

ASH WEDNESDAY – WEDNESDAY 5TH MARCH

“Even the darkest moments of the liturgy are filled with joy. And Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lent fast, is a day of happiness, a Christian feast. It cannot be otherwise, as it forms part of the great Easter cycle” (Thomas Merton)

Ash Wednesday is mentioned in the earliest copies of the Gregorian Sacramentary, and probably dates from at least the 8th Century. One of the earliest descriptions of Ash Wednesday is found in the writings of the Anglo-Saxon abbot Aelfric (955-1020). In his Lives of the Saints, he writes, "We read in the books both in the Old Law and in the New that the men who repented of their sins bestrewed themselves with ashes and clothed their bodies with sackcloth. Now let us do this little at the beginning of our Lent that we strew ashes upon our heads to signify that we ought to repent of our sins during the Lenten fast."

In times past Christians who had committed grave faults performed public penance. On Ash Wednesday, the Bishop blessed the hair shirts which they were to wear during the forty days of penance, and sprinkled over them ashes made from the palms from the previous year. Then, while the faithful recited the Seven Penitential Psalms, the penitents were turned out of the church because of their sins -- just as Adam, the first man, was turned out of Paradise because of his disobedience. The penitents did not enter the church again until Holy Thursday after having won reconciliation by the toil of forty days penance and sacramental absolution.

Thankfully that tradition died off – not enough hair shirts and lots of empty churches!! While the ashes symbolise penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts.

Ashes are made from the palm branches that were blessed on Holy

Thursday last year christened with Holy water and scented by exposure to incense.

Masses here are at 7.30am, 10am and 7.30pm. Ashes will be blessed at all Masses and will be available to be taken to the sick and those unable to come to Mass. **It is a day of fast and abstinence**

“MEAL TIME INTERVENTION FOR OLDER ADULTS”

Joanna McHugh, a postdoctoral researcher in Trinity College seeks 100 older adults who are living alone and potentially socially isolated to take part in a study looking at how sharing meals can be good for our mental and physical health.

Anyone interested please phone Dr. Joanna McHugh at 8968414

CHILDREN’S CORNER

Eimear Monaghan is the winner this week - her suggestion for the picture “We are the Light of the World” Congratulation Eimear! Your prize is waiting to be picked up by you from the Sacristy after Mass today. Fr. Damian has chosen special prizes for winners of the Children’s quiz and I know they will meet with approval!

THIS WEEK’S QUIZ

Next Wednesday we begin Lent.



On Wednesday we receive ashes in the shape of the cross on our foreheads. What are these ashes made from? (Answer in this Newsletter on Ash Wednesday).

Your entries by Tuesday evening to ellenteresacoyne@eircom.net 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.

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

Deacon 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

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LIVING LENT 2014

Sometime ago I called Lent the ‘Season of Sorrows’ as it involves giving up a favourite food or drink or taking up some task. Maybe that says more about me but I was told that after last year I should adopt a more positive attitude towards the Holy Season. In light of that I am going to focus less on what I intend to give but why? In his Lenten Message the Holy Father writes.

“Dear Brothers and Sisters, As Lent draws near, I would like to offer some helpful thoughts on our path of conversion as individuals and as a community. These insights are inspired by the words of Saint Paul: "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich" (2 Cor 8:9). The Apostle was writing to the Christians of Corinth to encourage them to be generous in helping the faithful in Jerusalem who were in need. What do these words of Saint Paul mean for us Christians today? What does this invitation to poverty, a life of evangelical poverty, mean for us today?”

Our efforts are also directed to ending violations of human dignity, discrimination and abuse in the world, for these are so often the cause of destitution. When power, luxury and money become idols, they take priority over the need for a fair distribution of wealth. Our consciences thus need to be converted to justice, equality, simplicity and sharing.”

Please have a look at the diocesan website to see some resources for Lent that can be used on computer, tablet or mobile phone. The link is:
www.evangelisation.ie/2014/02/05/living-lent-2014-ezine-resources

Happy Lent,
Father Damian

BAPTISMS



Congratulations and welcome to:

Ava Bowes, St. Killian's Park
Reuben William Dunne, Mill Park
Darragh James O'Rourke, Tower Rd
Madison Emma Keenan, Monastery Gate Green
Senan Joseph Nurney Nugent, Bridge Water, Conyneham Rd, Island bridge
Hannah Louise St. John, Brook View Court, Tallaght

recently Baptised.

FR. PADRAIG'S ITEM

Due to lack of space in this week's newsletter Fr. Padraig's item has had to be deferred. I assure you it will be included next week!

NOVENA OF GRACE

The Novena of Grace starts on Tuesday next. The Novena Prayers, recited after all Masses, are available from the Church entrances.

NOTICES

Monday 3rd March

Miraculous Medal Novena after 10am Mass and Rosary.

Tuesday 4th March

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

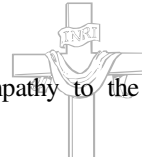
Wednesday 5th March

Meeting for parents with babies for Baptism in the Pastoral Centre at 8pm
Prayer Group meets in the Pastoral Centre at 8pm and all are welcome

Friday 6th March - First Friday,

All Masses are offered for all whose names are on the Altar List of the Dead
Please note: in addition to the morning Masses there will be an evening Mass at 7.30pm during Lent

DEATHS



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

Martina Cunningham, Oakwood Grove
Adam McCann, Monksfield Heights

recently deceased. May they rest in peace.

CAKE SALE

The Cake Sale outside the church today is in aid of Knockmitten Parish. Please support the people in attendance!

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: Village Parish Centre

Date: Tuesday 4th March

ANNIVERSARIES

Monday 3rd March

10.00am James O'Brien, 1st An

Tuesday 4th March

7.30am Daniel Cahillane

10.00am Pat O'Rourke

Thursday 6th March

10.00am Eileen Holohan, 48th An

Sunday 9th March

7.30pm (Vigil) Paul Loughran

Matthew Farrell

Jack Corrigan

9.00am Shirley Temple Rec/dec

10.30am Anne and Joan Connolly

Bridie Naughton

John and Eleanor Coogan

12 Nnoon Charles Gray, 29th An

Chrissie and Phil O'Brien

Sarah and John Joe Brady

5.30pm Paddy and Mary O'Donnell

CLONBURRIS

Mass Intentions

Saturday 1st March

6.30pm Anita Brannigan 3rd An.

Harriet Coe M.M.

Sunday 2nd March

11.00am Rose and Peter Connolly An.

Maphie Molloy An.

Gerard Mc Kenna An.

Harriet Coe M.M.

Elizabeth and James Jones An

Competition Winner

Congratulations to Grainne Morgan competition winner, your prize can be collected after Mass.

ADORATION

This **Thursday 6th March** 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.

READ THE WORD; READ THE WORLD (& EAT PANCAKES!)

Chitsanzo Kamowatimwa works for Trocaire in Malawi and is visiting Ireland as part of this year's Lenten campaign. As we enter into the Lenten season, Chitsanzo will be talking about how the communities that he works with in Malawi are dealing with water scarcity at the same time as communities here are recovering from the worst flooding to Ireland in decades.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

"Give me this water so that I may not be thirsty" (John 4:15)

TUESDAY MARCH 4TH @8PM

Assumption Church, Ballyfermot

Contact Jane for more information: 086-3721841 or jane.mellett@dublindiocese.ie

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Please come along to an Ecumenical Service to mark World Day of Prayer to be part of this circle of prayer throughout the world. The Service this year was prepared by the women of Egypt- one of the many parts of the world in need of prayer at this time:

Venue: Church of the Immaculate Conception, Clondalkin (Here)

Date/Time: Friday 7th March @ 8pm and all, men and women will be most welcome

CHURCH DUTY

Cleaning: Rita Arnold

Altar Linen: Vera Pidgeon

Flowers: No flowers for Lent! Please remove flowers after weddings etc from main Altar
Flowers at Statues are allowed but please remove when withered

(Church in use Monday to Thursday 11.30am and 1.30pm for preparation of sacraments

Weddings Friday and Saturday)

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Please note: new rosters now available from the Parish Shop

MONDAY CLUB

The sun was shining, the snowdrops and daffodils were blooming and the birds were singing merrily as Minnie opened her musical presentation with "Oh what a beautiful morning" from Oklahoma. From there we were treated to excerpts from "South Pacific", "Carousel" and "Paint your Wagon" all beautifully sung by that renowned baritone/base Bryn Terfel. She finished with "Edelweiss" as a tribute to Maria Von Trapp who died last weekend. Minnie you brought us back to our youth when love and romance held sway in our hearts! Thank you for the joy you gave us. Memories can be so sweet as we listen to beautiful music sung beautifully. See you next week!

Joan