THE CHURCH FOUNDED ON WEAKNESS!

The Church was founded on weakness not strength. If it was founded on strength things could only go down. The head of the infant church was Peter. He was transformed to be the rock that Jesus meant him to be. In the four gospels Peter is anything but a rock – more like sand, the epitome of a man who means well but easily loses heart when put to the test. His weaknesses were good enough for Jesus though who made him the chief apostle. On Holy Thursday night as Jesus celebrated the 1st Mass he made the heart breaking prediction that Peter the Rock would crumble into dust the following morning. Jesus had no illusions about any of his Apostles. They were weak fallible human beings and they foreshadowed the weaknesses, scandals, hypocrisy and upheaval that would be an integral part of the church He founded. Clerical scandals are not new, they were there from the very beginning as one of the newly ordained went off to betray him, another denied him and the rest scattered to the four corners in fear and confusion. Yet within a few weeks the man who was chosen to lead, Peter the Rock had made his confession, been forgiven and he was so fired up with the Holy Spirit that he now had the power of healing a lame man. The church was founded on weakness and the weaknesses of its original members were transformed into something so strong that they and the men and women who followed them turned the world upside down. In less than 50 years the Christian church had established itself in Rome, the capital of the empire. Later there would be scandals and corruption as Jesus said there would be. But his Holy Spirit is always present in the church and the periods of scandals were always followed by periods of renewal and reform. We live in an era where people are weary of scandal and upheaval. The image of church and hospital is useful here. A

superficial look at a hospital is not very impressive. It seems to be a place of pain and suffering. But hospitals are also places of healing. They are places where pain and suffering are relieved, where there is happiness on learning good news, where there is care and lives are saved. The church is a hospital for the spirit. Within it and among its members, human brokenness, weakness and scandal are a reality but it's also a place of joy and friendship, of renewal and conversion. It is a place of sacrament and prayer where God's love is then spread to others. The Acts of the Apostles tells us how the power and strength of the infant church grew out of the faults, failings and weaknesses of Jesus' first companions.

Fr. Padraig

CLONDALKIN ACTIVE RETIREMENT

We were told recently by an osteoporosis specialist guest speaker, that Osteoporosis is a silent disease that is not usually diagnosed until a fracture occurs.

The most common breaks are wrists, or hips which happen mostly to woman over the age of 50.

We were also told the good news, that osteoporosis is preventable, and your Doctor will advise you, at your request during your next visit.

Don't be afraid or shy to ask, after all they are your bones!!!!

Preparations are well advanced for our Titanic outing on Wednesday 24th April, in the meantime, we can check out the recipes for our cake baking competition on Tuesday 30th April BIG PRIZES TO BE WON.!!!!!

Thomas

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Notices and submissions for the Newsletter must be received before 10.30am on **WEDNESDAY** morning to be considered for inclusion into that week's edition. Envelopes marked **"PARISH NEWSLETTER"** should be left into the Sacristy or Parish Office.



St Columba's

464 0441

Clonburris

Fr Shán O Cuív CC

c/o Parish Office

Knockmitten

Fr Des Byrne CC

45 Woodford Drive.

459 2323

Parish Pastoral Workers

(for the Combined Catholic

Parishes of Clondalkin)

Peter Sinev

089 461 4226

Christopher Okereke

457 3546

the eleven year old, who was baptised in the Village Church at the Easter Vigil. Mary's 'Yes' was an opportunity for her to express our faith that few of us 'cradle Catholics' had because we were baptised as babies. Our parish is part of a pilot program within the diocese to examine our approach to Baptism. There is something lacking in our current practice where babies are presented for baptism, to join a worshipping community where they are unknown and the parents don't always know the community of faith to which they are presenting their child.

The program isn't about preventing parents having their children baptised or making them jump through hoops but is an opportunity for us as a believing community to fulfil our own baptismal calling and share our good news with these families. We cannot be Christians in isolation. Over the next few weeks we will be exploring what our baptism means to us and how we as an Easter people might live it out.

ADULT BAPTISM

If you or a member of your family is interested in becoming a Catholic or have been Baptised but not Confirmed or received Holy Communion and would like to receive these sacraments you would be most welcome to begin the RCIA process (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). Please speak to one of the Parish Team or leave your name in the Parish Office or Sacristy.

Fr. Damian

ADORATION

This Thursday, 11th April, Exposition of We extend our deepest sympathy to the the Blessed Sacrament will be: Sisters' Oratory: from after 10am Mass to 11.45am Sisters' Oratory: 7pm to 9pm and all are welcome

"HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST"

Ever wondered about the prayer we say at Mass "Hosanna in the Highest"?

The word *hosanna* is etymologically etymology is the study of the history of words, their origins, and how their form and meaning have changed over time - derived from Latin osanna, hosanna which itself was derived from Greek representing Hebrew hôšâ'-na' which is short for hôšî'â-na' from Aramaic meaning "save, pray". Christian usage has come through the Greek Bible. giving it the form *hosanni*.

In liturgical context, it refers to a shout of praise and worship and adoration, or referring to a cry expressing an appeal for divine help. It appears in numerous verses including in "Hosanna; blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord" (Mark 11.9), "hosanna in the highest" (Mark 11.10); "hosanna to the Son of David" (Matt 21:9), "help" or "save, I pray" (Psalm 118:25).

Overall, it seems that "Hosanna" is a cry for salvation; while at the same time is a declaration of praise.

NOTICES

Monday 8th February

Miraculous Medal Novena after 10am Mass and Rosary. Legion of Mary meets in the Convent at 7.30pm. New members are welcome

Tuesday 9th February

Lectio Divina under the guidance of Sr. 12 Noon Anne in the Pastoral Centre after 10am Mass and Rosary

family and friends of:

DEATHS

Mary (Maisie) O'Riordan, Newlands Rd Walter Harrington, St. Patrick's Avenue

recently deceased. May they rest in peace.

EARLY START TO THE PRAYER MEETING

This Wednesday, 10th April the Rosary – Mysteries of Light will be recited in the Prayer Group at 7.30pm prior to Prayer Meeting starting at 8pm in the Pastoral Centre and all are welcome

SUNSHINE FUND

"Thanks" to all who contributed to the Advocate Collection on Palm Sundav and to the volunteers who made it possible. A total of €1,517 was collected. This will go towards providing some children with a holiday.

Nora O'Brien

ANNIVERSARIES

Thursday 11th April

Dorothy Doyle, 7th An 10.00am

Sunday 14th April

7.30pm (Vigil) Rita O'Sullivan, B/day Rem Mary O'Shea Mary Furlong William Beasley 9.00am 10.30am Tony Tighe Joseph Lernihan Elizabeth and John Byrne Bernard Sheridan Mary Keyes, 1st An Evelyn McGrillen

CLONBURRIS Mass Intentions

Saturday 6th April 6.30pm Kathleen Bevan An. Delorus Skindle An.

Sunday 7th April

11.00am Florrie Herlihy An. Angela and Con O'Sullivan An. Carmel Leonard An. Michael and Genieve O'Loughlin An. James and Josephine Kennedy An. John and Francis Curran An. Francis Curran Jnr. An.

CHURCH DUTY

Cleaning: Betty Byrne, Rebecca Duggan Altar Linen: Mary Leonard Flowers: Marie Harrington from 12th to 25th

"THANK YOU"

We once again thank the many people involved in the decoration of the Church for Easter:

1. Frs. Damian and Padraig, Padraig and the Pastoral Council for facilitating us and most of trusting us!

2. Newlands Garden Centre for the loan of the water feature and the help and advice of Phil. Lillie. Marie and the staff 3. The people who called in to the Parish Centre to help

4. Sr. Mary and Fr. Padraig for plants and flowers

5. And you the parishioners who by your weekly contributions and your support and generous appreciation encouraged us We couldn't but appreciate and be thankful of, the generations gone by when using the old, beautiful candlesticks they left us as a legacy, when decorating the Altar of Repose! Ministers of Liturgical Environment

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS -**CLONDALKIN GOSPEL CHOIR**

The Gospel choir is having a special Mass to mark 10 years here in our Parish. The Mass will be celebrated on Thursday 11th April at 7.30pm here in the church and all are welcome.

The choir would like to take this opportunity to thank our priests, the Presentation sisters, Padraig and the Sacristy team, the congregation at 12 noon Mass and all those who have helped and supported the choir over the past 10 years Gabrielle and the Gospel Choir

PARISH WEBSITE

The Parish Website can be visited on www.clondalkinparish.com

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Congratulations to Jack Quinlan this week's winner. Your prize is waiting to be picked up by you from the Sacristy after Mass today

This week's quiz



1. I lost my eyesight on the road to Damascus: 2. I wrote a Bible book and I collected taxes:

3. I climbed a tree to see Jesus:

4. I was the husband of Mary and I was a carpenter: _ _ _ _ _ _

5. I was a doctor and wrote a Bible book:

6. I betrayed Jesus: _ _ _ _ _

Your entries by email ellenteresacoyne@eircom.net (Tues) or to the Sacristy, Wednesday morning

