

## ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA – PATRON OF EUROPE

In his letter to the Galatians Paul describes how a dispute arose between himself and St. Peter regarding the new gentile converts that Paul was bringing into the church. Peter showed favoritism towards the Jewish converts. Paul’s fiery personality comes out in his description of how he upbraided Peter on this issue. The first Pope, chosen by Christ, had to concede that Paul was right. Paul was humble enough to be aware of his own faults and most tellingly that he was not the Pope – Peter was!

It is not the last time that a dispute arose in the church and a Pope had to listen to advice and to concede that the advice given was the truth. This is where St. Catherine of Siena the great mystic, whose feast day we celebrated recently, comes in. She was an extraordinary woman who lived in the extraordinary times of 14<sup>th</sup> Century Europe. It was a time of crisis not much different from the times we live in today. The Popes lived in Avignon, France having bowed to political pressure of the King to leave Rome and move to French Territory instead. Here in Avignon the Popes were influenced further by the manipulations of the French Monarchy. This situation could only be resolved by returning the Papacy to its rightful place in Rome. That this ultimately happened is thanks largely to St. Catherine of Siena who as well as being a woman in a society dominated by men, could neither read nor write. The situation was further complicated in that Rome was unstable at the time which added to the reluctance of the Avignon Popes to return there. Catherine was a woman of deep prayer, a mystic who had a reputation for resolving the most difficult conflicts and disputes. Pope Gregory IX agreed to meet her to help him to resolve the dilemma—should he stay or should he go?

Catherine advised him to go and return the Papacy to its rightful place in Rome.

Pope Gregory had to concede that she was right even though she was not a popular person in the Papal Court. It is another example of how the Holy Spirit works in strange ways through the most unlikely people. St. Catherine shows that high office is not necessary for sanctity. None of the six Avignon Popes are saints but she is and has exerted more influence for good in the life of the church than any churchman of the time ever did. St. Catherine is a patron of Europe and we pray for her intercession at a time when our country and our civilization finds itself confused, weary and stuck in a rut. May she help us re-evangelize our culture regarding its Christian roots so that we can face the future with hope!

Fr. Padraig

### FINANCE REPORT

The Finance Committee acknowledges with thanks €3,219 – your planned giving contributions this week.

### CHILDREN’S CORNER

Jack Quinlan is this week’s winner. Congratulations Jack! Your prize is waiting to be picked up by you from the Sacristy after Mass today

### THIS WEEK’S QUIZ

Next Sunday the church celebrates Pentecost Sunday. Can you tell us what happened on the 1<sup>st</sup> Pentecost?

Your entries Tuesday – email [ellenteresacoyne@eircom.net](mailto:ellenteresacoyne@eircom.net) or by Wednesday to the Sacristy



### 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 Adm  
St Cecilla’s  
459 2665

Fr Pádraig O’Sullivan CC  
St Columba’s  
464 0441  
**Clonburris**

Fr Shán O Cuív CC  
c/o Parish Office

### 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



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Vol. 18 Sunday – 12<sup>th</sup> May 2013 No 19

## BISHOPS' STATEMENT ON PROTECTION OF LIFE DURING PREGNANCY BILL

The Catholic bishops of Ireland stress once again the importance of continuing to provide a health care service in Ireland which ensures complete respect for the sacredness of the life both of the mother and her unborn baby. The bishops express their appreciation of the work carried out day by day in this ethos by doctors, nurses, midwives and other health personnel. Through CURA, the Church’s crisis pregnancy agency, help is available to any woman facing a crisis pregnancy.

The Heads of the *Protection of Life during Pregnancy Bill 2013* published by the Government recently would, if approved, make the direct and intentional killing of unborn children lawful in Ireland. The Bill as outlined represents a dramatic and morally unacceptable change to Irish law and is unnecessary to ensure that women receive the life-saving treatment they need during pregnancy.

The Gospel of Life is at the heart of the message of Jesus; the deliberate decision to deprive an innocent human being of life is always morally wrong. We uphold the right to life as the foundation of every other human right. We encourage a deeper understanding of the inviolability of the right to life of both a mother and her unborn child, in all circumstances. Accordingly, at this crucial time, it is essential that all who share these beliefs make them clear to their legislators.

The Bill also appears to impose a duty on Catholic hospitals to provide abortions. This would be totally unacceptable and has serious implications for the existing legal and Constitutional arrangements that respect the legitimate autonomy and religious ethos of faith-based institutions. It would also pose serious difficulties for the conscientious beliefs of many citizens.

Abortion, in the sense of directly killing the unborn child, is never a remedy for suicidal ideation and therefore should never be cited as a justification for the direct killing of an innocent human being. It is a tragic moment for Irish society when we regard the deliberate destruction of a completely innocent person as an acceptable response to the threat of the preventable death of another person.

## WEDDINGS

Congratulations and best wishes to:

Sinéad Craven and Stephen Bergin

recently married.

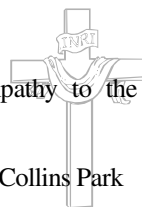


## DEATHS

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

Christine (Tilly) Barr, Michael Collins Park

recently deceased. May she rest in peace.



## ADORATION

This Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> May Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be

**In the Sisters' Oratory:** from after 10am Mass to 11.45am

**In the CHURCH:** 7pm to 9pm and all are welcome

## CHURCH DUTY

**Cleaning:** Bernardine Wynne, Veronica Bayly, Tracy Whelan and Josephine Hearty

**Altar Linen:** Deirdre Alexander

**Flowers:** Maura Gaffney to 23<sup>rd</sup> May

## EARLY START TO THE PRAYER MEETING

This Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May, the Rosary Mysteries of Light will be recited in the Prayer Group at 7.30pm, prior to Prayer Meeting starting at 8pm – in the Pastoral Centre and all are welcome

## ANNIVERSARIES

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May**

7.30am John Dalton

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May**

7.30am Carmel and Edmond Murphy

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May**

10.00am John and Kevin Lambe

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May**

10.00am Mary McAuley, 1<sup>st</sup> An

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

9.30am Freya Wamsted, 1<sup>st</sup> An

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May -Pentecost Sunday**

7.30pm (Vigil) James Walsh, MM

10.30am Laurence (Sony) O'Brien

Mary (Maisie) McAuley

10.30am Emma Curran

Gerry McCabe, 1<sup>st</sup> An

John, Lucy and Olive

Corcoran

12 noon Bill, Niamh and Rory

McDonnell

Freya Wamsted, 1<sup>st</sup> An

Patrick O'Connell, MM

5.30pm Colette Brown, 1<sup>st</sup> An

Andy Maguire

## “FATIMA” CLONDALKIN PARISH PILGRIMAGE

**Date:** 11<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> September 2013

**Hotel:** Domus Pacis

**Fare:** €699 per person sharing – single supplement €175

Deposit €200 non refundable

For further information please contact:

Eileen Carty at 4574832

## NOTICES

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May**

Miraculous Medal Novena after 10am Mass and Rosary.

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

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May**

Lectio Divina in the Pastoral Centre after 10am Mass and Rosary

## CLONBURRIS

### Mass Intentions

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May**

6.30pm Kevin Blackburn An.

Deceased members of

Blackburn Family

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May**

11.00am Marie Gleeson An,

Michael and Elizabeth Delaney An.

Tilly Barr R.D.

## PARISH SHOP

In addition to the usual cards and religious items we have on sale “Praying with Christian Mystics” by Annetta Maguire and “Francis – Bishop of Rome” by Michael Collins. Please feel free to drop in after all Masses this weekend.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION – ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

Saturday next the boys of St. Joseph's School will receive their First Holy Communion at 11am. Again we hope that they, their families and teachers will have a day to remember always.

To facilitate the 10am Mass goes Mass will be at 9.30am

## CLONDALKIN ACTIVE RETIREMENT

At present members are busy preparing their paintings and artwork for our Bealtaine Art Exhibition which will be held in the Round Towers GAA Club Convent Road (opposite the village church)

All exhibits will be accepted between 10 and 11am on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May, the official opening will follow at 12pm

Admission is free and all are welcome to join us for Tea and nibbles.

The exhibition will be open to the public on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday between 12 and 4pm

Thomas

## DECORATION OF THE CHURCH FOR PENTECOST –SUNDAY NEXT

Reminder for the group: We meet on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> after 10am Mass to have arrangements and all decorations ready to put in place at 3.30pm (after wedding). Anyone wishing to help please call into the Pastoral Centre - all materials supplied – just bring scissors and greenery!

## PRESENTATION SISTERS' ASSOCIATION

The Presentation Sisters' Association will hold their annual church door collection next weekend, 25/26<sup>th</sup> May. The proceeds will go to help the Clondalkin Presentation Sisters who work in the Foreign Missions

## “THANK YOU”

I would like to thank everyone who supported Alzheimer's Coffee morning last Saturday morning, 4<sup>th</sup> May. The amount raised was €325. I would also like to thank Bernie Monaghan and Yvonne Farrelly who helped on the morning.

Maria Carroll

## CLONDALKIN TIDY TOWNS – NATIONAL VOLUNTEERING WEEK, 13<sup>TH</sup> TO 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY

“We've all got something to give so if you have skills to share, a few hours to spare or you're looking for a new challenge, why not give volunteering a try?”

Clondalkin Tidy Towns Group is making an appeal for volunteers to join on Tuesday next, 14<sup>th</sup> May, Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> for a **special volunteering week clean-up in preparation National Tidy Towns Competition.**

The Group meets in Tuthill's car park, Saturday mornings at 10am, Tuesday and Thursday at 6.30pm and all are welcome

Tommy Keogh