

**“THE ROAD LESS TRAVELLED – THE PATH TO HEROISM” – PART 1**

Go the road less travelled and enter by the narrow gate we are told in Matthew, Ch. 7 which is part of the Sermon on the Mount. To get to heaven first give heaven. Living the Christian life is meant to be an adventure and adventure has challenge built into it. Life is interesting and fulfilling when it is an adventure – it becomes dull and boring when it is not.

Jesus did not come to make life easy but to make us great. There is a hero in all of us and he came to draw that hero out. Our contemporary culture has a strange anti-hero quality about it. Sure it puts people up on pedestals but at the same time it says “No heroes allowed”.

We come to see that there is a difference between God’s idea of a hero and our culture’s idea of a hero. It tends to go for celebrities, puts them on a pedestal for a while and then takes great pleasure in knocking them off when it’s discovered that they have feet of clay.

When I was working in London 20 years ago there was a saying about the celebrities who were the centre of attention at the time that they were famous for being famous. They got themselves into all the right nightclubs, went to all the right parties and schemed their way into the right circle of the great and the good.

20 years later these celebrities have long been knocked off their pedestals and their present day replacements won’t last long either. This is a sad situation and it is even sadder that there are very few heroes for our young people to look up to and emulate. The celebrities they are presented with are all too often vulnerable, flawed individuals whose personal lives are in disarray. It is no wonder that the glare to the limelight gets to be too painful and many of them resort to drugs and alcohol abuse.

And so there is a vacuum in our western civilization. It intends to encourage the mediocre and the superficial instead of fostering real greatness. In spite of the short-comings of our society many of us want to be great, want to be heroes. Even the most selfish hedonist seeks to be great in his quiet reflective moments. That is one of the extraordinary aspects of human nature, we don’t always like what is easy, we are attracted to what is difficult. When Christianity say that up your cross and follow me it thrives – when it says “anything goes” its withers!

- Fr. Padraig

**FINANCE REPORT**

The Finance Committee acknowledges with thanks €2,844 – your planned giving contributions this week.

**PILGRIMAGE WALK**

All are invited to take part in a **Pilgrim Walk and Mass** to St Brigid’s Well (Boot Road) on **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July at 7am**  
All welcome  
(Cuppa on offer after Mass)

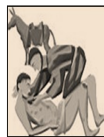
**CHILDREN’S CORNER**

We had no correct entry last week— correct answers in last week’s issue

**This week’s quiz**

In today’s Gospel what did the 3rd person do when he saw a man hurt on the road?

Your entries by email—  
ellenteresacoyno@eircom.net (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**

**PARISH TEAM CONTACTS**

**Village**

Office/Sacristy  
459 3520

Fr Damian Farnon Adm  
St Cecilia’s  
459 2665

Fr Pádraig O’Sullivan CC  
St Columba’s  
464 0441  
**Clonburris**

Fr Shán O Cuív CC  
c/o Parish Office

**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. 18 Sunday – 14<sup>th</sup> July 2013 No 28**

**FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE**

The brides and grooms who exchanged vows this week were blessed with glorious weather. As a daily walker in our beautiful Corkagh Park, I have experienced all weathers, ranging from the frosty February mornings to the energy sapping days of the past week. On Friday a spectator stand was placed at the baseball diamond and the cricket field prepared for a forthcoming match. Two decades ago it would have been unimaginable that baseball and cricket would be played on a regular basis here in Clondalkin.

Last Sunday on the pilgrimage walk, organised by the combined Catholic Parishes of Clondalkin, we paused at the Round Tower and reflected on the Christians who lived there. Reverend Alan Ruffli, rector of Saint John’s very kindly gave us a guided tour of the church explaining its history and then we had some free time to look around the grounds including the graveyard. Pilgrims saw the graves of friends and neighbours from childhood. People of all dominations are buried in the graveyard including one of my predecessors who died in 1812 aged 35 years. He is buried alongside Father Chris Coleman also a former curate at Clondalkin parish. This surprised me as it showed a certain tolerance between the two churches as this was before Catholic Emancipation which didn’t happen until 1829. Maybe some parishioners can shed some light on the history.

My ramblings remind me that the past can never be our prisoner and we cannot be prisoners of the past. The monks who came here in 631, builders of the tower in 815, Christians who worshipped and died for their faith, those who built the previous church on Monastery Road and the builders of our present church all faced challenges as they lived out their faith. Previous generations responded to the challenge to live the Gospel as must we in our time. Enjoy the good weather.

Fr. Damian

## BAPTISMS

Congratulations and welcome to:

Sophie Rose Jennings,  
Ambervale, Tallaght  
Daniel James Buckley, Wier-  
view Drive, Stillorgin  
Recently Baptised



## WEDDINGS



Congratulations and best wishes to:  
Michelle Wogan and Joseph Walsh  
Rachel McGibney and Darren Daly  
Recently married

## ADORATION

This Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> July Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be **in the:**

**Church** : from after 10am Mass to 11.45am

**Church**: 7pm to 9pm and all are welcome

## CHURCH DUTY

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

**Altar Linen:** Mary O'Neill

**Flowers:** Maura Gaffney, 12th to 26th July  
(Weddings: Friday and Saturday)

## PRIMACY OF CONSCIENCE

During the week we have heard a lot about "Conscience" and how we understand it. Conscience is not the final arbiter of what is morally right, nor has the Church ever taught that it is. In its truest sense, conscience is the intellectual apprehension of the Divine Law. For this reason, Divine Law is primary.

"The Divine Law is the supreme rule of our actions; our thoughts, desires, words, acts, all that man is, - is subject to the domain of the law of God; and this law is the rule of our conduct *by means of our conscience*. Hence it is never lawful to go against our conscience." (Cardinal Gousset)

But conscience does not mean that Catholics are free to act on the basis of what they personally judge is morally right in spite of Church teaching—teaching formulated by Christ's Vicar on earth through the power of the Holy Spirit and authority of Christ to the church He founded.

## ANNIVERSARIES

### Wednesday 17th July

7.30am Teresa Flanagan

### Sunday 21st July

7.30pm (vigil) Sallie Darcy, 1st an  
Shirley McGrath, mm

9.00am Noel Lombard

10.30am Bridget Fitzsimons  
Mary Lambe

12 noon Blanch Courtney

James Courtney

Dolores O'Toole

Michael Pollard

Roseanna White

Michael Walsh, mm

Thomas and Maisie Delaney

Una and Daniel Sherwin

Paul Sherwin

Mary Sherwin

5.30pm Eamonn Currivan, 2nd an

Teresa Corcoran

Margaret (Peg) Nolan, b/day

## A DAY YOU WOULD BE MAD TO MISS!



Get ready for  
**Knockmitten ♥'s Me  
Family Fun Day!**  
Knockmitten Youth &  
Community Centre  
together with  
Knockmitten United

Football Club annual family Funday will be happening on Saturday 20th July from 1pm-5pm.

This day is all about you, and the community! The day will start at 1pm at Knockmitten Youth & Community where there will be fun and games for all the kids- face painting, Cake Sale, BBQ, Bouncing Castles, and lots more!

All the proceeds will be going towards the local community!

So get involved!

Carmel

## CLONBURRIS

### Mass Intentions

### Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July

6.30pm Annie Harrison, BR  
Kitty Power A.

### Sunday 14th July

11am Eamon Woulfe 1st A,

### Competition Winner;

Evan Talt

Congratulations! Your prize can be collected after Mass

## LAUNCHING OF NEW HOSPICE GARDEN

On Friday, July 26<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm, we are launching our new hospice garden (re-built here after its award-winning run in Bloom). The garden was specially designed to suit the needs of our Palliative Care patients and was designed with our patients' sensory needs in mind. It won both the Silver gilt and People's Choice awards at this year's Bloom event.

We're also using the launch as a way to let the local community find out more about the 'care services' part of our name. We'll have our complimentary therapists giving hand massages at the launch, as well as our residents' paintings on display and, of course, a chance to find out how therapeutic our gardens and the act of gardening are for our patients. We will also have musical entertainment and summer snacks on the day.

Everyone is welcome to this event – the community plays a big part in our hospice and we like to celebrate this

Aileen Moon, Our Lady's Hospice

## NOTICES

### Monday 15th July

Miraculous Medal Novena after 10am  
Mass and Rosary

### Wednesday 17th July

Prayer Group meets in the Pastoral Centre at 8pm and all welcome

## CLONDALKIN ACTIVE RETIREMENT

The atmosphere was tense in the Club last Tuesday morning as quiz teams focused their minds on winning the competition prize of boxes of chocolates!!!! Quiz Master Kathleen Murray tested us with 10 questions, some of which were quite tricky,

Name the street where Bernard Shaw was born??

Name Brian O' Driscoll's baby??

How many female TD'S are in the Dail??

Finally, the competition was decided by the nearest number of rivers in Dublin, the answer (believe it or not) is over 100!!!! With time to spare, we finished up with a good old sing song (well done to the winning team)

Don't forget our summer break to Letterkenny in Donegal 25th, 26th and 27th July, **SOME PLACES STILL AVAILABLE.**

Our trip to Donegal will be the last outing before we break up for the Summer. Return again in September.

Enjoy the Summer, and stay safe!!

Thomas

## DID YOU KNOW??

The Preamble to our Constitution reads:

"In the Name of the Most Holy Trinity, from Whom is all authority and to Whom, as our final end, all actions both of men and States must be referred, We, the people of Éire, Humbly acknowledging all our obligations to our Divine Lord, Jesus Christ, Who sustained our fathers through centuries of trial,

Gratefully remembering their heroic and unremitting struggle to regain the rightful independence of our Nation,

And seeking to promote the common good, with due observance of Prudence, Justice and Charity, so that the dignity and freedom of the individual may be assured, true social order attained, the unity of our country restored, and concord established with other nations, Do hereby adopt, enact, and give to ourselves this Constitution".

The Constitution was adopted by the people of Ireland in 1937, well worth studying!

