Let us be renewed by God's Mercy, let us enable the power of his love to transform our lives too" (Pope Francis)

Asking how "do" we go about creating a "Mercy Lenten" Garden our pastoral worker Frank was not short on ideas and we have adopted three of these. On Ash Wednesday the Sacred Heart Altar side will be the site of the Garden

• A flower bed: an area will be ready to plant your flower. Bring to mind someone who was influential in your life, who did a kindness for you, encouraged you etc. and you have long since forgotten it or maybe the kindness is ongoing. Bring your flower with the name of the person tagged on to it and plant it. (We hope children will also be encouraged to plant flowers).

• The Tree of Mercy: beside the flower bed a tree will be erected. Sometime during Lent you will perform an act of Mercy. The list is endless. Having performed the act of Mercy/ kindness you write the name of the act and hang it on the Tree of Mercy. Sometimes the small acts of kindness are more difficult than the big ones.

• The Burden Circle: how often we are burdened down by many difficulties, grudges, unable to forgive, money worries, family difficulties etc. our faith tells us that we don't have to carry these burdens alone, God walks each step with us in mercy and love. When you feel ready to let God share your burden and as a symbol of this readiness you drop a stone from wherever, garden, road etc. into the circle. For Easter we hope to have enough stones to form the base/ hill for the "Cross of the Resurrection"

The "Garden" will be formally inaugurated on Ash Wednesday after Mass when you will be invited to come forward to plant your flower. During Lent feel free to call in and sit for a while in the garden contemplating on the wonderful Mercy of God and to nurture your flower.

SOMETHING DIFFERENT FOR LENT -

In this Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy we invite you to join us in a 6 week Lenten 'retreat' with a difference... Our theme this year is - Live Mercy - Each Sunday of Lent there will be a leaflet with a short passage from Scripture to reflect and act upon during the week, available at the back of the Church after Sunday Mass. This leaflet will offer starting ideas and practical suggestions for the week. You follow your daily routine but do things in a more thoughtful and reflective way. This is a 'DIY' experience to help us prepare for Easter. The leaflet will also be available to download & share from the parish website, facebook page or from www.evangelisation.ie . Join in and spread the word.

THE BIBLE SERIES

Starting on Tuesday 16th February (7:30 to 9pm), and running for the Tuesdays throughout Lent the Combined Catholic Parishes of Clondalkin invite you to 'The Bible series' (as seen on The History Channel). A video session & each episode will be followed by a short discussion & a cuppa!! Hosted in Rowlagh/Quarryvale, The Immaculate Heart Of Mary Church, Collinstown Road, Rowlagh, Clondalkin Dublin 22 - Retelling the narrative of the Exodus, life, death & Resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth in a mini-series starring Roma Downey. All are welcome & bring a friend.

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 Mary'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)

> Christina Malone 0857162152

Frank Brown 086 1018173





STAYING ON THE THIRTEEN BUS

Maybe it is because I sold cars for many years or that I lived in rural South West County Dublin, I was never a big user or fond of travelling by bus. It was with some surprise and ironic amusement that Fr Damian told me that I could stay on the 13 bus all the way from Clondalkin when I take up my new appointment.

Yes, all good times must come to an end. This Monday at 9.30am I take up my new role as Chaplain to Dublin City University (D.C.U.). I am very sad to be leaving Clondalkin after just shy of three years, firstly as a Deacon and since June 3^{rd} 2014 as a Priest. I have been made to feel very welcome and allowed to grow as I began my Priestly Ministry.

I thank Fathers Des, Shán, Padraig and Damian for their welcome, support, guidance and encouragement. Parishioners were very generous to me at the time of my Ordination and I was honoured to celebrate Mass for the first time here in the Village Church.

My particular ministries and chaplaincies including, Scoil Mhuire, Saint Joseph's Young Priests Society, the Pioneers, the Environmental group, the Legion of Mary, all enabled me to get to know many parishioners. I also thank Anne Brett (parish secretary), the Sacristy team, all the various ministers and all the members of the Parish Pastoral Council. Above all, I wish to thank you, our parishioners for your prayers and support.

For the moment I shall still be living across the road but as my commitment from now on will be to the students and staff of D.C.U. I will no longer be available for Weddings and Baptisms but I will of course honour my commitments to fulfil the Weddings that I am committed to. This Sunday I will officiate at Baptism for the last time as a Priest of the Combined Parishes of Clondalkin. I will say Mass here when I can.

As I take my leave of you as a Priest of the Parish I ask you to please pray for me as I take up my new role. I will keep you in my prayers.

Fr Seamus

ADORATION

This Thursday 11th February there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Church

Morning: 10.45am to 11.45am Evening: Hour of Prayer 8pm to 9pm All are welcome

HOUR OF PRAYER

The next Hour of Prayer takes place on Thursday 11th February from 8pm to 9pm, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. prayers for healing and individual blessings finishing with Benediction at 9pm.

Fr. Padraig

EARLY START TO PRAYER MEETING

This Wednesday 10th February the Rosary - Mysteries of Light will be recited at 7.30pm before Prayer Meeting in the Parish Pastoral Centre and all are welcome

CHURCH DUTY

Cleaning: Kitty Egan, Elsie Naughton, Angela McCreevey, Veronica Bayly, Kathleen Fitzpatrick and May Stynes Altar Linen: Angela Minihan Ministers of the Environment: erection of the Mercy Lenten Garden on Tuesday at 2pm. And extra working hands always welcome

NOTICES

Monday 8th February

Miraculous Medal Novena after 10am Sunday 14th February Mass and Rosary.

Tuesday 9th February

Lectio Divina under the direction of Sr. Anne in the Pastoral Centre after 10am Mass The Legion of Mary meets in the Convent at 11.00am. New members are welcome.

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

DEATHS

Brian Doonan, Floraville Avenue Margaret Quinn, Woodford Lawns

recently deceased. May they rest in peace.

CCPC INTERCESSORY PRAYER FOR 9 CLONDALKIN PARISHES

This Tuesday 9th February Intercessory Praver for our Parishes in Parish Pastoral Centre 7.30 to 8.30pm Come along and join with us if you can.

LOURDES 2016 7th to 12th MAY

Our 2016 Pilgrimage details are as follows:

- Hotel: 4* Eliseo (close to St Joseph's Gate)
- Fare: €725 (all inclusive) per person sharing and single room supplement is €150.
- Booking forms are now available in the Parish Office and Sacristy

Finally, Fr Shán O'Cuív will again be our Spiritual Director.

ANNIVERSARIES

Monday 8th February Michael Dwyer, 4th An 10.00am

Thursday 11th February Peg Kelly 7.30am

Belinda and James Fitzsimons 10.30am John Fannon 12 Noon Geraldine and Conor McIlhinney Sheila Barry Alan Bradbury Darren Cambell

CLONBURRIS Mass Intentions

Sunday 7th January

John Byrne An. 11.00am Jim Chester An.

Baptísm Congratulations to Aida Ellie Brady who was Baptised last Sunday

ADULT CATECHISM STUDIES

The Sacraments are the means by which Christ makes Himself present in this present age. They express the "deposit of faith" that the Church guards. The seven sacraments touch all the stages and all the important moments of Christian life. Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist are the sacraments of Christian initiation and lay the foundation of every Christian life. In this section we are studying the sacrament of Baptism, which was central to the life of the Church from the very beginning and is the door to salvation.

Wednesday 10th February at 8.00pm in the Pastoral Centre, Baptism paragraphs 1246-1284.

Ronan

"ACCORD" APPEAL

ACCORD is a voluntary Catholic organisation that aims to promote a deeper understanding of Christian marriage and to offer people the means to safeguard and nourish their marriage and family relationships.

ACCORD operates in 57 centres throughout Ireland North and South and is committed to providing a quality service.

To enable them to continue their valuable service the SHARE Collection next weekend will be replaced by a collection for ACCORD at all Masses next weekend

ASH WEDNESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY

Next Wednesday 10th February Lent begins. Masses are at 7.30am, 10am and 7.30pm. Blessing of Penitential Ashes and distribution will take place after all Masses. Ashes will also be available to take away for the sick and housebound.

LENTEN MASSES There will evening Mass at 7.30pm during the week in addition to the morning Masses

PRAYER SERVICE FOR LENT

REMINDER: - Planning meeting on Tuesday, 9th of February at 7.30pm in the Pastoral Centre, in the Village. See Newsletter of 24th Jan for details

MONDAY CLUB

Congratulations to the Transition year students of Coláiste Bríde and their teacher Michelle Dooley for the preparation for Mass to celebrate St. Brigid's day – crosses with prayer attached and Mass leaflets.

After Mass a great number of the congregation processed to St. Brigid's Well where Fr. Damian prayed with us and blessed us with holy water. We thought we might get blessed with a shower of rain but thankfully the rain stayed away.

We returned to the pastoral centre where the young ladies had tea/coffee and a feast of biscuit, buns and cake waiting. They finished the morning by entertaining us with beautiful singing and guitar playing. They were joined by Frank, Pastoral Worker, who finished up with his fine voice and guitar playing.

On Saturday we had an outing to the NCH to the Johann Strauss Gala. We enjoyed over two hours of music, song and comic entertainment by the conductor Rainer Hersch

Kathleen R.