## A STUMBLING BLOCK TO FAITH - SCANDAL

A frequent theme in the Gospels and the writings of St. Paul is the unity among the faithful. In Chap. 15 of St. John's Gospel Jesus focused very strongly on it as he prayed for unity among his followers – that they may be one as He and the Father are one.

In the history of the church scandal has probably been the most prominent reason for people leaving it. It is understandable, scandal means stumbling block and scandal among people who are meant to be living good lives is an obstacle to the faith of others. Wherever you get people you will get their faults and failings - hypocrisy, selfishness, pettiness and scandal. Scandal was present from the beginning; one only had to read of what the Apostles did on Good Friday to be aware of scandal.

Christ's body, his church was beaten, battered and bruised on quite a few occasions during its history. Things were in an awful state in the 10<sup>th</sup> century when Roman nobles gained political power over the papacy. In the feuding that followed a number of the popes were murdered and this period of corruption reached it low point when Pope Stephen the 7<sup>th</sup> dug up the body of his predecessor, desecrated it and had it thrown into the Tiber. He was ultimately assassinated himself. If ever there was a stumbling block to the unity of Christ's faithful this was it.

Read on about the history of the Papacy into 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries and we find a pattern. The periods of degeneration were always followed by periods of renewal. The founding of new monasteries like Cluny and the leadership of saintly popes like Gregory VII put the bad days of the 10<sup>th</sup> century behind. This brought about the unity of Christ's church in a powerful way. There was another period of upheaval in the Renaissance as squabbling Italian nobles gained access to power in the Papacy. The

Borgia family manipulated situations where their own protégés became popes, cardinals and bishops with disastrous results. The upheaval of the reformation began in 1517 and the unity of western Christendom was sundered. However there was a powerful recovery in the reign of Pope Paul III and the work of the Council of Trent. It was an era of some of the church's most influential saints, Ignatius Loyola, Teresa of Avila and John of the Cross. Periods of upheaval and renewal are cyclical.

Being a follower of Christ means we will run into a stumbling block at least once. It is the will of Christ that we persevere and remain as one as He and the Father are one. We pray for the grace to commit ourselves to our faith as Jesus asked on Holy Thursday.

Fr. Padraig

## CHILDRENS CORNER

Caoimhe Milton is this week's winner. Congratulations Caoimhe! Your prize is waiting to be picked up by you from the Sacristy after Mass today.

## THIS WEEK'S QUIZ

From the Mass leaflet in the gospel reading can you say?

1. What time of the day was it



- 2. What did the apostles say to Jesus
- 3. What food did they have to feed the people
- 4. What miracle did Jesus work

Your entries by email – ellenteresacoyne@eircom.net Tuesday evening or Sacristy 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.

# PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

## Village

Office/Sacristy 459 3520

Fr Damian Farnon Adm St Cecilla's 459 2665

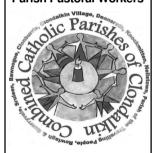
Fr Pádraig O'Sullivan CC St Columba's 464 0441 Clonburris

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  $-2^{nd}$  June 2013

No 22

#### CORPUS CHRISTI

As a child I recall that the feast of Corpus Christi was celebrated firstly by having the Thursday off from school, going to Mass and the procession at night time. My home parish of Donnycarney is a large parish and for many years had a procession around the parish. This tradition continued for many years but the growth of traffic on the Malahide Road and Collins Avenue curtailed the processions somewhat. There was also a question of respect for the Blessed Sacrament. The feast day was moved to the nearest Sunday some years ago so that more of the community could participate in the celebration. The Holy Father has asked us to join with him in a Holy Hour on Sunday. Fr. Padraig will lead us on Sunday afternoon from 3.30 to 4.30

#### Pro Life Vigil

The Archbishop emailed the following. "You will be aware that on Saturday, 8th June, various Pro-Life Groups will be holding a second Pro-Life Rally in Merrion Square in Dublin, from 15.00 to 16.00. While this rally is not a Church event, you may wish, however, to draw attention to it in the general announcements at Masses this weekend. As on the previous occasion, I will preside at a Prayer Service for Life in Saint Andrew's Church Westland Row from 13.30 to 14.30, for those who wish to attend a religious service. The Saturday evening Mass in Westland Row is at 18.30 for those who may wish to fulfil their Sunday obligation."

## STATE EXAMINATIONS

Wednesday marks the start of the state examinations. We pray for all those sitting exams over the next few weeks and their parents. I smile at the number of people lighting candles around this time. I heard a story years ago about a young lad who left early to say a prayer and light a candle at Our Lady's shrine. This took his Mother by surprise as he had expressed his atheism on numerous occasions to which he replied 'I don't believe in God but I believe in Mary'. Our prayer is for calmness, serenity and a lack of fear for all our younger parishioners and that there is life after the Leaving Certificate.

Fr. Damian

## **BAPTISMS**

Congratulations and welcome to:

Alannah Madden, Monksfields Lawns Sean Eugene Devlin, Quarryfield Court Sophie Marie Jardine O'Connor,

Woodford Avenue Linda Sondekova, Mount Talbot Patchareeya Lorraine Fagan, St. Patrick's Rd

recently Baptised.

#### CHURCH DUTY

**Altar Linen:** Mary Jenkins **Flowers:** Moira Connolly to 6<sup>th</sup> June

(Weddings Fri. and Sat)

## FRANK DUFF

The Annual Commemoration Ceremony for the Servant of God Frank Duff, founder of the Legion of Mary, will be held at Glasnevin Cemetery on next Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June at 3pm.

## **NOTICES**

## Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

Bank Holiday, **Mass at 10am only**Miraculous Medal Novena after 10am
Mass and Rosary.

## Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June

Lectio Divina in the Pastoral Centre after 10am Mass and Rosary

## Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June

Meeting in preparation for Baptism in the Pastoral Centre at 8pm
Prayer Group meets in the Pastoral Centre

at 8pm

## Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June

**First Friday,** an additional evening Mass will be celebrated at 7.30pm. All Masses are offered for those whose names are on the Altar List of the Dead.

## **DEATHS**

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

Anthony Doherty, Riversdale Rd Mary O'Connor, Knockmitten

recently deceased. May they rest in peace.

## ADORATION

This Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> June Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be

**In the CHURCH:** from after 10am Mass to 11.45am and from 7pm to 9pm and all are welcome

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

10.0am Agnes Nevin, 1<sup>st</sup> An

Tuesday 4th June

10.00am Eamonn O'Brien

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June

10.00am John and Mary O'Neill and Carmel O'Neill

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June

10.00am Barra Ó Cinneide

Sunday 9th June

7.30pm (Vigil) Jim Boggans

Nora, Tom, Noel, Veronica

and Tommy Worth

Philip, Tom and Margaret

O'Brien Jack Fox

9.00am John Roebuck

10.30am Maura Watchorn, MM

Matthew Hanley Jack Ward

12 noon Patrick O'Brien, 1<sup>st</sup> An

Martina Mooney Anne Weadick

Jane and Willie Doherty

## **CLONBURRIS Mass Intentions**

## Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June

6.30pm Patrick and Kathleen Blackburn An,
Deceased members of the Blackburn Family,

## Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

11.00am Bernie Keogh An. Michael Mc Kenna An.

## Baptism

Congratulations to Aoife Rose Troy who was Baptised on 19<sup>th</sup> May after Mass and Lucas Frederick Mahon who was Baptised after 6.30 Mass on 25<sup>th</sup> May

## Competition Winner

Congratulations to Bronagh and Evelyn Roebuck this week's winners. Your prize can be collected after Mass today.

#### MONDAY CLUB

Our minds were very focused as we listened to Julie reading from "The Rising of one's self". This book of verse complete with illustrations was written by Julie and gave an insight into her life which has been dominated by her time as a palliative nurse in London and then in her 30 years in Our lady's Hospice, Harold's Cross.

All our thoughts were centred on our loved ones who have died. She said she was privileged to have been able to ease people's suffering and pain and to be with them and their families as they departed this life, which is the ethos of the Hospice. I'm sure there are hundreds of families grateful for the tender care given.

"Rising of one's self" will be on sale in the Parish Shop at €10 with €5 going to the Hospice.

Our trip to Glasnevin will be on the  $10^{th}$  June so let's pray for a fine day!

## THOUGHT FOR YEAR OF FAITH

Let us aspire to a life of harmony!

Joan

## "THANK YOU"

The Presentation Association thank the people of Clondalkin for their generous contribution of €2,873 to their recent church door collection. The money collected has been sent to the Clondalkin Sisters who work in the Philippines and Slovakia.

Mass has been offered for all who contributed.

## "SACRED HEART" NOVENA

The Novena continues until Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June, Feast of the Sacred Heart. Novena prayer available from the table at back of Church

# SPIRITUAL REVIVAL MINISTRY (SRM), IRELAND

Invite You for the EVENING LED BY FR.MICHAEL ROSS SDB & JOSEPH STANLEY (INDIA)

On Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> June, from 5pm – 9pm. At Our Lady of the Holy Rosary of Fatima Church, Rialto, Dublin-8.

(Mass at 6.30pm).

With Rosary, Praise and worship, Eucharistic Adoration, Gospel Sharing, Family tree healing Mass & Laying Hands on the Sick. For more details, contact 0879743500, 0877724033.

## CLONDALKIN ACTIVE RETIREMENT

With the recent improvement in the weather, minds focused on the annual face lift to our club flowerbed in Corkagh Park. At first glance our volunteers' initial task was to evict twelve months of weeds. This was not an easy job. There were many muttered remarks about rheumatism, slipped discs and creepy crawlies. But as the colour and flowers were applied to the beds, the atmosphere improved. The crew discussed the possibility of entering the bed into next year's Chelsea Flower Show, with dreams of a gold medal. Dream on.

**Thomas**