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He lastly comes to us at all times hidden once again in helplessness and humility in Holy Communion to feed us so that we will flourish and do the great things that make His Divine power present in our world.

We pray that we will respond to His presence by being a light of faith, hope and charity to all who yearn for Emmanuel!

Fr. Pdraig

CHRISTMAS AND THE ROBIN

The following story appeared in the Newsletter some years ago and I was reminded of it by Dolores, a parishioner. I think the story is worth repeating and hope it will bring much pleasure to everyone!

"On that first Christmas, it is said, the night was wrapped in a bitter chill. The small fire in the stable was nearly out, and the Mother Mary worried that her baby would be cold. She turned to the animals about her and asked them for help.

"Could you blow on the embers," she asked the ox, "so the fire might continue to keep my son warm?" But the ox lay sound asleep on the stable floor and did not hear her. Next, Mary asked the donkey to breathe life back into the fire, but the sleeping donkey did not hear Mary either. Nor did the horse or sheep. She wondered what to do.

Suddenly, Mary heard a fluttering of little wings. Looking up, she saw a plain, brown-coloured little robin fly into the stall. He went over to the dying fire and flapped his wings hard.

His wings were like little bellows, huffing and puffing air onto the embers, until they glowed bright.

With his beak, the robin picked up some fresh, dry sticks and tossed them into the fire. As he did, a flame suddenly burst forth and burned the little bird's breast a

bright red. But the robin simply continued to fan the fire until it crackled brightly and warmed the entire stable. The Baby Jesus slept happily.

Mary thanked and praised the robin for all he had done. She looked tenderly at his red breast, burned by the flame, and said "From now on, let your red breast be a blessed reminder of your noble deed."

And to this day, the robin's red breast covers his humble heart.

(From "A Christmas Stocking" by Louise Betts Egan.)

"Let Heaven and Earth Rejoice"

Teresa

LOURDES 2016 7th to 12th MAY

It became necessary to source an alternative Travel Agent for our 2016 Pilgrimage. We have negotiated a good package with MARIAN Pilgrimages and 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.

There is a discount of €50 on the above fares for those who pay the €50 non-refundable deposit before the 29th January next. This makes the fare quite attractive, so why not avail of this offer and book early.

Booking forms will be available shortly.

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

Pdraig Doyle, Group Organiser.

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

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459 3520

Fr Damian Farnon,
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St Cecilia's
459 2665

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

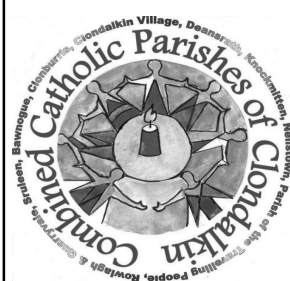
Fr. Seamus McEntee
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459 2311

Clonburris

Fr Shán O Cuív CC
087 238 7530

Knockmitten

Fr Des Byrne CC
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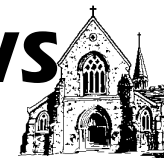
Parish Pastoral Workers
(for the Combined Catholic
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PARISH NEWS

Clondalkin Village,
Clonburris & Knockmitten



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Vol. 21 Sunday – 3rd January 2016 No 1

HE HUMBLING HIMSELF TO COME AMONG US

Emmanuel – God with us! This is what we get ready for in Advent. How would God come? Would he come in a great cloud as He came for Moses and the Israelites? Would He come in great flashes of lightning and pealing thunder as He did on Mount Sinai? Would He come as a great King in the manner of King David? We know now that He didn't do this - He came instead as a helpless baby to little Bethlehem utterly dependent on Mary and Joseph for his needs. God so humbled himself to enter our helplessness which is what we were when we were born. He gave up His Divinity to become as one of us and He hid it for 30 years. Then He gradually revealed it in his public life – his teaching, His miracles, His wisdom. And then on Good Friday He hid his divinity again and became completely helpless in the face of evil. He was lifted up on a cross utterly humiliated – unable to move, stripped of all He had, an object of derision for a jeering crowd.

On Easter Sunday He came back to life to be among His friends and followers. He revealed His Divinity again in a new way but an equally humble way. Then He who conquered death and evil returned to His Father in Heaven. But He did not leave us orphans. He remained Emmanuel – Ggod with us by becoming helpless once again. He gives us His presence right now in a humble piece of bread. The Host that contains His presence has no power to move, speak or to do anything. He remains in the tabernacle of our Church and in all churches and is brought to us to feed us by human hands.

He first came among us as Emmanuel as a humble child in a stable in the middle of nowhere. He then came to us as our Redeemer in utter helplessness on Good Friday and the Glory of His Resurrection arose out of that humiliation.

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BAPTISMS

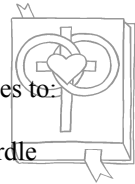


Congratulations and welcome to:

Michael Joseph Stokes, Oldcastle Park Green
Charles John Smyth, The Slade, Tassagard Gardens, Saggart
Lauryn Elizabeth Martin, Monastery Walk
Szymon Kwiecinski, Woodford View
Cillian Jake Mulhall, St. John's Avenue

who received the Sacrament of Baptism.

WEDDINGS



Congratulations and best wishes to:

Karen Quinn and David McArdle

who received the Sacrament of Marriage

ADORATION

This Thursday 7th January there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament **in the Church:-**

Morning: 10.45am to 11.45am
Evening: 7pm to 9pm.

All are welcome

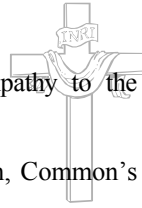
NOTICES

Monday 3rd January
Miraculous Medal Novena after 10am Mass and Rosary.

Tuesday 4th January
The Legion of Mary meets in the Convent at 11.00am. New members are welcome.

Wednesday 6th January
Baptism preparation meeting in the Pastoral Centre at 8pm

DEATHS



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

Brendan (Thomas) Callaghan, Common's Road

recently deceased. May he rest in peace.

CHURCH DUTY

Cleaning: Veronica Bayly, Tracy Whelan, Bernardine Wynne and Josephine Hearty
Altar Linen: Mary Jenkins
Flowers: Just maintenance by all teams.

ANNIVERSARIES

Monday 4th January
7.30am Downey Family, living and deceased

Tuesday 5th January
10.00am Gerry, Lily, Fran, Jim and Daniel Doran

Wednesday 6th January
7.30pm (Vigil) Jim Stynes, 7th An Patrick and Mary Kinnane
10am Mary Coughlan

Thursday 7th January
10.00am Joe Morton

Sunday 10th January
7.30pm (Vigil) Hinda Duff, MM
10.30am Vincent and Bobbie Norton
Fr. William Crahan
Aoife Herns
Fionnuala McCann
Mary O'Neill
Sr. Mary Holohan, 2nd An
12 Noon Gay and Nora Keogh
Ann Cullen, 1st An
Joe and Josie O'Connor
Desmond Hartigan, Jr, 2nd An

CLONBURRIS Mass Intentions

Saturday 2nd January
6.30pm Michael Murphy and deceased members of Murphy Family.

Sunday 3rd January
11.00am Katie Mc Donald An.
Mary Ann Byrne An.
Margaret Walsh An,
May O'Connor An.

CHRISTMAS DUES

Christmas dues in aid of our priests are now accepted in Shop, Sacristy or box provided in the Sanctuary

OUR NEW YEAR GREETINGS TO ALL!

"May God give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed."
(Psalm 20:4)
Newsletter Team

1916 SPECIAL EDITION OF THE IRISH CATHOLIC!

To mark the centenary of the 1916 Easter Rising, The Irish Catholic newspaper has published a special edition and it is now on sale in the Parish Shop. The 40-page edition of the paper sets the context for the centenary celebrations and looks at some of the neglected aspects of the celebrations including the humanitarian role of the Pro-Cathedral, how parishes coped with the carnage, the Catholic Faith of the leaders, the Church's reaction to the rising, insights from the Dublin Diocesan archive and reflections from Archbishop Diarmuid Martin, Mary Kenny and Martin Mansergh.

CCPC INTERCESSORY PRAYER FOR 9 CLONDALKIN PARISHES

This Tuesday evening 5th January Intercessory Group praying in the 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

ANAM CARA

Anam Cara is holding its monthly Parent Evening on Monday 11th of January 2016 from 19:30 to 21:00 in Dominics Community Centre, Tallaght, Dublin 24 (weather dependent). All Anam Cara Services are available free of charge to bereaved parents.

THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

The Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated on Wednesday next January 6th. This feast commemorates the visit of the wise men to worship the baby Jesus.

The men were astrologers who were looking for the star that would lead them to the promised Messiah. This was prophesied in the Book of Micah. According to the Gospel narratives, the wise men brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh with them. These gifts were very meaningful. Gold was a precious and expensive gift, and showed how important Jesus was. Frankincense is a sweet perfume which was often burned in the temple to worship God. It was a sign that Jesus should be worshipped. Myrrh was used to keep things fresh, and it was used by the women to anoint Jesus' body when he died. By bringing it as a gift to Jesus, the wise men foretold his suffering and death.

The feast is a holy day of obligation and **Masses are as follows:**
Village Church: 7.30pm, Vigil, 7.30am, 10am and 1pm
Clonburris: 9.30am and 6.30pm