law and they were astute enough to see that the organised law of the land was far better than the chaotic law of the Jungle. This is the gift Rome gave our contemporary civilisation, the idea that the rule of law should prevail over brute force. Might is not right- justice and fairness are important. An accused man must have his side of the story heard before condemning him.

Rome had a dark underbelly of corruption, which eventually was its downfall.

Why did St. Peter and St Paul make Rome the headquarters of Christianity? Three ingredients were needed for a social environment that Christianity could thrive in.

- 1 It needed respect for law and order as Rome had
- 2 It needed respect for culture and learning as the Greeks had in Athens
- 3 It needed a living faith in what God has revealed which up to now had been based in Jerusalem.

But Jerusalem was a small, peripheral city so that was why the Apostles moved their headquarters to Rome, the centre of the Ancient world. This is how Christianity came to Rome and it has been there ever since through all the ups and downs and upheavals of history. Its heritage came from Jerusalem and Athens but its physical base was and is in Rome.

Fr. Padraig

PARISH SHOP

The Parish Shop is open after all Masses on Sundays and after 10am Mass during the week. On sale are Mass Cards and cards for all occasions, religious goods, Irish Catholic paper and variety of books. Presently on sale are cards featuring Clondalkin historical scenes to help finance Tidy -Towns projects (we have noticed and appreciate the lovely floral displays all over the village).

Feel free to call to the shop at the back of the church and browse at your leisure.

"LAUDATO SI"

"Interesting, challenging, necessary read and seems to be touching topics that are relevant to our times", quoting Fr. Des' on Pope Francis' Encyclical letter on "care for our common home"

No doubt that God has given us stewardship over a beautiful and bountiful planet.

The Encyclical letter is on sale in the Parish Shop at €5.

"PIETA HOUSE" FUNDRAISER

Fundraiser in aid of Pieta House will be held in the Steering Wheel on Saturday 22nd August at 8pm

The organisers welcome donations and gifts for raffle on the night

More information from Máire at 0863445249

CLONDALKIN ACTIVE RETIREMENT

Prior to closing for the month of August we had our trip to the Shannon which was a great success thanks to Marathon Tours for organising such a great event.

Due to bad weather conditions our party to Corkagh Park was cancelled, so we all adjourned to The Laurels for a glass of wine and some finger food which was a great afternoon. Thanks again to Damien and Kay all your staff for a wonderful afternoon of banter and singing.

We will be back to normal on September 1st.

We had a few new members on our last day - you are all very welcome and looking forward to seeing you in September

Clare Morgan

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.

PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

Village

Office/Sacristy 459 3520

Fr Damian Farnon. Moderator St Cecilla's 459 2665

Fr Pádraig O'Sullivan, Co-P.P. St Columba's 464 0441 Fr. Seamus McEntee

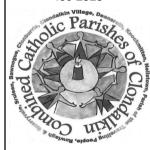
St Marv's 459 2311

Clonburris

Fr Shán O Cuív CC 087 238 7530

Knockmitten

Fr Des Byrne CC 45 Woodford Drive. 459 2323

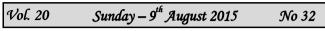


Parish Pastoral Workers (for the Combined Catholic Parishes of Clondalkin)

> Peter Sinev 089 461 4226

Christopher Okereke 457 3546





ROMAN IN ROMAN CATHOLICISM

Why are we Roman Catholics? Where did the Rome in Roman Catholicism come from? Jesus the Messiah did his works of redemption in Israel, which was then a colony of the Roman Empire. On Ascension Thursday he gave the great commission to his Apostles – go out and convert the whole world Baptising them in the name of the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit. After Pentecost the Apostles began to do this with great success.

When St. Paul arrived on the scene after his conversion he spread the new religion of Christianity far beyond its original borders up into Syria, Turkey and Greece. It was at this stage that St. Peter and St. Paul made the momentous decision to anchor Christianity in Rome - it now had it head- quarters in the capital of the Empire and not in Jerusalem where it originally started.

Why Rome? It is said that if you want to make your mark in the world today you must do it in New York. Rome was the New York of the ancient world and there is no doubt about that, by the standards of the world at that time, Rome was great. Its massive empire extended an influence far beyond the city itself and that influence is still with us today. The fact that the Empire lasted as long as it did, was as big as what it was, and left such a profound legacy are pointers to its greatness. Of course it had a dark side and corruption was there too in the midst of it greatness.

What made the Romans great was their talent for pragmatic organisation and their respect of law and order. In their heyday they were a family oriented society who valued the ordering of society through good government. They gave a considerable amount of self-rule to their colonies and as long they didn't rebel the Romans left them alone to organise their own affairs. They were great road builders and this was one of the reasons why St. Paul travelled far and wide on his missionary journeys

Out of the Roman talent for administration grew Roman (Continued on page 4)

ADORATION

This Thursday, 13th August Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be in the **Church: Morning**: from 10.45am to 11.45am **Evening:** from 7pm to 9pm All are welcome.

CCPC INTERCESSORY PRAYER FOR 9 CLONDALKIN PARISHES

This Tuesday evening 11th August Intercessory Group praying in Parish Pastoral Centre, 7.30pm - 8.30pm Come along if you can to join us in praying for the needs of our whole group of parishes

CHURCH DUTY

Cleaning: Kitty Egan, Angela McCreevey, Kathleen Fitzpatrick, Veronica Bayly and May Stynes **Altar Linen:** Vera Rogers **Flowers:** Teresa Greene from 14th August (Weddings Thursday and Friday)

FEAST OF ASSUMPTION OF OUR BLESSED LADY

Saturday 15th August, Feast of the Assumption of Our Blessed Lady is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Masses are: Vigil Mass at 7.30pm on Friday 14th and 10am on Saturday 15th

NOTICES

Monday 10th August Miraculous Medal Novena after 10am Monday 10th August

Mass and Rosary.

Tuesday 11th August The Legion of Mary meets in the Convent at 11.00am. New members are welcome.

Wednesday 12th August

Prayer Group meet in the Pastoral Centre at 8pm. All are welcome.

WEDDINGS

Congratulations and best wishes to

Mary Kate Kiely and Michael Evans Barbara Fitzpatrick and Owen Patrick Byrne

who received the Sacrament of Marriage recently

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF KNOCK

The Annual National Novena to Our Lady of Knock begins on Friday 14th August and continues to 22nd August, feast of the Queenship of Mary.

To accommodate anyone who wants to unite in the Novena taking place at Knock Shrine we will pray the Novena prayers after Mass during the weekdays. Novena prayers will be available at the Church entrances.

CHURCH GATE COLLECTION

There will be a Church Gate Collection in aid of the Carers Association after all Masses on Sunday next, the 16th August.

FINANCE REPORT

The Finance Report has not come to hand because of the Bank Holiday but will be included in next week's Newsletter.

ANNIVERSARIES

Monday 10th August 7.30am Dessie McDermott

Wednesday 12th August 10.00am Anne Ryder, 23rd An

Friday 14th August

7.30amAnastatia and Leo Murphy10.00amMary Minogue, B/day Rem

CLONBURRIS Mass Intentions

Saturday 9th August 6.30pm Paul Bradshaw B.Rem.

Kathleen and Thomas Murphy An.

Sunday 10th August

11.00am Rosemary McKenna An, Patrick Aherne An.and B.Rem. Brigid HerlihyAn.

EARLY START TO THE PRAYER MEETING

This Wednesday 12th August The Mysteries of Light will be prayed at 7.30pm before the Prayer Meeting at 8.00pm in the Parish Pastoral Centre. All welcome

MONDAY CLUB

Monday Club will meet tomorrow, Monday 10^{th} August after 10am Mass and Rosary in the parish Centre for cuppa and chat. All are welcome. Hope to see all there

Kathleen R.

TAIZÉ EVENING PRAYER

Taizé Evening Prayer on the 10th anniversary of Br Roger at 7.30pm, Sunday 16th August in St Paul's Church, Arran Quay, Dublin 7.

A chanted Taizé Prayer on the 10^{th} anniversary of the death of Br Roger, founder of the ecumenical monastic community of Taizé. We start at 7.30pm – to be in solidarity with the brothers in Taizé who start their Evening Prayer at 8.30 French time.

St Paul's on Arran Quay is very close to the LUAS Smithfield stop. Free parking in the area after 7pm. All are welcome, especially Taizé pilgrimage veterans and young people interested in this style of prayer.

VACANCY FOR PARISH SACRISTAN

St Patrick's Parish, Monkstown, Co. Dublin is currently recruiting for a Parish Sacristan. A full job description is available from the parish office. Phone 01-2802130.

"LIVING THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL" INITIATIVE

Our Parish recently took part in the Living the Joy of the Gospel initiative helping us to undertake a number of key parish projects while also playing our part in helping to grow communities of faith here and across the diocese

I am pleased to say that to date and from last weekend the campaign has seen a huge response with parishioners giving what they can generously. We have received gifts to date bringing us to $\pounds150,000 - 40\%$ of our goal.

From speaking with parishioners I know that a number of you are still thinking about your decision. You will find information on the table at the back of Mass. If you have reached your decision and would like to make a gift there are pledge forms and return envelopes on the table which you can fill out in your own time. If you wish to return a form, please post it to the Parish Office or drop it in the letter box using the envelopes provided

From feedback from the parish and in an effort to ensure that every parishioner has been given the opportunity to be involved with the campaign, to learn more and ask questions, we will continue to reach out in the background to any parishioners who have not yet received any information or who may have some specific questions. If you would like to find out more about the future plans of Living the Joy of the Gospel please pick up an information pack or contact the Parish Office.

Fr. Damian