(Continued from page 1)

Let us remember this, that just as the star and the heavenly music of the Angels, were not what the first Christmas was about, but were merely pointers to the Christ-child, so the externals which surround our Christmas' are not what Christmas is about either. They are merely the wrappings of the gift and wouldn't it be a foolish to mistake the wrapping paper for the gift?

Even though the wrappings will have been disposed of; Jesus, the gift of God, will remain with us throughout the year and every year, just as he promised: "Know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time".

Fr. Seamus

### CLONDALKIN ACTIVE RETIREMENT

It's great to be back after a long Christmas.. A Very Happy New Year to you all.

Well we got back to a good start on Tuesday. We had Jim Monaghan, Irish Set Dance Teacher, showing us how to do the Brush Dance and the ladies had a great time Set Dancing... Jim teaches in Aras Chronain every Friday night so if any of our members would like to attend please let me know and we can arrange a night out and there is a Ceili on after the Dance Class.

We are off to The Ronan Collins Show on Sunday 11th January at The National Concert Hall, which will be a wonderful night, bus collections as follows: Lough and Quay at 6.30, Towers Club at 6.40 and Library on Monastery Road at 6.50. Hopefully, we will have a good year with lots of outings and maybe a night or two away.

Anybody reading this article and would like to join us on a Tuesday morning at 10am Towers Club, you will be made very welcome.

Clare

### "THANKS"

The Ministers of the Environment (People who decorates the church) extend their thanks to all who joined with them in decorating the church for Christmas. To keep the Sanctity of the Sanctuary the crib was set up in Sacred Space. Unfortunately the crib had to be destroyed because of wood worm, but hopefully someone in the parish has a photo or drawing and maybe it could be replicated. Please let us know!

- 1. "Thanks" to the 2<sup>nd</sup> year girls from Coláiste Bríde who beautifully decorated the side entrance hall
- 2. "Thanks" to Phil, Susan and Lily of Newlands Garden Centre for their advice and help
- 3. "Thanks" to our Priests and Pastoral Council who trusted us

The Environment Ministers always welcome new volunteers! We need fresh ideas!

### **OPERATION TRANSFORMATION 2015**

Round Tower GAA Club wants the Clondalkin community to join it in following Operation Transformation 2015. Dedicated Walks are taking place around Clondalkin every Monday and Wednesday over a six week period at7.30pm. The first week of walks has taken place but there is still time to register and participate. All walks commence from Round Tower playing grounds at Monastery Road. Talks will also be taking place to advise on general fitness and nutrition. You can find out further information or register for the walks by visiting www.roundtower.ie. Great way to start New Year!

Michael McGlynn

### 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

# **PARISH NEWS**

Clondalkin Village, Clonburris & Knockmitten

clondalkinchurch@eircom.net

www.clondalkinparish.com

Vol. 20

Sunday – 11<sup>th</sup> January 2015

No 2

### **COMING TO THE END OF CHRISTMAS!**

We are coming to the end of Christmas very soon and all those glittering lights that brought cheerfulness to our streets and shops, and the sparkling lights that brought warmth to our homes, will be extinguished, and we will find ourselves plunged back into the drab darkness of winter once again.

The Christmas tree that entered our homes in the run-up to Christmas and took up residence there, and almost became like a member of the family, will be evicted soon, if not already, and reduced to mulch. The decorations that made even the drabbest corners of the house beautiful will be put back into their boxes and returned to the attic for another year. The Christmas cards that came to us from far and near, bearing messages of love and peace will also be removed and disposed of. And the relatives, who came to visit us, will like the Magi, go back to their own homes and country.

People will start back to work and children will go back to school, just as the shepherds went back to their flocks after their trip to Bethlehem. And for a fleeting moment, we felt as if earth was joined to heaven. But yes, Christmas will be over and then everything will be back to normal and we'll have to wait another whole year for the magic and sparkle to appear again.

We can't help but feel a little empty perhaps, maybe even a little depressed, and dare I say it, a little disillusioned. At the very least, we are left with a feeling of anti-climax. Well if that should happen, let us not be alarmed because in a way, that feeling of emptiness can be a grace, because only God can satisfy our hearts! Having a sense of something missing, is really God's way of calling us into greater intimacy with Himself.

(Continued on page 4)

### **DEATHS**

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

Dora O'Kane, Monastery Walk Giovanni Colucci, Bawnogue Shopping Centre Ann Cullen, St. Killian's Park

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: Clondalkin Pastoral Centre Date: Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January and all are 10.00am

welcome

### AN IRISH BLESSING FOR THE **NEW YEAR**

May you always be blessed with walls for the wind A roof for the rain A warm cup of tea by the fire Laughter to cheer you Those you love near you And all that your heart might desire Wishing all readers and contributors a Happy and Peaceful New Year Newsletter team

### NOTICES

### Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January

Miraculous Medal Novena after 10am Mass and Rosary.

### Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January

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.

### **ADORATION**

This Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> January, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be in the: **Church:** from after 10am Mass to 11.45am **Church:** in the evening from 7pm to 9pm All are welcome.

### EARLY START TO THE PRAYER MEETING

This Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January the Rosary -Mysteries of Light will be recited at 7.30pm before the Prayer Meeting at 8pm in the Parish Pastoral Centre and all are welcome

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January Eileen Kerin

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 10.00am Madge Moore

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January

Jim and Mary Duggan 10.00am

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January Frank and Mary Byrne 7.30am

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> January

7.30pm (Vigil) Maud Hurley, 1<sup>st</sup> An Billy Duffy, late of Duffy Circus Paddy and Molly Kelly Anne McBride

10 30am Vincent and Robbie Norton Jim Kehoe. 1<sup>st</sup> an

Ivor and Sadie Noone Margaret (Peggy) Walsh, 6<sup>th</sup> An Peter and Mary Mc Loughlin

Kathleen Kenny 12 Noon Nicholas Kendellen

> Christopher Nixon Luke Barry Nicholas West

Stephen West Rose Plunkett, 2<sup>nd</sup> An

5.30pm

### **CLONBURRIS Mass Intentions**

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> January

6.30pm John & Jack O Donoghue (An)

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January

11.00am Deceased Members of the Gaffney Family

### **CHURCH DUTY**

Cleaning: Rebecca Duggan and Betty Byrne

Altar Linen: Vera Rogers Flowers: Kathleen Cosgrove

Help needed to take away all the Christmas decorations after 10am Mass and Rosary on Tuesday. (The decorations come down after the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus which we celebrate today)

### FINANCIAL REPORT

The Finance Committee acknowledges with thanks €1,742 - your contributions this week

### VIATORES CHRISTI

those interested in oversees volunteering and/or joining the VC Course Training on Oversees Development and Mission Viatores Christi will hold an Information and Recruitment Session on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> January at 12.00 at VC HO 8 New Cabra Rd phone 018689986

### **APOLOGY**

I wish to apologise to the family of Enie Fitzgerald R.I.P. for the error in last week's Newsletter. I incorrectly recorded her Christian name as "Eric" when I was transcribing the Anniversaries from the Church Diary.

Jim Flood

### **LOURDES 2015**

**Date:**  $7^{th}$  -  $12^{th}$  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

### PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND IN 2015

Friday 27 February – Saturday 7 March 2015

€1,295.00 (pps)

Spiritual Director: Fr. John Kelly

(Chaplain Tallaght Hospital) Details from: Map Travel

36 Upper O'Connell Street, Dublin 1.

(Entrance on Parnell Street)

Tel: 01-8783111 or

email patricia@maptravel.ie

### 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

### **CLONDALKIN DRAMA GROUP** PRESENTS...

"ALADDIN" on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm, Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> at 3pm, Saturday at 7.30pm and Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> at 3pm in Bawnogue Community Centre.

Admission – adults €8, children €5 and family rates available