REPORT ON VISIT TO FR. BALA

Kay Lee and friend went to visit Fr. Bala and be present at the dedication of the Church of Divine Mercy. This was a huge occasion for the people of the area and Kay and friend were treated like celebrities. Kay has some photos of the church and of themselves with the parishioners, while other photos on display depicts the primitive living conditions in some of the villages visited by them. There are eleven areas in the parish and this little church is by no means a big lavish building. It is small and basic but it is the place of worship for the people who have worked so hard for this achievement. Money is scarce, education is basically for the better off as well as is health care. Kay has a photo of a girl who had been badly burned and left with awful scarring, but through sponsorship for the treatments the little girl's face is greatly improved. I am sure there are many more cases, but this is one example of the difficulties of life in this place. Kay told us of the social problems of the villages and of the great work Fr. Bala does to help his parishioners. Children who get to state schools learn through their dialect which limits their opportunities for employment elsewhere or further education or job opportunities in the bigger towns/ cities, but if they get to private school to learn through English, particularly girls they stand a better chance. After hearing of the difficulties of life there our own seem so little in comparison.

Thank you Kay for taking time to come to share with us the memories of your journey there. It felt like were walking in your shadow you described so well. May our prayers and best wishes be with you always and to Fr. Bala

Kathleen R.

(Held over from last week due to lack of space)

THANK YOU

CASA – Caring and Sharing Association thank most sincerely the parishioners of Clondalkin Parish Church for their very generous contributions to our Church gate collection held on the weekend February 27th/28th. The collection which amounted to €1109.00 will greatly help in the funding of our Lourdes Pilgrimage for our members, adults and children with physical, intellectual and sensory disabilities along with many sick and terminally ill people.

Thank you to all those who helped make the collection a great success

CLONDALKIN ACTIVE RETIREMENT

We had Sr. Mary Lyons with us last week giving a talk on the "second half of life", what a morning it was, you could hear a pin drop, and the feedback was phenomenal. Thank you so much Mary, we will see you again in the near future for round two.

We had Marie Currivan with us this week doing a prayer service for all those present and for all the loved ones we lost in the past year. Everyone seemed pleased to have some prayer especially during this time of lent. A lovely morning, thank you Marie.

The Bright Side of Life and The Silver Surfers, Silver Tones Choir had a practice together and they were absolutely wonderful. Thank you to all our ladies who baked cakes and buns at such short notice.

Next week I will let you all know how the St Patrick's Day Parade went.

Regards Clare

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

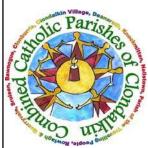
Fr Pádraig O'Sullivan, Co-P.P. St Columba's 464 0441

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)

> Christina Malone 0857162152

Frank Brown 086 1018173

PARISH NEWS

Clondalkin Village, Clonburris & Knockmitten

clondalkinchurch@eircom.net

www.clondalkinparish.com

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No 12

PLAYING OUR PART

We tend to be uncomfortable with audience participation, especially when it is sprung on us at the last minute. Many people get embarrassed or clam up when a microphone is thrust in their face. TV audience members can even look uncomfortable when expected to sing or clap along to a performance. I was once cajoled up on stage with a friend during a comedy show, and I still cringe at the memory.

More than most, today's liturgy calls for our participation. First, we are caught up in the drama of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. We are comfortable enough with this – holding up our palm branches and imagining ourselves celebrating and supporting Jesus as he arrives into town riding on a colt.

But our participation takes on a darker tone during the reading of the Passion, and we soon find ourselves joining in with those who question and accuse Jesus. Before long we are shouting 'Crucify him! Crucify him!' and taunting Jesus on the cross to 'save himself if he is the Christ of God'. It is enough to make even the most complacent among us uncomfortable.

Palm Sunday and Good Friday are the only two occasions when the congregation is invited to take part in the reading of the Gospel. What strikes you as you play your part today?

Tríona Doherty
Athlone, Co Roscommon
Email trionad@gmail.com
Intercom - Newsletter Resources

WEDDINGS

Congratulations and best wishes to:

Rosaleen Doherty and Raymond Healy

who received the Sacrament of Marriage

HOLY WEEK PROGRAMME

Reconciliation Services here in the Village Church tomorrow, Monday, at 7.30pm and Tuesday in Bawnogue at 7.30pm

Full Programme of Services for Holy Week is available at the Church entrances, Parish Shop and Sacristy.

Reminder: Dawn Mass at 7.30am in Corkagh Park on Easter Sunday.

Easter Dues are accepted in the Parish Office and Sacristy

We would appreciate small holy water bottles to supplement the ones we have to ensure we will have enough for everyone.

LOURDES 2016 7th to 12th MAY

There are now only 3 places left

- Hotel: 4* Eliseo
- Fare: €725 per person sharing and single room supplement is €150.

Booking forms are available in the Parish Office and Sacristy

Spiritual Director:Fr Shán O'Cuív Padraig Doyle, Group Organiser.

NOTICES

Monday 21st March

Miraculous Medal Novena after 10am Mass and Rosary.

Tuesday 22nd March

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.

DEATHS

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

Mary McGee, formerly St. John's Rd Josephine Farrell, Bawnogue Oliver Grace, Laurel Park

recently deceased. May they rest in peace.

SOME TIME OF ADORATION

Adoration at the Altar of Repose after Solemn Mass of the Last Supper on Holy Thursday 24th March.

CCPC INTERCESSORY PRAYER FOR 9 CLONDALKIN PARISHES

Tuesday 22nd March Intercessory Prayer for all our Parishes in the Parish Pastoral Centre 7.30 to 8.30pm.

MONDAY CLUB

Monday we had a lovely lively morning of music and song with Maire, Charlotte, Annette and Claire from Tempeall na Tithe.

Next week we will have Minnie with her favorite selection of music.

Due to lack of space it wasn't possible to include this weeks full article

ANNIVERSARIES

Monday 21st March

10.00am Dinah and Pat O'Reilly

Tuesday 22nd March

7.30am Nuala O'Connor, 5th An 10.00am David Smith

Wednesday 23rd March

10.00am John, Ellen and Winnie Maughan

Easter Sunday

All Masses are offered for the intentions of parishioners

CLONBURRIS Mass Intentions

Saturday 19th March

6.30pm Brian Cruise B.Rem.

Florence AJA R,D. Philip O'Connor R.D.

Sunday 20th March

11.00am Eileen O'Connor A.

David 0'Doherty B.Rem. Paddy and Catherine McElligott An.

CHURCH DUTY

Cleaning: Betty Byrne and Rebecca Duggan Altar Linen: Kay Lee

Decoration of Church; Holy Thursday after 10am Morning Prayer and Holy Saturday again after Morning Prayer. Help greatly appreciated!

PRAYER VIGIL

32 simultaneous prayer vigils will be held in Ireland from 12 noon to 1pm, on Good Friday in every county's main town.

Each vigil will have a Holy Face of Jesus banner, the Holy Face prayers will be prayed and blessed medals and Booklets will be distributed. This is an opportunity to witness for Christ in this Year of Mercy!

Dublin Vigil at the G.P.O. on Good Friday 25th March from 12 noon -1pm.

CLONDALKIN HISTORY SOCIETY -LECTURE

On Monday 21st March Aidan Cowan will give an illustrated talk on one of Clondalkin's best known institutions "Cowan's Shops". Venue is Áras Chrónáin at 8pm Admission €5 (non-members) Please note the change of date from that previously given.

Beidh fáilte roimh cách Padraig A. Ó Murchú

ADORATION

"Could you not watch one hour with me?" – Matt.26.v.40

The Prayer Group is having a quiet time in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament this Wednesday 23rd March (Spy Wednesday) at 8.15pm to 9.15pm in the Pastoral Centre. All are welcome.

CAME (Clondalkin Adult Morning Education)

Enrolments for our next term will take place Tues 22nd, Wed 23rd & Thurs 24th March from 10am to 12noon, or phone 4640450 This 10-week term will commence Monday 4th April. In addition to our usual classes we have added 'Spanish for Beginners'.

Mary Seery Committee

"THE MERCY LENTEN" GARDEN

The girls from Scoil Ide, who are preparing for the Sacraments, planted their flowers on Friday last We appreciate their work.

The Mercy Garden will now become the Easter Garden and again we invite you to remove your dead flowers and plant new ones. We hope to keep the garden going until the Year of Mercy concludes.

"ADVOCATE" COLLECTION

The Sunshine Fund, a special works conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, will be collecting outside the Church today for upwards of 1,300 young guests that will, please God, visit Sunshine House this coming year. All holidays are directly dependent upon the generosity of the people of Dublin who for the last 80 years have been most generous and supportive.

Mary Galligan