigger picture of what *"faith got to do with my daily life"*. We hope parents will connect with their own faith, ask questions and learn that there is more to the preparation than the day of the First Holy Communion. The Parish Team is exploring the Diocesan policy which ask the Ceremony to be celebrated on a Sunday during the normal Mass instead of a Saturday as now prevails. **Further info from Christina Malone on 0857162152**

Many thanks for your kind donation of €400 for Masses and to help our Missions & publication costs. **Your generosity is very much appreciated.**  
Fr. Martin Kavanagh SMA, Cork



### Evening Prayer on Christmas Day Church of the Immaculate Conception Clondalkin Village

Most places close down in the evening of Christmas Day but our Church will be open for the celebration of Evening Prayer at 7.00pm. The church doors will be open at 6.30pm and Evening Prayer will be said at **7.00pm**. Afterwards, the Parish Centre will be open for about an hour for refreshments. So, if you are at a loose end at this time, you are welcome to join us in the Church and in the Parish Centre as we celebrate Evening Prayer on the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord.

### *Our Church is beautifully decorated for Christmas & we offer our appreciation and thanks to:*

Fr. Damian and Fr. Padraig for trusting us  
Newland's Garden Centre for their help and guidance  
Brian from Aras Chronain for water jars - on loan!  
Michael Fahy, Kilcloone, for supplying the straw, so we could carry on the old Clondalkin tradition to have straw available for taking away. Michael says that he will visit the Church during Christmas and that it will be first trip to Clondalkin. The information he has about Clondalkin is what he has gleaned from the "Media"  
The members of the Men's Shed who made the backdrop for the Crib  
The Monday Club for their generous contribution towards the materials used by the Men's Shed for the Crib

**Ministers of the Environment**



### Bawnogue Church Reopens

The Church of the Transfiguration, Bawnogue, was officially reopened on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec. The Church was closed since December

2016 while a re roofing project was being carried out.

Archbishop Diarmuid Martin celebrated a special Mass marking the



occasion. He congratulated all those involved in bringing the project to a successful conclusion. He added that he hoped that that the day's ceremony would serve as a call to faith renewal within the Parish – especially among the many young people who were present. The Archbishop was assisted by Bishop Ray Field, the area Bishop, who blessed the walls of the Church and the parishioners. Fr. Marc Whelan, the Provincial Superior of

the Spiritan Congregation in Ireland, was also present. The Chairman of the Bawnogue Parish Pastoral Council, Mr. Frank McFeely welcomed all the parishioners and guests and thanked all our donors for their generosity. This was indeed a joyful day for Bawnogue. **Fr Brian Starken**



**A Little Christmas Peace in the Valley**, was really exactly that. It was a place of peace that was offering quiet, prayer and reconciliation in the midst of the busyness of the Christmas hustle and bustle. I watched people young and old, Catholic and non-catholic, believer and non-believer pass by the doors and look on in amazement and disbelief. People who hadn't been to confession for 30 years or even stepped inside the door of a church came in. For some it was a really powerful and healing moment in their faith journey. Others came to the door and although not ready to enter felt a pull to the space, all the same. Maybe next year they will come in. The whole experience was very moving to watch. Last year Santa's grotto was in the exact same place. There were some disappointed kids, it has to be said but overall there was acceptance and gratitude. Many shoppers left the space feeling relief and contentment for taking a moment to connect with their relationship with God. The experience brought a gentle reminder of faith to the people in the marketplace. Who knows, maybe those people will remember the real message of Christmas as they give the gifts they bought that day to their loved ones on Christmas morning...

Georgina Jameson, PPW Parish of the Travelling People



*'I spent a little over two hours celebrating this sacrament with people of all shapes and sizes and ages. For some it was ten years since they had heard words of absolution. People seemed surprised and delighted to have the opportunity, it had not been part of their plan that day - one young woman told me "This was So Good for me, So Good for me!"*  
*This time of year can be so busy with external preparations and stresses. Something like this helps people look deeper at what really matters in their life. It was a privilege to be part of the "pop up" valley of reconciliation.'* Paul O Driscoll, P.P

**Please Note** - The parish office will be close until the Friday 29th Dec - the reopening 2nd Jan



From all the Newsletter Team!!