THE JEWISH LAW AND CHRISTIANITY

There are a number of instances in the Gospel where Jesus changes the law. We Christians do not have laws about food but the Jews in Jesus time did. What is going on here - did Jesus have the authority to do this. The ancient law of the Jews was the God given law received by Moses on Mount Sinai. This law remained untouched and is in force in our day. The problem was that the Law of Moses had become contaminated by a myriad of manmade laws about cleansing the outside of the cup, about ritual washing of hands to the elbows, about what was clean and unclean. These manmade laws were more customs than laws and Jesus being God had the power to change them. It is very necessary for him to do so as some of them such as circumcision were a serious obstacle to Gentile converts. All of this begs the question of where the Christian church stands in 2014 with its laws, its doctrines and its teaching? In the Gospel Jesus redefines and develops the Jewish laws but He did not reverse of alter them. The God given Law of Moses remains the same, in his day as in ours. But you may ask what about the human element in our church's teaching; can that be developed or redefined? One of the early Church Fathers, St. Vincent asked the same question and came to the conclusion that there has to be development and redefining of what the church teaches. If there were no development there would only be the Bible and nothing else. But St. Vincent cautions it must be true development and not alteration of the Faith. Development means that each thing expands to be itself while alteration means that a thing is changed from one thing to another. A puppy grows into a dog not a cat. A kitten grows and develops into a cat, not a dog.

We pray to the Holy Spirit for the gift of development to help us see that it is our openness to the presence of Jesus and what he taught us is what matters. Then we will come to that that the church given to us by Christ also teaches under the guidance of the holy Spirit. We pray that we will be faithful to Christ, his church and the guidance of the Holy Spirit in living as his disciples.

Fr. Padraig

NOVENA OF GRACE

The Novena of Grace begins on Tuesday 4th March, Shrove Tuesday and continues to 12th. The Novena prayers, recited after 10am Mass will be available at the Church entrances

INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP

An Intercessory group meets to pray each Tuesday at 7.30pm to 9.30pm for the Clondalkin parishes (CCPC). Please come and pray with us any Tuesday

Venue: **Parish Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Rowlagh** -Tuesday 25th February

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Rory Broderick is this week's winner. He rightly said that Jesus' special friends were called the 12 Apostles! Congratulations Rory! Your prize is waiting to be picked up by you from the Sacristy after Mass today.

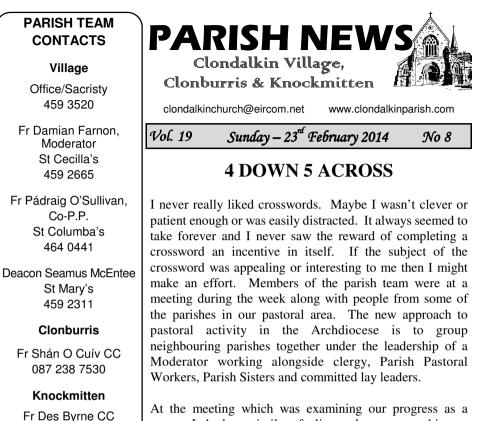
THIS WEEK'S QUIZ!!



A very strange one – what name would you put on this picture? Your entries to ellenteresacoyne@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.



45 Woodford Drive.

459 2323

Parish Pastoral Workers

(for the Combined Catholic

Parishes of Clondalkin)

Peter Sinev

089 461 4226

Christopher Okereke

457 3546

At the meeting which was examining our progress as a group I had a similar feeling when approaching a crossword. I am way out of my depth here. I was somewhat relieved to discover that I wasn't the only one. Even the language of the new situation can seem alien. What exactly is co responsibility in the running of a parish or a pastoral area? Who makes the decisions and who is to be consulted and from a selfish point of view I am asking what is my role as Moderator? What is expected of me here in our parish and in the wider pastoral area?

BAD RIDDLE WARNING

Officiating at a burial in Esker cemetery recently one of the drivers from a local funeral director told me that the man who invented the crossword was buried there. I foolishly asked where and he said "4 DOWN, 5 ACROSS". Yes I know it is not a great joke but on a wet and windy morning in Esker it did bring a smile to my face.

Father Damian

ADORATION

This Thursday 27th February 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.

CEREMONIES OF "LIGHT"

The Confirmation class of Gael Scoil Cluain Dolcáin will celebrate their "Ceremony of Light" on Tuesday at 7pm and the Confirmation class of Gael Scoil Camóige will hold their Ceremony of Light in Knockmitten on Thursday at 7pm

ST. JOSEPH'S YOUNG PRIESTS' SOCIETY

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday morning after 10am Mass in the Pastoral Centre (26th Feb)

The organisers want to assure all who contribute to St. Joseph's Young Priests' Society that all office holders, president, treasurer, secretaries etc give their services on a voluntary basis.

The only employees of the Society are the office staff who handle the day to day administration and grant applications for the education of students for the Priesthood and their total remuneration have been outlined in the Annual Audited accounts every year.

NOTICES

Monday 24th February

Miraculous Medal Novena after 10am Mass and Rosary.

Tuesday 25th February

Lectio Divina under the direction of Sr. Anne	1
in the Pastoral Centre after 10am Mass.	1'

Saturday 1st March

First Saturday, Fatima Devotions will take place after 10am Mass and Rosary

EARLY START TO THE PRAYER MEETING

This Wednesday 26th February the "Missionary Rosary" will be recited in the Prayer Group at 7.30pm prior to Prayer Meeting starting at 8pm in the Parish Pastoral Centre and all are welcome

CAKE SALE

A cake sale in aid of Knockmittem will be held next Sunday before and after all Masses. Your support and generosity again greatly appreciated as well as enjoyment of nice cakes before the start of Lent – no need to feel guilty!

ANNIVERSARIES

Monday 24th February

7.30am	Michael McDermott
10.00am	Mary and Michael Lacey

Tuesday 25th February

7.30am	Bridie McDermott
10.00am	Chris Stapleton B/day Rem

Wednesday 26th February

Gerard Cleary, An on 25th Feb 10.00am

Thursday 27th February

Chris Stapleton, B/day Rem 10.00am

Friday 28th February Paddy O'Connell 7.30am

Sunday 2nd March

7.30pm (Vigil) Kathleen McEvoy, MM David O'Sullivan, B/day Rem Noeleen Mansfield Sarah Delaney, 3rd An Danny Cummins 9.00am Denis and Nora Minogue 10.30am Paddy and Noreen Maher Robert and Joan Crookes 12 noon Angela Gaughey, 9th An Jim Kehoe, MM 5.30pm Betty Nolan

CLONBURRIS Mass Intentions

Saturday 22nd February 6.30pm Patrick & Kathleen Blackburn (An)

Kevin Blackburn (An) Deceased members of the Blackburn family

Sunday 23rd February

11.00am An.David O'Doherty (An) Edward Gleeson (An) Anthony O'Brien (B.R.) Mary & Patrick Murphy (An)

Competition Winner

Congratulations to Aaron Bevan competition winner, your prize can be collected after Mass.

CATHOLIC APOLOGETICS

"Defending the Catholic Faith in the style of G.K. Chesterton" Maolsheachlann O'Ceallaigh. President of the G.K. Chesterton Society of Ireland, will give a captivating talk in Physics Hall, St Patrick's College, Maynooth, on Tuesdav 25th February at 7.45pm. Refreshments afterwards. Please come and support what will be an engaging night! Rónán M. Sheehan Assistant P.R.O

CLONDALKIN TIDY TOWNS GROUP

Clondalkin Tidy Towns Group were pleased to be associated with the tidying and cleaning up of the area at St. Brigid's Well recently, in preparing for the ceremony which was held there on Saturday, 1st February, Feast day of St. Brigid. Following the 10am Mass Fr. Damian led a procession of parishioners in dreadful weather conditions to the well where with the assistance of pupils from Coláiste Bríde he conducted a short ceremony and blessing.

Agnes O'Neill

"THANK YOU"

I wish to extend a special "thanks" to all of you who had Masses offered for me as well as those of you who offered prayers, sent Mass Cards, Get Well cards etc. Your support has been a great source of strength to me and my family during this trying time.

I am home from hospital a couple of weeks now and I am making a good but slow recovery and I look forward being back in the Sacristy in the not so distant future.

Again many thanks and Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Padraig

CHURCH DUTY

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

Altar Linen: Catherine Sherwin Flowers: Aileen Skelton to 4th March (Ash Wednesday 5^{th} March – no flowers for Lent) (Wedding on Saturday)

MONDAY CLUB

"Localise" hosted our Monday morning "get together" last week. How fortunate we are to have young people of the calibre of these young teenagers. They are a credit to the families and their schools. If there were more like them in other communities I think our future will be a lovely caring place to be. We were treated to lots of homemade cakes and tea/coffee and sat down to a treat of cards and a bag of goodies all placed on napkins shaped like hearts. Then they entertained us with music played on the latest technology and gave out medals to winners which "Olympic like" they placed over the head! Sochi was only in the halfpenny place. Well done boys and girls and their mentors! Next week we will have popular music for middle brows with Minnie.

> See you then! Joan