

“TRUTH” WHAT IS THAT?

We live in an era where there is debate and dispute about “the truth”. At one time when Christianity had a strong influence on our civilisation truth was said to be absolute – there was a definite right and wrong which just about everyone believed in. Over the last 200 years or so academics have argued that truth is relative or to a large extent privatised. Indeed some of them would sum up the first modern age we live in as “There is no Truth”. The truths about values, morals and religious faith have to be left to the private individual to decide for himself and once the individual has decided what truth is for him or her then they must not impose it on the wider society. It’s understandable and seems very reasonable how the idea of relative truth came about – its main advantage seems to be that it greatly reduces the potential for conflict and shows great respect for the rights of the individual. Just decide for yourself what is true and don’t impose your decision on society or on anyone else.

The problem is that there are no common values to guide people in finding the truth. Whenever there is a dispute about what is truth of a particular situation it is left to the law courts to make a decision on the right course of action.

For people of faith the truth is out there and it can be discovered. In the Gospel we are told that the truth is a person named Jesus himself. The dispute he had with the Jews centres on Abraham, the father of the Jewish nation. Abraham was revered by the Jews because he was a man who sought the truth and found the way to living it in doing the will of God.

The quest of the Jewish nation for the full truth of all that exists has ended in the person of Jesus but they cannot or will not see that this is the case. Jesus is the ultimate reality behind all the confusing material realities of our ever changing

world. For his Jewish audience he was a dangerous arrogant imposter to even hint that he knew a greater truth than Abraham, namely himself.

At the last supper Jesus confirmed this when He, the son of the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob said to his apostles “I am the Way, the Truth and the Life” he confirmed it again when he stood before a perplexed Pontius Pilate who said to him “Truth what is that?” The supreme irony was that Truth was standing right in front of him in the person of Jesus who was prepared to die on the cross in order to uphold the truth. When truth is held to be relative, as it is in our culture, we end up like Pilate, confused, perplexed and afraid to make a decision. In the end Pilate opts for the most expedient option and sends an innocent man to his death on false charges and perjured evidence.

Truth was crucified on Good Friday as the truth is still being crucified in our day by the various forms of communication media. We pray that we will come to know the truth every time we celebrate Mass in the Body and Blood of Jesus who is “The way, the truth and the life”.

Fr. Padraig

CHILDREN’S CORNER



I understand we ran out of colouring pages last Sunday. There are now lots more available from the table at the back of the church. Please return them by the latest Good Friday to have them ready for exhibition. There is a prize for every ENTRANT

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

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PARISH NEWS

Clondalkin Village,
Clonburris & Knockmitten



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No 12

“DON’T FLY FOR ME ARGENTINA”

One has to admire those with a turn of phrase to suit any occasion. The above phrase was coined following the appeal by Pope Francis to his native countryfolk not to spend money flying to his inauguration but to give the money to the poor. Naturally there is a great deal of national pride on the part of Argentineans in one of their own becoming Pope but Francis now has a responsibility to the universal Church.

BUSY WEEK AHEAD

Beginning today, we as a Christian community begin that holiest of weeks as we journey from the Last Supper through the Cross and on to the Resurrection. Please do join us during this week. The Lenten Penance Service will be on Wednesday after the 7.30pm Mass. Two other liturgies you may like to join in: firstly, the Polish Community invite you to join in their traditional blessing of food in preparation for Easter on Holy Saturday (12.00, 12.30 & 1pm); secondly, the Combined Catholic Parishes of Clondalkin invite you to a ‘Dawn Mass’ in Corkagh Park at 7am.

CONGRATULATIONS ALL ROUND

Firstly, to our neighbours in Sruleen who marked the twenty fifth anniversary of the blessing of their parish church on Wednesday by celebrating a Mass with the School Community of Sacred Heart National School. The previous day the sixth class pupils from Clonburris National School were confirmed by Bishop Raymond Field at a beautiful ceremony, full credit to the pupils and teachers.

Fr. Damian

HOLY WEEK PROGRAMME

Holy Week Programmes, including envelopes for Easter dues are now being delivered to all homes in the Parish. If you still not received yours they are available from the church doors, shop and sacristy

Please note: Masses as usual on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

ADORATION

This Thursday 28th March Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place at the Altar of Repose, in the Church, after the 7.30pm Holy Thursday Ceremonies. All are welcome

LOURDES 2013

DATE: Tuesday 7th May – 5 nights
SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR: Fr. Shán O’Cuív
GROUP LEADER: Pádraig Doyle
HOTEL: Paradis Hotel
FARE: €735 per person sharing
BOOKING DEPOSIT: €100
THERE ARE ONLY FOUR PLACES LEFT

ADORATION IN THE PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group will hold Adoration in the Pastoral Centre at 8.30pm on Wednesday 27th March (after Penitential Service)

NOTICES

Monday 25th March

Miraculous Medal Novena after 10am Mass and Rosary.

Legion of Mary meets in the Convent at 7.30pm. New members are welcome

Tuesday 26th March

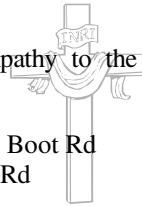
Lectio Divina under the direction of Sr. Anne in the Pastoral Centre after 10am Mass.

DEATHS

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

Christina Ellen Smith Quirke, Boot Rd
Alice McDermott, Commons Rd

recently deceased. May they rest in peace.



ANNIVERSARIES

Wednesday 27th March

7.30pm Pat and Dinah O’Reilly

Easter Sunday:

All Masses are offered for the intentions of all parishioners

CHURCH DUTY

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

Altar Linen: Nuala Carroll

“THANK YOU” FROM THE MINISTERS OF LITURGICAL ENVIRONMENT

We should by now be familiar with the help and generosity of people in our community but we always are astonished.

We thank:

1. Helen on whose behest her nephew Stewart made the picture of St. Patrick “in green”
2. Kitty Egan for her home grown shamrock and daffodils
3. Betty for daffodils and Mary and Marie who replanted the planters outside, Mary who helped to erect the shrine and Aidan for the flags

We meet again on Good Friday morning after the Morning Prayers in the Pastoral Centre to get the decorations ready and again on Holy Saturday at 12 noon to put the decorations in place and we welcome anyone interested in joining us.

CLONBURRIS

Mass Intentions

Saturday 23rd March

6.30 pm Margaret McDonnell Snr. and Jnr. Rem.
Simon McDonnell Rem.
Lena Hill Rem.
Marcella and Noel Dignam Rem.
John Heffernan Rem.
Edward and Catherine Tuite Rem.

Sunday 24th March

11.00am. Dan Aherne An.
Paddy Cooke An.
Nancy Cooke An.
Christopher Hatton An.
Joan Wilford B.R.

HOLY WEEK

During Holy Week the Church celebrates the mysteries of salvation accomplished by Christ in the last days of his life on earth, beginning with his messianic entrance into Jerusalem.

FAITH DEVELOPMENT SEMINARS - REMINDER

The first in our series of seminars will be held this Wednesday in Fr. Pádraig’s house, “St Columba’s” at 8pm and will go on for an hour to an hour and a half. This reminder is for those who have applied.

VOLUNTEER IN AFRICA

Humanitarian Volunteers are looking for volunteers to travel to East Africa in July 2013. The volunteers will work on a humanitarian project for two weeks. No experience required and no age restrictions. No large fundraising. Volunteers will pay their own costs. In addition, the Group will visit the resting place of the Venerable Edel Quinn during the mission.

Contact Denis – 086 8520271

CONFESSIONS

There is Confessions on next Wednesday, 27th March after the 7.30pm Mass

COVERING OF STATUES AND CRUCIFIXES

On entering the Church last weekend many commented on the covered statues with purple and wondered what was going on.

Since the 3rd Century the 5th Sunday in Lent (last Sunday), has been known as Passion Sunday. This was demonstrated by the practice of covering the Crucifix and all statues within the Church with purple cloth, with the exception of the “Stations of the Cross”. This practice originated in Rome, where the images in the papal chapel were veiled immediately after the deacon proclaimed the traditional Gospel passage, which concluded with the words, “Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple.” So the focus from then until Easter has traditionally been on the Sacred Passion of our Lord! On Good Friday, the purple cloth is removed from the Crucifix so that the faithful may venerate it while the rest of the sacred images are seen again at Easter.

The purple symbolises penance and royal dignity. Not only did Jesus Christ, the King of Kings, come into the world, but on the way to His crucifixion for our salvation the Roman soldiers mockingly dressed Him in a purple robe and crowned Him with thorns.

CLONDALKIN HISTORY SOCIETY LECTURE

From Kilincarrick to the Roof of the World-the life & exploits of Elizabeth Hawkins-Whitshed' is the title of Rosemary Raughter's talk on an aspect of Ireland's social history. The talk will take place in Aras Chronain, commencing at 8pm on Monday 25th March. Admission € 3.00 (non members) Beidh failte roimh cach!

Pádraig A. Ó Murchú