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With the help of funding from Ireland Rathnam built a school in 2008 which now cater for 650 pupils. Essential works on this school have had to be delayed due to lack of funding.

We thank God for the opportunity of observing the Faith of the villages in India in spite of their poverty and with His help we will persevere in our efforts to assist them.

Kay Lee

EARLY START TO THE PRAYER MEETING

This Wednesday 25th March the Missionary Rosary at 7.30pm prior to Prayer Meeting at 8pm in the Pastoral Centre. All welcome.

COVERING OF THE STATUES WITH PURPLE

The veiling of statues and images of Christ during Passiontide, i.e. the two weeks before Easter is an ancient Catholic practice. The new Catholic Encyclopaedia says that it is based on part of the Gospel reading in the Latin Mass: John 11v. 54: 'Jesus therefore no longer walked about openly among the Jews' because they planned to put him to death, after he had raised Lazarus from the dead. The symbols of Jesus are veiled because he hid himself at this time; also, one writer says, to remind us that his divinity was hidden during his suffering and death

"The presentiment of that awful hour of our Saviour's passion leads the afflicted mother [the Church] to veil the image of her Jesus: the cross is hidden from the eyes of the faithful. The statues of the saints, too, are covered; for it is but just that, if the glory of the Master be eclipsed, the servant should not appear". (Abbot Gueranger 1805 - 1875)

The statues and crosses are covered from today and remain covered until Holy Saturday when Gloria is recited.

"BINGO" IN AID OF St. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

"Eyes down" at 8pm in St. Joseph's School Hall on Thursday next 26th March for a Bingo Session for school funds! "Lots of GREAT PRIZES" are assured!

Tickets at €10 (adults only) are available from the school and price includes Bingo, Food and Wine, Live Music and Entertainment.

All funds raised will go towards St. Joseph's School Refurbishment of Learning Support Area.

CLONDALKIN ACTIVE RETIREMENT

"Thank you" Councillor Francis Timmons, for organising a great St Patrick's Day Parade at Corkagh Park! I never saw so many happy little faces and "thank you" to our crowd for making the effort. "Thank you" Gerry, Joe and Vincent for the great music, Damien from the Laurels for the lovely food and Margaret Wignall! What a night it was at Áras Chrónáin, singing was great and "thanks" to our Choir Master Peter Bramble.

A wonderful morning was had by all on Monday last at St Fimian's Hall, Newcastle, organised by Margaret Maher and the ladies club for the Marie Keating Foundation. We were entertained by the wonderful RAMS. Scones and apple tart baked by Matt Dowling which was to die for!

I still have some tickets left for our Fundraiser on April 1st at The Laurels, time 4 to 8, music by Finbarr Coady, dinner included, all for €10. Anyone who would like a ticket, please contact me on 086 3274323.

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 Cecilia'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

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PARISH NEWS

Clondalkin Village,
Clonburris & Knockmitten



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No 12

NAMASTHE

(means "I BOW TO THE DIVINE IN YOU")

Namasthe is an Indian greeting which I extend to all of you. I had the great privilege last January of visiting India with a relative, Ann Carroll. Our main reason for going to India was to visit Fr. Bala's mission and to give our support. On January 17th we arrived in Chennai (Madras) where we were welcomed by Fr. Bala and his relatives and received the first of many garlands of flowers. We toured Chennai and visited St. Thomas' Basilica where St. Thomas the Evangelist is buried. Next day we took the 7 hour journey to Fr. Bala's mission. Five years ago Fr. Bala was assigned a new Parish comprising 11 remote villages. On our visit to each of the villages we were met with a traditional Indian welcome. Four of the villages have a small Church in which we attended Holy Mass. The last of these Churches, called St. Patrick's was consecrated in 2014 and was partly funded with Irish donations. As the Blessed Sacrament is not permanently reserved in these churches they are also used for the Community activities. In the villages we observed desperate poverty and realised how much the people depend on Fr. Bala.

The village children attend State schools which are generally staffed by semi qualified teachers who teach through the medium of the local dialect. This does not equip children for paid employment. It is therefore understandable why many parents seek help to have their children educated in schools, which teach through the medium of English. Fr. Bala expressed this great need when he first visited Clondalkin in 2008. The Prayer Group and Lectio Divina responded by having a monthly collection to sponsor children to attend these schools. The need for this sponsorship is ongoing and donations from anyone wishing to assist would be much appreciated. One of the highlights of our journey was visiting Rathnam English Medium School where we witnessed the enthusiasm of the teachers and pupils. In 2003 Rathnam, Fr. Bala's brother opened a school in rented accommodation for 96 pupils.

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ADORATION

This Thursday, 26th March Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be in the:

Sisters' Oratory: from after 10am Mass to 11.45am

Sisters' Oratory: from after 7.30pm Mass to 9pm. All are welcome

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: Parish Pastoral Centre

Date: Tuesday and all are welcome.

ST. JOSEPH'S YOUNG PRIESTS' SOCIETY

The monthly meeting of St. Joseph's Young Priests' Society will be held on Wednesday 25th March in the Pastoral Centre upstairs.

The Novena to St Joseph continues to March 28th and Novena Prayer is available at the Church exits.

CHURCH DUTY

Cleaning: Kitty Egan, Angela McCreavy, Kathleen Fitzpatrick, Veronica Bayly and May Stynes

Altar Linen: Vera Rogers

NOTICES

Monday 23rd March

Miraculous Medal Novena after 10am Mass and Rosary.

Tuesday 24th 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:

Florence O'Connor, Cherrywood Avenue
Joe Barrett, Booth Rd
Brendan Kelly, St. Patrick's Park
Susan McDonald: sister of Helen Devine.

recently deceased. May she rest in peace.

"LOCALISE" CAKE SALE

The young people of "LOCALISE" are holding a "CAKE SALE" after all Masses today to help fund their various community activities and ask for your usual generosity.

ANNIVERSARIES

Monday 23rd March

10.00am John and Ellen Maughan
and Winnie Maughan
7.30pm Betty Millea

Wednesday 25th March

10.00am David Smith

Friday 27th March

10.00am Pat and Dinah O'Reilly

Saturday 28th March

10.00am Chris Stapleton

Sunday 29th March

7.30pm (Vigil) William Doyle
Peter Fitzgerald and deceased
member of Fitzgerald Family
10.30am Mary Minogue, 4th An
Patrick, John and James
Markin
Frank Connolly
Margaret Tyson
Kathleen Moore
12 Noon Liam Callaghan, B/Rem
5.30pm Frank and Patricia Farrell

CLONBURRIS

Mass Intentions

Saturday 21st March

6.30pm John and Anastasia Manifold
An

Brendan Kelly R.D.
Christopher Hatton An.

Sunday 22nd March

11am Eileen O'Connor An.
David O'Doherty B..Rem.

LEGION OF MARY ACIES 2015

The annual Consecration of Legionaries to Our Lady will take place on Sunday 29th March 2015 at 3.00 p.m. in the Church of St. Nicholas of Myra, Francis St.

All Auxiliary Members are invited to attend

CHILDREN'S ART FOR EASTER

Colouring pages are available from the shop.

We are only two weeks away from Easter so colour your pictures and return them as soon as possible to have them mounted for Easter. Fr. Damian has a gift for all entrants.

"MEITHEAL" IN ACTION

Seeing a "Meitheal" in action (community co-operation) is an unforgettable experience, which was in evidence for the appropriate celebration of the Feast of St. Patrick: greenery from Fr. Damian's garden, daffodils from Fr. Padraig's garden, SHAMROCK from Fr. Seamus' garden, bowl of shamrock from Kitty Egan, easel from Ellen Ryan and the people who joined with the Ministers of the Environment including people from the Monday Club who helped with the preparation of the shamrock and decoration of the church. Is it worth a repeat performance??

Teresa

LOURDES 2015

Date: 7th - 12th 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

"FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY"

Fr Michael Ruddy SS.CC (Srulleen) will perform as Fr Damien of Molokai, in a play of the same name in the Sacred Heart Church, St John's Drive, Clondalkin on Friday 27th March at 8pm. A truly inspiring story of one man's heroic struggles with faith, disease, authority and the power of Gospel love! **FAITH** With many Lenten & Easter themes, a good way to prepare for Easter and Holy Week! Proceeds go towards parish funds & the Sacred Heart Leprosy Mission in India. Tickets at the door €10 and €5!

MONDAY CLUB- 16TH MARCH

We had a great lively morning of music, song, dance and recitation to get us in the mood for our great Feast Day of St. Patrick – music provided by local group "Timpeall an Tighe".

In between the jigs and reels Kathleen Finan learned how to dance the Mazurlea "Shoe the Donkey" a favourite of Minnie's. Kathleen also recited the beautiful poem "See His Blood upon the Rose", followed by Noel playing the tin whistle and harmonica. Joan had us engrossed in her story about the "Golden Telephone". "Thanks" to every one for coming and helping and to all who made it such an enjoyable morning.

Next week we hope Fr. Seamus will be with us to tell us of his trip to Ethiopia

Kathleen R.