MUSTARD SEED HOMILY OF TUESDAY 29TH OCTOBER

One of the big ideas in Christianity is that of PARADOX. It is riddled with it but then so is life – we ourselves are a riot of contradictions. A paradox is an **apparent** contradiction and there are many instances of it in scripture.

"Lose your life to save it" "the first shall be last" "the exalted shall be humbled and the humble exalted" "love those who hate you" "unless you become like little children"

All the great religions accept paradox to a greater or lesser degree and Catholicism in particular revels in it. Another prominent theme in the teachings of all great religions is that extremes are not good either for society or individuals. We are taught to avoid overkill and seek balance instead.

Our faith is not afraid of paradox but our culture is. It is very uncomfortable with it because it wants everything neat and tidy and in its pigeon hole. Jesus tells us of the power of little things – the small mustard seed growing into a great shrub, the tiny yeast as a leaven for the dough. This is a reflection of how Jesus lived his own life - his power came through weakness, his success arose out of apparent failure, Easter Sunday's Resurrection followed Good Friday's crucifixion.

The message for us is that when we seem to be weak, insignificant and irrelevant - don't panic. Jesus was the corner stone rejected by the elite and so when we are rejected his truth will bear us out. Where sin abounds grace abounds all the more and God's grace is the light that shines in the darkness.

On a bright sunny day we can't see very far. On a dark night we can see into the depths of outer space. The sky is lit up by moon and millions of tiny stars but we can see those stars which are billions of

miles away. We who come regularly to Mass are a light to a world that is very dark indeed but in being that light let us remember that it is the little things that matter. God's power is manifested through weakness, the tiny mustard seed and the tiny yeast in dough. We pray that we will persevere in our faith finding strength through weakness and power through vulnerability.

Fr. Padraig.

SCHOOL CHILDREN WILL JOIN US FOR MASS

It is always a joy when the children of the local schools join with the regular 10'oclock Mass goers. On Thursday next we will have of the boys from St. Joseph's and on Friday the girls from Scoil Ide will be with us.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Emma Ní Bháicéir is this week's winner. Congratulations Emma! Your prize is waiting to be picked up from the Sacristy after Mass today.

THIS WEEK'S OUIZ

On Friday last we celebrated the Feast of All Saints.

> Our Lady and St. Killian are our Patron Saints. What do Patron Saints do?

Your entries by email to: ellenteresacoyne@eircom.net by Tuesday evening 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.



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

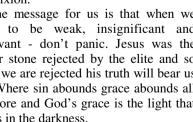
IN NOVEMBER WE REMEMBER

For those of us who are up for early mass, making our way to school or work at 7.30 in the morning it seems the dark mornings have come out of nowhere. Last Friday we celebrated the feast of All Saints and Saturday the feast of All Souls. During November we think of our deceased relations and friends. In this part of the world the 11th of November marks the end of the 'Great War' in 1918. We pray not to our dead but for them. On Sunday 24th November our 5.30pm Mass in the village will be our annual Mass for deceased parishioners to which you are all welcome.

I recall from my time in Mexico that the 2nd November is a very special day 'el dia de los muertos' where the whole country practically closes down to mark the day. Families make long and arduous journeys to visit the graves of their loved ones. Traditionally people stay up through the night at their family graves. A meal of sorts is shared and pieces of food are left for those buried in the grave. It may seem strange to us but it unites those left behind with those gone before us.

So during these dark mornings and evenings while turning up the thermostat we look forward to the first bright morning in February when we are reassured that Spring is on the way. We pray that those we remember during November are enjoying the springtime of eternal life.

Father Damian



BAPTISMS

Congratulations and welcome to:

Sadie Rose Murray, Cappamore Kealan Anthony Baldwin Duggan, Laurel Park Maria Ennis Negrao, Monastery Park Max Michael Carey, Wheatfield Grove Seán Karl Kearns Rafferty, James Connolly Park

Andrea Lynn O'Reilly, Meile an Rí, Lucan Eve Marie Banks, Mell Blossom, Straffan Maisie Faith Connolly Kearney, Monastery Drive

Rys James Connery Murray, Bramber House, Seven Kings Way, Kingston on Thames

recently Baptised.

CHURCH DUTY

Cleaning: Kitty Egan, Angela McCreevey, Kathleen Fitzpatrick, Veronica Bayly and May Stynes **Altar Linen:** Mary Jenkins **Flowers:** Aileen Skelton from 1st to 15th November (Weddings Friday and Saturday)

ADORATION

This Thursday 7th November 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.

NOTICES

Monday 4th October10.30amMiraculous Medal Novena after 10am12 noonMass and Rosary.12 noon

Tuesday 5th October Lectio Divina under the direction of Sr. Anne in the Pastoral Centre after 10am Mass. WEDDINGS Congratulations and best wishes to: Deirdre O' Leary and Brian Murphy Lisa O'Sullivan and Gavin O'Leary

recently married.

ALTAR LIST OF THE DEAD

Envelopes for the Altar List are available from the Sacristy, Church doors and the Shop if you have not got one. Masses on the 1^{st} Friday are offered for all whose names are listed.

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Please note: New Rosters now available for collection from the **Parish Shop**

ANNIVERSARIES

Tuesday 5thNovember7.30amKathleen EganVincent Kells

Wednesday 6th November

10.00am Mary and Peter McLoughlin

Friday 8th November

7.30am Kieran Murphy, B/day Rem

Sunday 10th November

7.30pm (Vigil) Peter Nixon and deceased members of Nixon Family Wendy McGrath Frank Keane Sr James Robertson
10.30am Liam Norton
12 noon Liam Hogan Mary Dunne Christina Brown Thomas Delaney Maureen and Con McCarthy Sr. Kathleen Glynn, MM

CLONBURRIS Mass Intentions

Friday 1st November 11.00am David Scannell An,

Saturday 2nd November 6.30pm Gary Connolly An

Sunday 3rd November 11.00am Noel Williams An Deceased members of Williams Family.

Competition Winner

Congratulations to Ciaran and Cormac Gavin competition winners, your prize can be collected after Mass.

ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR CROSSCARE

The annual collection for CROSSCARE – the Social Agency of the Dublin Diocese – will be at all Masses next weekend and it will replace the "SHARE" collection.

MONDAY CLUB

A big "THANK YOU" to LOCALISE who paid us their annual Halloween visit last Monday. They made us all relax while they did the catering which included barm brack! Then they gave us a lovely card and a small bag of sweets - roses no less! After that we played Bingo and won some lovely prizes. Its wonderful to see our teenagers doing so much for the elderly. They are a super bunch of girls and boys and we wish them well in their exams. "Thanks" are also due to their wonderful mentors, Yvonne, Anne and Ashling who give so generously of their time and expertise.

THOUGHT FOR YEAR OF FAITH: Remember all those souls in Purgatory during the coming month!

YEAR OF FAITH CLOSES

With the Apostolic Letter of 11th October 2011, Pope Benedict XVI declared a Year of Faith. The year began on the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Ecumenical Vatican Council, and will conclude on 24th November 2013, the Solemnity of our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King.

The Year of Faith was intended to contribute to a renewed conversion and to the rediscovery of faith, so that the members of the Church will be credible and joy-filled witnesses to the Risen Lord in the world of today – capable of leading those many people who are seeking it to the "door of faith."

Reflecting back on the year and on my small participation of the many activities I choose the Mass at St. Brigid's well on the last Saturday in July. As pilgrims faced the arduous climb of Croagh Patrick I joined a group to St. Brigid's well for 7am Mass organised by Shruleen community.

The sun and the moon were visible in the sky and the song of the birds mingled with our joyous voices on a glorious sun filled morning.

The well and the surrounds beautifully adorned by Peter and friends made a fitting venue for the celebration – even the old tree stood splendid and proud.

We were taken back to a different era when the celebration of Mass would have been prohibited and thanked God for the people who risked life and limb so we could benefit.

The community of Shruleen even had that refreshing cuppa and biscuits available to all.

Teresa

P.S: We would welcome contributions from parishioners regarding their experiences during the Year of Faith!