#### (Continued from page 1)

reservoir had been tilled and potatoes were growing there already. The locals called them "Irish Potatoes" because early Irish missionaries, such as the Spiritans (Holy Ghost Missionaries) and the Irish White Fathers had brought out seed potatoes to be planted. Given enough water and soil, the potatoes have thrived and become a stable part of the local diet. We watched as men and women tilled different part of the co-operative owned land, with their oxen and wooden ploughs. Others beat the hard sods of clay with wooden clubs in an effort to prepare the soil for planting the potato seed and other vegetables later in the year.

The water collected by the reservoir will help extend the growing season. A local woman, Kidan Woldu, 41 and a mother of seven, lives in Witafa Village in Tigray, and explains it like this; "Like most farmers here. I used to wait for the rain to plant crop seeds. My harvest was very low. It wouldn't last for three months. I had to struggle to feed my children. Three years ago I joined the irrigation producer co-operative and started to produce vegetables three times a year. This year I have harvested five quintals of tomato, two quintals of potato, and one and a half quintals of onion. I used to get 1000 Birr (€40) per month before using irrigation, but this past year I got 5,800 Birr. The money enabled me to buy cereals, pay school fees, buy clothes and pay off my debt."

In line with Catholic Social Teaching, the programmes focused on working with the poorest and most marginalised communities in Ethiopia. The old saying, "give a man a fish and you feed him for a day, but give him a fishing rod and you feed him for life," certainly rang true for me.

I came away impressed by Trócaire who showed vision, innovation and dedication in how they planned and

implemented the projects. The project of the reservoir, which aims to build sustainable livelihoods, is a witness to the solidarity of the Catholic community here in Ireland with those in need in Ethiopia. The locals saw the value in the work that was being done and were very thankful for the support that the people from Ireland were giving them through Trócaire.

Fr. Séamus (Trócaire boxes available in the church for you to contribute to the work of Trócaire)

# PIONEER TOTAL ABSTINENCE ASSOCIATION

Pioneer Total Abstinence Association is encouraging people to take the "Pioneer Lenten Challenge" to take the short term pledge for Lent. Check out Church Notices Boards for more details

#### **CLONDALKIN ACTIVE RETIREMENT**

The Benefit Evening in The Laurels for Margaret Wignall was a great success; we raised  $\in 1,000$ . This event would not have happened without your support. Also, Damien from The Laurels made this happen and again a BIG THANK YOU to you and your staff, and Kay for the beautiful food, and the music supplied by Jerry, Vincent and Joe and Finbar Coady. We are having another evening in The Laurels on Wednesday 1st April an Easter Bonnet Party, time 4 to 8 and dinner included for  $\in 10$ .

Anyone interested in Our Trip to Wexford 20th and 21st May, please give your names to Mick Daly as soon as possible. Clare

#### 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)

Peter Siney 089 461 4226

Christopher Okereke 457 3546



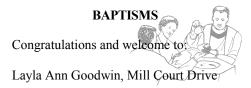
IRISH POTATOES IN ETHIOPA! I had the great experience of visiting Ethiopia on a study trip with other priests from the Diocese. Part of the purpose of the visit was to spend time with Trócaire and to look at

some of over 40 different projects that they run in partnership with local organisations on the ground there. In Ethiopia, Trócaire work as part of a joint team along with CAFOD (England and Wales) and SCIAF (Scotland) called CST. They are the official relief and development agencies of the Catholic Church in England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland. Inspired by the Gospel and Catholic Social Teaching, Trócaire are committed to a partnership model based on Catholic Social teaching, and focus on both long-term development and emergency work.

Of the projects that I saw, one in particular was of special interest to me, Irish potatoes being grown in Ethiopia. It took some time to travel to see this project which was based in the Diocese of Hosana (established only in 2010). To get to the village, we had to first drive four hours south of the capital Addis Ababa, and then a further two hours on a bumpy dusty road to a village called Tigray.

Trócaire say that climate change is the greatest injustice of our time. The people who are doing the least to cause it are suffering the most. Year after year, crops are failing and families can no longer plan when to sow and harvest their crops and so the hungry season is extended for them. I learned from Trócaire, that already, as a result of climate change, the length of the growing season in Ethiopia has been reduced by 15%.

In the project that I looked at, they set about digging a massive reservoir in which to collect and hold the rain water when the monsoons arrive in June. It was an amazing feat to see which took hundreds of men and women months to dig the giant hole. Each labourer was paid a daily wage but together they worked as a community, believing the reservoir would benefit everyone. The land beside the *(Continued on page 4)* 



recently Baptised.

# ADORATION

This Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> February Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be in the: **Church**: from after 10am Mass to 11.45am **Church**: from after 7.30pm Mass to 9pm All are welcome

#### EARLY START TO THE PRAYER MEETING

This Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> February the "Missionary Rosary" will be recited at 7.30pm prior to Prayer Meeting at 8pm in the Pastoral Centre and all are welcome

# PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> May – 9 nights, 13<sup>th</sup> May – 7 nights Fare: €599 fully inclusive and departing from Dublin Spiritual Director: Fr. John E Butler SDB Organiser: Liam Cotter at 01 4928194 or 087 6381157 €100 deposit secures €599, after 17<sup>th</sup> February €699 applies – accommodation situated close to St. James Church

# NOTICES

Monday 23rd FebruaryMiraculous Medal Novena after 10amMass and Rosary.10.30am

# **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> 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. 12 Noon

DEATHS We extend our deepest sympathy to the

family and friends of: Anthony (Tony) Morgan, Floraville Avenue

Angela Darby, Monastery Drive

recently deceased. May they rest in peace.

# INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP

An Intercessory Prayer group meets to pray each Tuesday 7.30pm to 8.30pm for the Clondalkin Group of Parishes (CCPC). Please come and pray with us **Venue:** <u>Rowlagh Community Room</u> **Date:** Tuesday24<sup>th</sup> February. All are welcome

### ANNIVERSARIES

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

10.00am John and Mary O'Neill

# **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February**

.15am	Michael McDermott
.00am	Mary and Michael Lacey

# Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February

7.15amBridie McDermott10.00amPaddy and Kay Duggan

# Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March

10

7.30pm (Vigil) Sarah Delaney Noeleen Mansfield Shane Coughlan Ed and Mary Corrigan Maeve Whiston, MM Annette Connor, Paul Guidon, B/day Rem
10.30am Teresa Cahill, 1<sup>st</sup> An Denis and Nora Minogue Paddy and Noreen Maher George Walsh Madge and Joseph Sheerin Anne and John Connolly
12 Noon James and Nuala McNally

#### CLONBURRIS Mass Intentions

#### Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February 6.30pm Patrick and Kathleen Blackburn An: Deceased members of

An; Deceased members of Blackburn Family Susan Murphy M.M.

# Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> Febfuary

lam	Mary and Patrick Murphy An.
	Brigid and Thomas Dardis An
	David O'Doherty An.
	Edward Gleeson An.
	Anthony O'Brien B. Rem.
	-

THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET will be recited in the Church at 3.30pm on Thursday next

# FAITH FORMATION – STUDY OF THE CATHOLIC CATECHISM

Many of us barely remember the Catechism we learned parrot like when in school and weren't curious or interested enough to delve further into enquiring the reasons why we say we are "Catholic".

In 1992 Pope St. John Paul 11 sanctioned the Catechism of Catholic Church that was to be used throughout the universal Church and only now interest is taken to study in depth this gift to the church.

Next Wednesday you are invited to attend the 1<sup>st</sup> in the series of this Faith Formation Studies (and please bring paper and Catechism) Pastoral Centre at 7.30pm

# CLONDALKIN HISTORY SOCIETY - LECTURE

Palmerstown House & the Earls of Mayo' are the subject of Brian McCabes illustrated talk which will take place at Aras Chronain, Watery Lane on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015, commencing at 8pm. Admission is €5 (nonmembers). All are welcome"

Padraig A. O'Murchu

#### LOURDES 2015

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> May - 5 nights Hotel: Jeanne D'Arc Fare: €750 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

## **CHURCH DUTY**

**Cleaning:** Kitty Egan, Angela McCreevey, Kathleen Fitzpatrick, Veronica Bayly, May Stynes

Altar Linen: Deirdre Alexander

# MONDAY CLUB

We had a great lot of people attend the Monday Club who came to welcome the girls and boys from "Localise". What a tremendous group they are and they put so much work into the preparation for the morning. The place was festooned with handmade decorations and balloons in honour of St. Valentine. There were home baked buns and biscuits and shortbread. They even set us all a challenge of decorating the best bun or biscuit with the great variety and choice of decoration to choose from chocolate icing, vanilla, strawberry, chocolate drops and marshmallows. They had also handmade cards with beautiful flowers. We in the Monday club say a "big thank you". It's much appreciated. Some are preparing for exams so we wish them success!

A few weeks ago we received a letter from Tallaght Children's Hospital asking us to hold a "Pan Cake Tuesday" to help raise funds. It was agreed to donate the subscriptions from yesterday to the hospital. We raised  $\notin$ 75 which I will take to the hospital during the week.

Next week we look forward to Kay Lee who will give a talk on her recent trip to India where she met Fr. Bala Kathleen R.