

## BE READY! – PART 1

We have been reading the Gospel passages from St. Luke where Jesus speaks of the frailty of our condition in this life and how short it all is.

He urges us to be ready for we do not know when our life will end – today could be the last day of my life so I have to ask myself “Am I ready?” Yet in spite of our smallness, vulnerability and frailty we know our need of God. We find it in us to be grateful for all the good things he has given us to be like him – god like creatures (god with a small “g”) made in his image. Yet when we think about what Jesus says about being alert and ready why we often wonder why we must die. Come to think of it why is our world so tainted by suffering, evil and death? While we will never fully understand the mystery of suffering our scriptures give us at least part of the answer and it is found in the first 11 chapters of the Book of Genesis. Down through the centuries its explanation has been revered and ridiculed in equal measure.

In our day militant atheists and Neo Darwinians sneer at it as superstitious nonsense and yet it will not go away. Genesis keeps bouncing back and forth like at tennis ball because whatever about it’s alleged shortcomings, its best explanation we have. Christians can have different opinions as to how literally to take what is written in the first 11 chapters of Genesis (Catholics read it spiritually rather than literally and yet there is agreement about its general truth).

Genesis tells us that God created matter and life. It does not tell us how exactly he created them or how long it took. He could have created them in a developmental pattern through evolution over millions of years or He could have done it all in a big bang scenario.

The gist of these 11 Chapters is that the first human beings live in harmony with God and nature. In this blissful existence God gave them free will and one prohibition. “I will decide what is good

and evil” and in leaving that decision to God the first human beings were happy.

Fr. Padraig

## CLONDALKIN ACTIVE RETIREMENT

Somebody remarked the other day, that since I had disappeared off the scene, that I must have kicked the bucket!!!! Rest assured, I’m still above the ground and looking forward to our clubs two Christmas Parties.

The first of which will be in “Joels on the Naas Road Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Our second party will be in the Towers GAA Club Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December.

Our Tuesday morning meetings are as popular as ever for the cup of tea and chat, we continue to have the table top Quizzes, bingo, and the ever popular line dancing sessions plus lots more.

We are always delighted to see new faces appear at our door, so drop in any Tuesday morning 10 to 12

Cheers for now  
Thomas

## CHILDREN’S CORNER

We had no entry for last week’s quiz. The answer “the white candle on the Advent wreath represents Jesus.

### THIS WEEK’S QUIZ

Today 8<sup>th</sup> December is a very special Feast Day of Our Lady and our church is dedicated to her. Can you tell me what is the Special Feast Day called?

Your entries by email to – [ellenteresacoyme@eircom.net](mailto:ellenteresacoyme@eircom.net) by Tuesday evening or to the Sacristy by Wednesday morning!



## 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 Adm  
St Cecilia’s  
459 2665

Fr Pádraig O’Sullivan CC  
St Columba’s  
464 0441

Deacon Seamus McEntee  
St Mary’s  
459 2311

### 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 Siney  
089 461 4226

Christopher Okereke  
457 3546

# PARISH NEWS

Clondalkin Village,  
Clonburris & Knockmitten



[clondalkinchurch@eircom.net](mailto:clondalkinchurch@eircom.net)

[www.clondalkinparish.com](http://www.clondalkinparish.com)

Vol. 18

Sunday – 8<sup>th</sup> December 2013

No 49

## HELLO EVERYONE,

My name is Séamus McEntee and I am the new Deacon here for the Combined Catholic Parishes of Clondalkin.

I am originally from Colemanstown, Rathcoole, which is part of Newcastle parish, Co. Dublin. I grew up on a farm there and come from a family of two brothers, two sisters and my mother. I went to National school in Rathcoole, secondary school in Naas and have a degree in Business Studies from the College of Marketing and Design, Dublin. I have travelled and worked in London, Australia and spent a year working with Blessed Mother Teresa in Calcutta, India. This was a transformative experience for me working with the Missionaries of Charity and the Poorest of the Poor. I then decided to join the priestly branch of her Order, and spent 5 years studying in Mexico and Rome.

Before returning to the seminary at Maynooth in 2009, I spent over 10 years as a car salesman selling various brands. As part of my pastoral formation with the Dublin diocese, I have ministered at the Vincentian Refugee Centre, Crosscare, Mountjoy prison, the National Rehabilitation Centre in Dunlaoighre, Kilbride National School, Meath, Brackenstown Parish, Swords and hospital chaplaincy in New York.

It is a learning curve for me as I grow into my role as a deacon. The duties and ministries of a deacon can include; proclaiming the Gospel, giving homilies, Eucharistic services, baptisms, funeral ministry, weddings, catechises in schools, sacramental preparation, bringing Holy Communion to the sick and assisting the priest at the Mass.

I am here now in Clondalkin almost three weeks and am enjoying getting to know many of the faith-filled parishioners and staff. I am slowly getting more involved with the various ministries and groups in the parish. On Saturday last, I enjoyed being part of the re-dedication of St. Joseph’s cemetery on Monastery Road, along with Fr. Damian and Rev. Alan. Prayers and blessings were offered for the deceased buried there and gratitude was paid to Clondalkin Tidy Town’s committee who spent many weeks tidying and restoring the graveyard along with the old Police station in the town.

I look forward to meeting many more of you during my placement for the year and I ask for your prayers and support as I continue my journey towards priestly ordination which I hope will be sometime next year.

With every blessing,  
Rev. Deacon Séamus

## ADORATION

This Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be held **in the Sisters' Oratory**: from after 10am Mass to 11.45am, **and from** 7pm to 9pm. All are welcome.

## PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Members of the Pastoral Council please note: meeting Tuesday next in the Pastoral Centre at 8pm

## EARLY START TO THE PRAYER MEETING

This Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> December, 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.

## FAITH FORMATION –ADVENT TALKS

“Who do you say I am” -the first in a series of three talks based on Fr. Robert Barron’s “Catholicism” concentrated on who we say Jesus really is.

“Challenging, interesting, disturbing the comfortable – comforting the disturbed” were some of the comments by the people present.

The talks continue next Wednesday at 8pm in the Pastoral Centre, feel free to drop in – highly recommended!

## NOTICES

### Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December

Miraculous Medal Novena after 10am Mass and Rosary.

### Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December

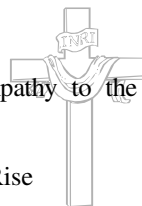
Lectio Divina under the direction of Sr. Anne in the Pastoral Centre after 10am Mass.

## DEATHS

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of:

George Browne, Monastery Rise

recently deceased. May he rest in peace.



## CHURCH DUTY

**Cleaning:** Rita Arnold

**Altar Linen:** Vera Pidgeon

(Weddings Friday and Saturday)

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to our sister parish, St. Ronans, Deansrath on celebrating 25 years since their foundation!

## ANNIVERSARIES

### Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December

10.00am Maura Spollen

### Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December

7.30am Betty Donegan, MM

10.00am Lisa Sexton

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December

7.30pm (Vigil) Peter and Annie Nixon

9.00am Pauline Hudson

10.30am John, Susan, Lucy, Olive and Peter Corcoran

Sheila and Tommy Murphy

12 Noon Patricia Kelly

Renato Arnold

Eilish Hynes

Deceased and sick

residents of Floraville Estate

Mick Dunworth, 3<sup>rd</sup> An

Sr. Catherine Fowley

William (Liam) Callaghan,

Christmas Rem

Thomas Mulhall, An and

B/day Rem

## CLONBURRIS

### Mass Intentions

### Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December

6.30pm Joseph Fitzgibbon R.D.

### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December

11.00am Deceased members of Coy Family.

## LOURDES 2014

**Date:** 7<sup>th</sup> May – 5nights

**Hotel:** Jeanne D’Arc

**Fare:** €735 per person sharing

As we are limited to 30 places early booking is advisable.

Booking forms are available in the Sacristy, Parish Shop and Office

## PENITENTIAL SERVICE

Christmas Penitential Service will be held in Knockmitten next Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm

## NOEL BONER, 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Mass at 9am this morning, 8<sup>th</sup> December is offered for Noel Boner, whose 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of his death we remember. May he rest in peace!

## YOUTH 2000 IRELAND WILL BE HOSTING THEIR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS

Retreat in NEWBRIDGE COLLEGE, NEWBRIDGE, CO. KILDARE from FRIDAY 13<sup>th</sup> to SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2013.

The Retreat starts with registration on Friday at 8.00pm.

Online booking necessary, see [www.youth2000.ie](http://www.youth2000.ie). Check out our website for further details, phone 01 675 3690 or join us on facebook ([youthtwothousandireland](http://youthtwothousandireland))

## TO MARK THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Reflections marking the Feast of the Immaculate Conception by Rev. Dr. Oliver Treanor and Dr. Mary McCaughey, with organ recital by Niall Carroll, College Chapel, St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, organised by John Paul II Theological Society. Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 8pm. All welcome. Refreshments afterwards in Renehan Hall! Rónán M. Sheehan (Assistant P.R.O)

## FINANCIAL REPORT

The Finance Committee acknowledges with thanks €1,944 – your contributions this week

## “OCTOBER BABY”

Sacred Heart Film Club continues next Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December with “October Baby” A love story inter-woven with a compelling message about the sanctity of life and the truth that everyone is beautiful in God's eyes. Parish Centre, St John's Drive at 7.30pm!

Fr. Michael

## MONDAY CLUB

What an enjoyable morning we had last Monday. Betty's quintet delighted us with a wonderful mix of jigs, reels and hornpipes. They are certainly very talented ladies and we really appreciated their generosity in giving up so much of their time. Not to be outdone our own Noel gave a few renditions on his harmonica and Kathleen played the tin whistle. Our thanks to them all for what was a lovely way to spend a winter morning.

Next week we will have a chance to see a DVD of “The Holy Land” and we love to see a full house. Fr. Damian will oversee the programme.

Looking forward to seeing some of our old clubbers as well as newcomers! A warm welcome will await you.

Joan