



Clondalkin Village Parish

Immaculate Conception & St. Killian Church

Clonburris ☩ Knockmitten

Parish Newsletter

Sunday 5th December 2021



God's Big Picture

One of the really big ideas in Catholicism is paradox and its ability to accommodate paradox.

This is what the Lutheran Theologian Karl Barth called the "Catholic and" it is able to take apparently contradictory concepts that seem to be either/or and make them into both/and. Scripture and tradition, grace and freedom, faith and reason. Christ's divinity and humanity. Another big idea is "don't go to extremes". Even ventures become vices if taken to extremes and removed from their context. They then degenerate into a form of zealotry and become puritanical.

Catholicism seeks to harmonize paradox and avoid extremes by always looking at the big picture. In our technological world there is a tendency to break things up into smaller and smaller pieces and to know more about less and less. This approach has its place particularly in the sciences – it has helped us find out a great deal in the scientific realm. But specialisation comes at a price, we tend to lose sight of the big picture, we don't see where all the little details ultimately lead and they become fragmented. In the big picture, science and religion are meant to be friends not enemies.

Science takes things apart in an ordered way to see how they work and religion puts things together to see what they mean. The big picture is what God has joined together in creation and what God has joined together, humanity has a tendency to pull apart. This is God's glue and humanities scissors or more accurately the devil's scissors. God's big picture harmonizes sex and marriage. It harmonizes husband, wife and family. It harmonizes family, community and society. It brings together lonely isolated individuals in friendship and love. God is creation's great harmonizer, he builds things up. The devil is the great fragmenter – he pulls things apart - God's glue and the devil's scissors. In gluing together the thing that makes up the big picture, it is not done rigidly. There is a certain flexibility within the boundaries of the natural order God has created. Love and fertility have natural periods of separation to give us a share in the management of fertility. Husbands and wives have a natural distinctiveness that is both unique to them and yet complementary to the other. In our fractured divided world, we pray that we will be people of goodwill who see the big picture in why God does what he does as the great harmonizer.

We pray that we will be a people who build up and harmonize in a culture where there is much sundering and fragmentation.

Fr. Padraig

Masses

Clondalkin Village

Sundays: (Vigil) Sat 6.30pm, Sunday 9am (As Gaeilge) 10.30am, 12 noon

Weekdays (Mon – Fri) 7.30am, 10.00am (Sat) 10.00am

Clonburris

Sat 6.30pm, Sunday 11am

Knockmitten

Sunday 11am

Mon, Wed, Fri at 10am

Parish Office Hours

Clondalkin:

Monday-Friday : 9.30-12.30

Please contact through Phone & Email

Clonburris & Knockmitten:

Contact through Village

Submissions for Newsletter:

Parishnewsletter1@gmail.com

Corona Virus Prayer

We pray for all those in our country and throughout the world suffering from the Corona Virus. May its victims and their families be strengthened by the support of our community of faith and restored soon to full health. We also pray for our leaders and medical personnel who deal with the virus. May we keep calm and may we join together in solidarity with care and compassion to tackle this emergency. We ask in confidence through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Contacts

Village Office/Sacristy 01 459 3520 Office@clondalkinparish.com www.clondalkinparish.com

Fr. Kieran Coghlan, P.P., *Moderator* 01 459 2665

Fr. Padraig O'Sullivan, *Co-P.P.* 01 464 0441

Knockmitten

Fr. Des Byrne CC 01 459 2323

Clonburris

Fr. Shán O Cuív CC 01 459 3520

Deacon

Deacon Don Devaney 01 459 3520

Parish Pastoral Worker

Christina Malone 085 7162152



@TheCCPCdublin

Deacon.Don.Devaney@Dublindiocese.ie
christina.malone@dublindiocese.ie



We remember in our prayers the people and intentions we have been asked to pray for this week. Our candle is always lit for you.



Recently Deceased

**MARY BRADY
FRANCIS KELLY
THOMAS (TOM) BARRETT
JOHN (JACK) KEOGH**

May They Rest in Peace

We offer our sincere condolences to Tommy Keogh whose brother John, formerly of Convent View Cottages, died this week. May the Lord comfort the bereaved family and friends at this sad time.

Our Lady of Loreto *December 10th*



According to tradition, the Holy House of Loreto was carried by angels from Nazareth to the Italian hillside town of Loreto the night of Dec. 9-10 in 1294. Tradition holds that the small house, made of three stone walls, is the place where Mary was born, where she was visited by an angel and conceived Jesus through the Holy Spirit, and where the Holy Family later lived.

The decree said the shrine in Loreto "recalls the mystery of the Incarnation" and helps visitors "meditate both on the words of the angel announcing the Good News and on the words of the Virgin in response to the divine call." And it has been able to "illustrate powerfully the evangelical virtues of the Holy Family," it added. Millions of pilgrims flock to Loreto each year to venerate the tiny cottage. It is Italy's most important and popular Marian shrine. It was one of the shrines St. John Paul II visited the most. Thousands of miracles attributed to Our Lady have been recorded at Loreto. St. Therese of Lisieux made a momentous pilgrimage before entering the Carmelites, to which she alludes at length in her autobiography. St. Alphonsus Liguori, St. Frances Cabrini, St. John Henry Newman, St. John Neumann, and St. Francis de Sales, to name but a few, have visited the Holy House.

When St. Francis of Assisi visited the Holy Land (1219-1220) he prayed at the Holy House. Over and over again the Holy House escaped destruction. Custodians of the shrine have said the stones of the house were removed from the Holy Land and carried by ship by a member of the Angeli family. The family name is also the Italian word for "angels," thus being the probable reason for the more popular notion of winged angels flying the house to Italy.

Village Church



Sunday 5th December

6.30pm Vigil Peg Lynch & Daniel Lynch (An)
Enie Fitzgerald & dec'd members of the Fitzgerald family, Mary Ashe (10th An)
Eugene McNamara & dec'd members of the McNamara family
Martin Whelan (An)

10.30am Joseph Ledwidge (4th An)
Kenneth O'Connor (An), James Duggan (Rem), Mark and Paddy Lawlor (Rem)

12noon Minnie Murphy (2nd An)
Nora & Gay Keogh (An)
Marion Corless
Martin Gerard Stokes (20th An)

Tuesday 7th December

10.00am Elsie Naughton (BR)

Tuesday 7th December

10.00am Peg & Daniel Lynch

Wednesday 8th December

10.00am Evelyn Jones (An)

Friday 10th December

10.00am William & Bridget Dee (An)

Sunday 12th December

6.30pm Vigil Bernie Blackburn (MM)
Kathleen O'Brien (MM)
Matthew Farrelly (6th An)

9.00am Phyllis McGrath (An)

12noon Tommy & Hattie Tobin (An)
Sammy McDonnell (An)
Padraig Faughnan (An)

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday 6th December St. Nicholas, Bishop (Galway)
Tuesday 7th December St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church
Wed 8th December Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thurs 9th December St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin
Friday 10th December Our Lady of Loreto
Sat 11th December St. Damasus I, Pope

Advent Prayer

Lord Jesus,

Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.

We who have so much to do and seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day,

We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence. We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.

To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!" Amen.

Henri J.M. Nouwen

DIGITAL ADVENT CALENDAR 2021

“During Advent, let us reflect on the eternal message of Christmas, which is, Christ is alive and that He is our hope.” – Archbishop Martin

Now in its eighth year, the unique digital Advent Calendar offers resources for the parish, school and for families which can be accessed behind a virtual door each day during the season of Advent. The content is aimed at assisting people of all ages to pray and reflect on how best we can keep Christ at the centre of our Christmas preparations during this special liturgical season.

Welcoming this year's Advent Calendar Archbishop Eamon said, “After another difficult year of living with the Covid-19 pandemic, the season of Advent arrives and offers us a new beginning and a promise of hope for better times. The First Sunday of Advent is actually the Christian Church's New Year's Day. This year – perhaps more than ever – we need ideas and inspiration to help us delve deeper, to find that glimmer of light, that note of joy, that promise of consolation.

I am very conscious that in troubled parts of the world the message of Christian “peace and goodwill to all” needs to be heard above the noise of war, the cries of the poor and the agony of the displaced and oppressed. Our digital advent calendar offers ideas to help us spiritually prepare for our Lord's coming at Christmas so that we are more aware of the suffering of our brothers and sisters throughout the world and of the things that we ourselves can easily take for granted. Every day of our lives presents a moment for change and conversion and a reminder to look out for the presence of the suffering Christ in the sick, the poor and the stranger.

“Our digital Advent calendar is a helpful resource on our ‘journey’ towards Christmas. By clicking on a virtual door we are inviting people to take just five minutes for reflection so as to find moments of peace and to rediscover the true meaning of Advent and Christmas.

“Since the outbreak of the pandemic the people of Ireland have endured testing times with courage, resilience, and compassion. Individuals and communities have made great sacrifices for the protection of life, health and for the common good. Many Christians have been reaching out in generous service and support for their neighbours, the lonely, the isolated, the sick and the bereaved. Faith, love and hope – in the home and in church – have been a huge support during these difficult times. As we continue, in solidarity, to progress together, I invite everyone to be part of #SharingHope this Advent season by availing of the helpful resources on our calendar and through sharing these with others on social media.

“The seasons of Advent and Christmas occur in the depth of winter reminding us that Christ was born to bring hope to a darkened world. The Covid-19 virus may have struck at the very heart of our outreach and ministry to the sick, the dying and the bereaved; but, it could not, and did not, and will not destroy our hope and our conviction that God remains especially near to people who suffer, and God is close to those who are broken-hearted. As the prophet Isaiah said “the people that wait in darkness have seen a great light”.

During Advent, let us reflect on the uplifting promise of Christmas, that Christ is alive and that He is our hope.”

See catholicbishops.ie #SharingHope #LivingAdvent

A thought for this Sunday for our Polish Parishioners

Thanks Chris



The silence around us can feel uncomfortable. After all, we live in a very loud and noisy world. Some of us may even fear silence because it brings about uneasy feelings and memories. We may also think that we are wasting time sitting in silence and doing nothing concrete. The word of God came to John in the wilderness. And so began John's life mission. Often, to hear God's voice, we must enter the mystery of silence, like John in the desert. Let us meet the Lord in the silence of our hearts and let him take us on another journey!

Cisza wokół nas może być niekomfortowa. W końcu żyjemy w bardzo głośnym i hałaśliwym świecie. Niektórzy z nas mogą nawet bać się ciszy, ponieważ niesie ze sobą smutne uczucia i wspomnienia. Może nam się wydawać także, że marnujemy czas siedząc w ciszy i nie robiąc nic konkretnego.

Pan Bóg przemówił do Jana na pustyni. I tak rozpoczęła się jego życiowa misja. Często, by usłyszeć głos Boga, musimy wejść w tajemnicę ciszy, jak Jan na pustyni. Spotkajmy Pana w ciszy naszych serc i pozwólmy mu by zabrał nas w kolejną podróż!

POPE FRANCIS TO VISIT CYPRUS AND GREECE

The Pope sets off on Thursday morning for a 3-day visit to the Mediterranean island nation of Cyprus, before traveling on Saturday to Greece where he will stay until Monday. Ecumenical relations with the Orthodox Churches will be one highlight of his visits to both nations.



On Saturday he meets with Archbishop Chrysostomos II of Cyprus, head of the island's Eastern Orthodox Church, as well as with the Orthodox Holy Synod of Cyprus.

His visit to Greece will see the Pope meet with Ieronymos II of Athens, the primate of the Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Greece. Orthodox Christians make up the vast majority of both nations. In Cyprus, Pope Francis is following in the footsteps of Benedict XVI, who in 2010 became the first modern Pope to visit there. Pope Francis is also returning to the Greek island of Lesbos to visit with migrants and refugees. He traveled to the island in 2016 with Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew I at the height of the European migration crisis, returning to the Vatican with 12 asylum seekers aboard the papal plane.

The plight of migrants is once again on his agenda, with events scheduled in both Cyprus and Greece to provide an opportunity for Pope Francis to express his solidarity and closeness to people on the move.

(Taken from Vatican News website 1/12/21)

AWARE - SUPPORT & SELF CARE GROUPS

If you, or those with whom you work wish to connect with people in relation to your mental wellbeing, please consider using the Phone in and Zoom Support & Self Care Groups, the Support Line or Support Mail, now and throughout the holiday season. These services provide support, coping skills and information – and most importantly help people who are in distress to know and feel that they are not alone in their experience. For more information about the groups <https://www.aware.ie/support/support-groups/> and all of our services on www.aware.ie



Week 2 - Peace

*Listen in the silence. Listen in the noise.
Listen for the sound of the Spirit's voice.*

Before we begin: Did you notice that while this is the second week in Advent, there are three candles in the illustration? This year we are doing the work of quieting and silencing in order to listen for God's voice. We began with all the lights lit, then each week we will quiet another candle to illustrate our goal of focusing and listening only for God-with-us: Emmanuel.

Invocation
God of peace we are listening for your word. We desperately need your peace. Bless this time as we quiet other sounds and attend to you.

Confession
You know us, Lord. We set out with good intentions of silencing the cacophony and focusing on you. But the pressures and expectations are loud and drown out the peace you offer. Be patient with us as we try again to quiet a place in our hearts and make room for you.

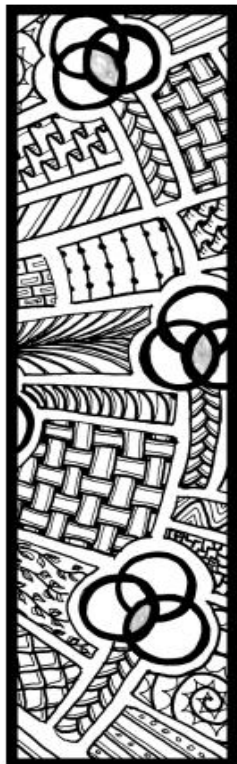
Psalm 85:8
Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

2 Peter 3:13-14a
But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Prayer
Creator God, help us to remember that the time you picked for your incarnation was not any more peaceful than the time we are in. It was filled with violence and injustice; but somehow, you managed to bring words of peace to us. When we think you are silent, and we start to panic, give us peace.
Help us to listen in the silence.

Christ, you know first-hand how hard it is to get us to listen. You taught us how to live peacefully. When we can't hear your voice over all that's happening in the news, and we start to panic, give us peace.
Help us to listen in the noise.

Holy Spirit, we need you to help us act when that is wise, and to wait when that is what you want us to do. Be very near to us so that if we start to panic, your presence will give us peace.
Help us to listen for the sound of your voice. Amen.



A time to be still

You are invited into a time of silence. Take a deep breath and exhale slowly. Where do you feel the PEACE of God?

Poetry is the practice of silencing the extra words so that feelings can shine. This year we are exploring poetry as a spiritual practice. By slowing down, pondering, and picking words, we can better hear what God is saying to us.

Today try a Haiku. Haiku poems have 3 lines. The first line has 5 syllables, the second line has 7 syllables, and the last line has 5 syllables. When you are calm and ready, use the space below to write a 5 syllable phrase that is inspired by the Bible readings. For the next line, find a 7 syllable phrase that reflects on it. Then in 5 syllables, respond to God's word.

For example:
Let me hear God speak
In rocks and trees, clouds and birds
Soft small voice, calm me

Remember that this is not a contest. There is no grade. It is just a time to hang out with God and write down what comes to mind.

Read over your poem and then sit quietly with it, or colour the illustration.



A blessing
May God speak to us in the silence.
May God speak to us above the noise.
May we always listen for the sound of the Spirit's voice.



The call of Advent
is a call to live with awe
so that we can be alert
to God working in us
and in our world
to bring about the Kingdom.

Awareness is another
way of talking
about being awake.

Work today to be aware of the
needs of people around you.



Prayer for Families

Loving God,
During this holy season of Christmas,
we ask for your blessing for all families.
Let Mary's openness to your
wordhouse make her an inspiration
to place all trust in you.
Let Joseph's courage provide hope
during times of anxiety and
uncertainty.
Let Jesus' life ignite all families with
a spirit of light and love.
May the grace that surrounded the
Holy Family today be a comfort to all families.
For this we pray,
Amen.



COVID-19 SUPPORT LINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE

ALONE manage a national support and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to COVID-19. Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week,

8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.



Clondalkin Cares

Clondalkin Cares Food Bank

We need your support.

Please keep your donations and support coming.

Donations can be dropped off at the following venues:

- Clondalkin Parish Office Mon-Fri 10-3.30.
- The Presentation Sisters have a Collection Bin at their Front Door where you can drop food donations into anytime.
- Neart Le Chéile Thu 10-3.
- Neilstown Church Mon-Wed 10-3.30.
- Quarryvale Community and Youth Centre Mon-Fri 11-3.
- Ronanstown Youth Service Tue 10-12

To register for food, or for any other information, please email manager@quarryvalefrc.ie or call 085 202 0300 during normal office hours.

To donate please use our **Go Fund Me** page:
<https://www.gofundme.com/f/please-help-our-food-bank>

We welcome any other place that would like to volunteer to act as a drop off point for donations - Just contact us and let us know!

If you need support, know someone who needs support, please do not hesitate to email or call

On the 1st of December at 53 degrees north, we are spinning at 1073 km/hr on our axis and Saturn and Jupiter are revealed as we spin.
 But hey 67,000 km/hr. We are tearing our way around the Sun.
 The dinky snowdrop is on the way and can even cut through frozen ground at a slow, slow pace. I'll leave it to Wordsworth.
Climate Stuff: Wet, windy, sleety, hammering the Luas, I'm smiling at it all. Why?? : L54. No, not a variant of LSD, but a new bus route that said "Oh!! I would love to collect you at the Luas train and take you home to Clondalkin" It's amazing, try it. You could even be on a hybrid.
 "Give up your old diesel while you can".

Eddie

To A Snowdrop

BY WILLIAM WORDSWORTH

Lone Flower, hemmed in with snows and white as they
 But hardier far, once more I see thee bend
 Thy forehead, as if fearful to offend,
 Like an unbidden guest. Though day by day,
 Storms, sallying from the mountain-tops, waylay
 The rising sun, and on the plains descend;
 Yet art thou welcome, welcome as a friend
 Whose zeal outruns his promise! Blue-eyed May
 Shall soon behold this border thickly set
 With bright jonquils, their odours lavishing
 On the soft west-wind and his frolic peers;
 Nor will I then thy modest grace forget,
 Chaste Snowdrop, venturous harbinger of Spring,
 And pensive monitor of fleeting years!



I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear.' Nelson Mandela

Happiness is not something readymade. It comes from your own actions. The Dalai Lama

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This year, as we cannot hold our parish food appeal, we are asking for your financial support to help us help them.

Please donate if you can at www.crosscare.ie
 or
 Call 01 8360011



THE PARISH SHOP

The Parish Shop is open after all Masses on Sunday and after 10am Mass on weekdays.

Mass Cards and greeting cards for all occasions, religious items suitable for Confirmation and First Holy Communion events are on sale. Also available is the Irish Catholic newspaper.

Parish Christmas cards, Remembrance cards and Christmas items now available in the Shop.

A Prayer Before a Crucifix

Most High, glorious God, enlighten the shadows of my heart and grant me a right faith, a certain hope and perfect charity, sense and understanding, Lord, so that I may accomplish your holy and true command. Amen.



S	M	E	S	S	E	N	G	E	R
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