

## FREEDOM AND OBEDIENCE

One of the most important things Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount is that he did not come to change the law but to fulfil it. He gave it a new perspective and summed it all up in saying that we do God's will by loving him and loving him and loving our neighbour.

Jesus was the God man, he was Lord and yet he was a servant. He served all those who came to him for healing. In being a servant Jesus was obedient – first of all to God his father. He was also obedient to human beings which is extraordinary. He obeyed his parents, he was obedient to the civil authorities, and he paid his taxes. Jesus' obedience was not the mindless obedience we see in dictatorships where it is given out of fear. Rather Jesus' obedience was given in the context of love and happiness.

It is the same with Christians in their day to day lives – they see obedience to God as a path to happiness because God is the source of happiness.

In today's world freedom and obedience are seen as opposites. Yet, extraordinary, they do go together. It depends on the freedom I want. Do I want the freedom to do what I like or do I want the freedom to do what is right? An illustration – learning to play the piano is a tedious boring business in the beginning. But after a while with a bit of perseverance what originally seemed like a burden comes into a clearer light – learning to do the right thing is actually liberating.

I can play anything I like, even the most difficult pieces. I can make new music on my own.

Anyone can bang away on a piano but what they produce is just noise, not music. Learning to play the piano means learning within a set of rules but it is the rules that give me the freedom to communicate good music, to test new ideas, to make new music and even be another composer like Mozart.

So we pray that we will say "Yes" to God and do his will. For it is in obedience

that we are freed, it is in humility we are exalted and it is in giving that we receive.

Fr. Padraig

## CLONDALKIN ACTIVE RETIREMENT

Last Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> March, the one and only Tom O Flaherty handed this great job over to me, a wonderful man who will be a hard act to follow, so you will all have to be patient with me.

We had our meeting as usual in Towers Club from 10 to 12, music was supplied by the one and only Sean Coughlin and a bit of craic was had by all.

We are having a cake auction on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April and all proceeds will go to Alzheimers Ireland, so get baking everybody. The lovely Barbara O Flaherty and I will be available to help you with any questions you might have.

If you have any friends who would like to join our group on Tuesday mornings, they would be made very welcome.

Clare Morgan

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

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

### THIS WEEK'S QUIZ



Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March we celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation. What does ANNUNCIATION mean?

Your entries by Tuesday evening email –

ellenteresacoyn@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

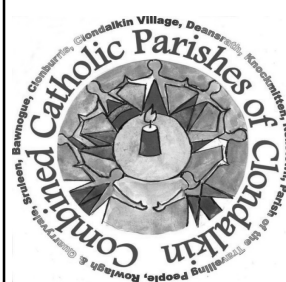
Deacon Seamus McEntee  
St Mary's  
459 2311

### 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

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457 3546

# PARISH NEWS

Clondalkin Village,  
Clonburris & Knockmitten



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No 12

## HE WHO SINGS WELL PRAYS TWICE

On the evening of St. Patrick's Day, I attended a concert by the tenor, Friar Alessandro, from Assisi. The concert was held in the Franciscan church on Merchant's Quay. I had seen Friar Alessandro singing and being interviewed on EWTN last year and I had spoken to people who saw him on the Saturday Night Show on RTE recently. They were very impressed by his singing talent and the joy that he exuded.

Friar Alessandro, 34, wears the Franciscan habit in concert. Not a tall man by any means, his voice, smile and gentle demeanour radiate the Joy of the Good News. While, it is the essence of every Christian's vocation to go out and preach the Good News, it is particularly Franciscan to do it through music and song. The concert included *The Canticle of Brother Sun* which St Francis of Assisi composed as a hymn of praise to God shortly before his death. Each song was greeted with enthusiastic applause culminating in a standing ovation at the end. Friar Alessandro redirected the applause towards heaven and to God through a humble gesture. He was sharing his God given gift with others, for the glory and praise of God.

Prayer, as Saint John of Damascus said, "Is the raising of one's mind and heart to God." St Augustine said, "He who sings well prays twice". This was certainly the feeling I had when I listened to Friar Alessandro. Through his song, he praises, lifts and inspires our minds and hearts to God. Through Friar Alessandro, the Church continues and develops the tradition: "Address . . . one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart." (Eph 5:19).

Let us take the time to raise our hearts and minds to God, seeking communion with Him through our friendship and conversation. Even in our busy lives, let us try to take the time to pray whenever and wherever we are, turning our kitchens, our homes, our cars, our places of work and play, our schools, even the music we hear on the radio, into a meditative space conducive to prayer.

Deacon Séamus

## WEDDINGS



Congratulations and best wishes to:

Geraldine Keogh and Paul Enright  
Samantha McGregor and Colm O'Leary

recently married.

## LENTEN TALKS

"The Catholic Mystics: prayer and spirituality" given by Annetta Maguire, author of the book "Praying with Christians Mystics"

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March: 8pm to 9.30pm  
Venue: upstairs in the Pastoral Centre

The talks are facilitated by the Parish Faith Formation Group and all are welcome

## LENTEN HOUR OF PRAYER – TUESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

There will be an hour of prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 8pm (after Mass)

There will be prayers for healing and individual blessings and will finish with Benediction at 9pm

You are invited to come to this hour of prayer where we will gather to pray with you and for you as we ask the healing hand of the Lord to touch and strengthen us

Fr. Padraig

## NOTICES

### Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March

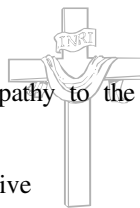
Miraculous Medal Novena after 10am Mass and Rosary.

### Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March

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

**REMINDER:** In addition to the morning Masses there will be Mass at 7.30pm during the weekdays for Lent

## DEATHS



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

Connie Martin, Riversdale Drive

recently deceased. May he rest in peace.

## ADORATION

This **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> 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.

## CHURCH DUTY

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

**Altar Linen:** Deirdre Alexander (Church in use Thurs 1.15pm and Saturday wedding)

## ANNIVERSARIES

### Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March

10.00am David Smith

### Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March

10.00am Dinah and Pat O'Reilly

### Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March

10.00am Chris Stapleton

### Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March

7.30pm (Vigil) William Doyle, 20<sup>th</sup> An Dalton McElroy  
10.30am Mary Minogue  
Rachel Horan  
12 Noon Angela Annett  
Tony Sherry, 1<sup>st</sup> An  
5.30pm Frank and Patricia Farrell  
William (Liam) Callaghan,  
B/day Rem

## CLONBURRIS

### Mass Intentions

### Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

6.30pm Paddy Coke An.  
Christopher Hatton An.

### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

11.00am David O'Doherty B.Rem.  
Dan Aherne An

### Confirmations

Confirmations on Wednesday at 11am by Fr. K. McDermott

## 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:** Church of Immaculate Heart of Mary, Rowlagh in Community Room

**Date:** Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March

## TABLE QUIZ

Table Quiz in aid of Clondalkin Animal Aid will take place on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 8.30pm in the Steering Wheel. Table of four €20 (€ 5per person). There will be the usual fantastic raffle. All proceeds will to help straying and unwanted dogs/puppies.  
Mary McCoy

## VARIETY CONCERT

Pupils of the Sacred Heart School, Sruleen and the Garda Band presents a "VARIETY CONCERT" on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April from 8pm to 10pm in the Green Isle Hotel in aid of School Equipment – Parish Outreach – Church Maintenance and for Missions in Mozambique and India.

Family tickets includes two adults and two children under 15 - €20 – adults €10 – tickets on sale after all Masses this weekend

## LOURDES 2014

**Date:** 7<sup>th</sup> May – 5nights

**Hotel:** Jeanne D'Arc

**Fare:** €735 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

## MONDAY CLUB

Monday Club resumes tomorrow after 10am Mass in the Pastoral Centre and all are invited to drop in for chat, cuppa and general get together

## MARRIAGE EDUCATION RECRUITMENT

Accord Dublin now needs more people to join our team of Marriage Preparation Facilitators

Could you invite one person you know to attend our Information Session on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April in 39 Harcourt St. Dublin at 8pm?

For further information phone 4784400 – email joconnor@dublin.accord.ie

## “LOCALISE” CAKE SALE

The young people of LOCALISE will hold a cake sale after all Masses today. Monies raised will go to get small presents for long term residents in Peamount Hospital when the members go to visit in time for Easter

## ST VINCENT DE PAUL CLOTHING APPEAL

Members of the Local St. Vincent de Paul Conference will distribute bags for donations of good quality clothing, shoes etc that can be sold in their charity shops. The bags will be distributed after all Masses today and please return them next Sunday for collection by the members.