



Newsletter

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART
DONNYBROOK



DEAR PARISHIONERS,

It has been a tough December for our country. We have been bombarded with depressing media reports about the state of the economy and the recent Budget makes clear the painful cost of putting things right during the coming years. To cap it all, we have experienced unprecedented cold and snow for this time of year.

The textbook describes Advent as a season of 'Joyful Hope', but it is understandable that we may feel anything but hopeful and not altogether joyful as we look towards Christmas 2010. It is so tempting to stand with our back to the sun and grumble at the shadows...

However, instead of giving in to despondency, we can all pause to reflect

more deeply on the bigger picture – about God's plan for our world, somehow striving to see ourselves and our current difficulties through God's eyes. Because the Christmas message is ultimately one of hope: in celebrating the birth of Jesus, we rejoice that the light has come into a world of darkness, 'a light that darkness could not overpower' (*St John's Gospel*).

And we have many opportunities to reach out to others as Christmas approaches, particularly those who are struggling to survive through these difficult times. As never before, we are called to be compassionate and generous disciples of Jesus Christ.

It's a time too to recognise our own fragility and our need for God. We take

comfort in our belief that every prayer is answered in God's way and in God's time. We put our trust in God, recalling the words of the Old Testament prophet Habakkuk over 2500 years ago:

*For even though the fig does not blossom,
nor fruit grow on the vine,
even though the olive crop fail,
and fields produce no harvest,
even though flocks vanish from the folds
and stalls stand empty of cattle,
yet I will rejoice in the Lord
and exult in God my saviour.
The Lord my God is my strength.
He makes me leap like the deer,
He guides me to the high places.*

Fr Martin Clarke PP

FAMILY MASS

Following the introduction of the new Sunday Morning Mass Schedule, the 10.30am Mass every week is now designated a 'Family Mass' where families with young children are particularly welcome.

A good meeting of interested parents was held in the Parish Centre in early October and great interest was expressed by all who attended. The meeting was facilitated by Olivia Dunne of Monkstown Parish who has coordinated the Family Mass there for many years.

Rather than spend months planning a big launch of the Family Mass, it was agreed that it would be preferable to introduce changes gradually.

So far, children from the Confirmation Class in St Mary's School have looked

after the readings each week. At the 'Our Father', the children present are invited to gather around the Altar and at the appropriate time to share the Sign of Peace with the congregation. During the Advent Season, children light the candles on the Advent Wreath.

During the coming months, it is hoped to get more children involved as Altar Servers and in bringing up the Gifts of Bread & Wine. We hope to have children singing in the Sanctuary area (at Our Lady's Altar) and are trying to find an adult willing to lead them in this.

Obviously, the Family Mass is at a very early stage in its development, but so far the feedback from parents and children has been very positive.

Of course, the Family Mass should not

make anyone feel excluded, and older parishioners continue to be an important part of the congregation.

Anyone wishing to become involved should make contact with one of the priests. In the meantime, special thanks to Rita Kinsella, Principal of St Mary's School, for all her help and support to date.

Fr Martin Clarke PP



HAPPY CHRISTMAS

The Priests of the Parish
and the Newsletter Team wish you
a very Happy and Holy Christmas
and a Happy New Year.

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP 2010/12

Following a recent invitation to parishioners to join the Parish Pastoral Council, the following is the membership of the Council for 2010/12:

Kenneth Carroll
Fr Martin Clarke
Sr Fiona Corway
Alice Davy
Fred Duffy
Geraldine Frame
Barbara Gilroy
Fr Conor Harper
John Holohan
Vincent Keaveny
Sr Bertha Lee
Tony MacDonald
Crona Sheehan

The Chairman and Secretary will be elected at the first meeting of the new Council in January.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF DANNYBROOK ACTIVE RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

The 25th Annual General meeting of Donnybrook Active Retirement Association (DARA) will take place in the Parish Centre on Tuesday 25th January 2011 at 2.30pm sharp.

The current Committee and Membership of DARA owe a debt of gratitude to those who dedicated themselves over the years to keeping the Association going. We take this opportunity to thank them and look forward to their continued inspiration and help in maintaining the high standards which they have set.

Of primary importance are the bi-weekly Tuesday afternoon Meetings with lectures or demonstrations followed by the social gathering over tea. Also, the ever-popular one day outings by coach to places of interest, a number of which are well in hand for Springtime. Later we hope to arrange the annual holiday, 3/4 days perhaps in Chester in 2011, depending on interest.

We would very much welcome new Members, particularly those who might consider serving on Committee.

*Christine O’Nolan,
Honorary Secretary*



Archbishop Martin with some of the sisters, courtesy of John McElroy for the Irish Catholic

POOR CLARES

Praised be Jesus & Mary
Warmest greetings to all our fellow parishioners, for a blessed Christmas and God’s special protection throughout the coming year!

For years we, Poor Clares, have been considering how to improve our arrangement for Holy Mass and Eucharistic worship. Fortunately we were directed to an excellent Architect, Paul O’Daly who came up with the present solution, which is most satisfactory. We now feel one community gathered around the Altar of sacrifice.

On September 3, we had the great joy of having our dear P. P., Rev. Martin Clarke, as main Con-Celebrant, when His Grace Archbishop Martin dedicated the new Altar.

You are all most welcome to visit Our Eucharistic Lord in our little Chapel - and see for yourselves!



COLUMBAN SISTERS IN PAKISTAN

This is an extract from an email from Sr. Rebecca Conlon in Pakistan, describing a little of what the Columban Sisters are doing there in the aftermath of the flooding.

Sr Rebecca spoke in Donnybrook parish church on Mission Sunday a few years back when she was home on a break. Donnybrook contributed generously to Pakistan after the flood.

“Visiting our camp on week three would leave one shocked out of their minds with the depth of poverty that our flood victim people are catapulted into. The experience is too painful to express and the depth of malnutrition of the women and children is mind-blowing but their faces light up when they see us coming and we are becoming like an extended family now!

We have 95 families, all ‘speaking a language that the stranger does not know’ because they have their own dialect

but ‘love changes everything’ changes us and changes them. Wow!

Each time we go there we bring food rations to the people and our load is increasing to the degree our families are increasing. Children are everywhere.... I can understand the Gospel story saying ‘not counting the women and children’! It would be impossible!!!

This time with the food rations we brought 57 tents to those who had not received them yet as tents are in great demand here in Hyderabad. Also seeing their hygienic needs we got barrels so that they could store water to wash themselves because of their terrible skin diseases due to no water. Each family got a barrel and later in the day we ordered a big tanker to fill the barrels.”

Sr Rebecca Conlon

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Lisa Godfrey Murray presenting Loreto Ballester, President of the Teresian Association with a gift from Ireland

50 YEARS OF THE TERESIANS

This is an extract from Lisa Murray's words at the Reception in the Teresian School following the Mass of Thanksgiving for 50 Years of life of the Teresian Association in Donnybrook.

"Many, many years ago in 1965, I was one of a few little girls to walk through the front door of the Teresian School the very first day it opened, thus beginning a lifelong friendship with the Association. This link with the association has afforded me some life-changing experiences, the most notable being my trip to Madrid in 2003, with my daughter Rebecca (a pupil at the time) for the canonisation of St. Pedro Poveda and subsequently my journey to Peru with Hilda and twelve 5th year students, to work on the Teresian Projects in Villa el Salvador, enabling me to see first hand the far-reaching impact of this singular Association – an Association that sees and values the uniqueness of each individual, that encourages us to be the best we can and challenges us all to 'stand up and be counted', to 'walk that extra mile' to make our world a better place.

For me, one of St. Pedro Poveda's most powerful quotations is 'the men and women of God are unmistakable' but, equally true, for me, would be the quotation 'the men and women of the Teresian Association are unmistakable'; we are truly grateful that you accepted the Archbishop's invitation to come to Ireland all those years ago, we have been enriched by your presence here and I would like, on behalf of all your past pupils, to congratulate you on this great occasion and to wish you joy, love, fortitude and continued success here in Ireland in the future."

*Lisa Godfrey Murray
President of TPPA at the Reception after the Thanksgiving Mass to celebrate 50 years of the Teresian Association in Ireland*

YOUTH CORNER

60 YEARS OF GONZAGA

Gonzaga College, this year, is celebrating 60 years as a school serving the south Dublin area. The school was founded in 1950 as a Catholic Prep and Secondary School. The Prep School closed in 1996 and today the Secondary School has 551 boys on its rolls. The College is one of five Jesuit Schools in Ireland. The others are Belvedere, Clongowes Wood, Crescent Comprehensive in Limerick and Coláiste Ísogáin in Galway.

While a lot of the students come from the broader South Dublin and Wicklow areas, a large number come from Donnybrook Parish and are graduates of St. Mary's National School. In my year, eight of us came from St. Mary's.

I am currently a 5th year student and throughout the year we undertake various activities involving the community such as the 5th year project. This project has been running for 25 years. The activities involved range from decorating homes for the elderly, playing sport with the Travelling Community and assisting children with their homework after school in the Rialto area.

Of the many events on the school calendar the annual trip to Zambia is one

of the highlights. This involves a group of 20 5th year students and five teachers going to work with Habitat for Humanity in Zambia for two weeks through their Easter Holidays. During this period they work with local people and build houses for impoverished families.

There is also a connection between Gonzaga and Enable Ireland which gives dozens of students experience working with people with learning difficulties. In May Gonzaga hosts people from Enable Ireland for a sports day in which they participate in games and have some food afterwards.

During, transition year, the school has a period of social placement in which every T.Y. student goes to the community to assist for two weeks. I worked with Fr. Peter McVerry who is based in the North inner city and has centres all over the Northside of Dublin. At these centres he provides shelter, help and a listening ear for young disadvantaged people and drug addicts. There, I learnt that the most important thing we can give to people is not material, but is to share our time with others and to listen to their story and above all, not to judge them. *Philip Crowe*

POPE JOHN PAUL II AWARDS

The Pope John Paul II Awards were created to commemorate the late Pope John Paul II who was so committed to young people. The Awards are open to young people of all abilities between the ages of 16 to 18. There are four Awards: The Papal Cross Award, The Gold Award, The Silver Award, The Bronze Award.

The Award requires a commitment from the young person and a lead person in the school/parish. They are non competitive. They also show young people a pathway back to their Parish Community with two areas covered: Parish Involvement and Social Awareness. Having actively participated in a meaningful way within a parish context for an agreed period of time, the young person is then required

to prepare a presentation reflecting on their experience.

This is an exciting new project that has the ability to show young people how to actively live out their faith. This is the first time the awards will be given by the Archdiocese of Dublin. We warmly welcome young people between the ages of 16 and 18 years in schools and parishes throughout the Diocese to become involved in the Pope John Paul II Awards.

For more information contact

Anna Keegan

The Pope John Paul II Awards

Office of Youth Evangelisation

CYC, Arran Quay, Dublin 7

akeegan@cyc.ie Tel: 01 8725055

www.thepopejohnpauliiaward.com/dublin/



MARRIAGES

We congratulate

Elizabeth Fleming & Warren Birch
and wish them every happiness.



BAPTISMS

We welcome the following, recently
baptised into the Christian Community
in Donnybrook.

Lorcan Thomas Kelly
Ruby Grace McKeown
Nicole Philomena McAuley
Arvie Adrian Soriano
Kyle Ryan Calvert
Ross Andrew McGrath
Lilly Katie Sullivan
Cormac James Rowell
Carla Mangaliso Odachowska
Mia Rose Mangaliso Odachowska
Louis Patrick Spencer
Teddy Patrick Daly
Bobby Joe Browne
Dan Eamonn O'Connor
Alison Lorraine Coady
Cathal Stewart Fogarty
Juliette Colette Laydevant
Tom Dermot Murphy
Rachel Alice Roddy
Amelia Rose Doyle
James Thomas Haugh
Emma Griffin
John Davin Gaffney
John Fintan Gunne



DECEASED

We extend the sympathy of the parish to
the families of the following
who died recently.

Gerard Gillen
Carlos Kenny
Tommy D'Arcy
Vincent Kevin Nolan
Dr Brendan Murphy
Mary Reville
Frances Kearns
Gerry McNamara
Joyce Carr
Margaret Hagan
Sheila Murphy
Elizabeth (Lil) Dixon
Aileen Gleeson
Lillian Sheehan

CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME 2010

Monday 20th December

Penitential Service in preparation for
Christmas at 7.30pm with opportunity
for individual Confessions

CHRISTMAS EVE – Friday 24th Dec

Usual Morning Masses at 7.30am
& 10.00am
6.00pm – Vigil Mass for Christmas
12.00am – Midnight Mass (preceded by
Christmas Carols from 11.30pm)

CHRISTMAS DAY – Saturday 25th Dec

Masses at 9.00am, 10.30am &
12.00noon
No evening Mass on Christmas Day

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY - Sunday 26th December

Masses at 9.00am, 10.30am,
12.00noon & 5.30pm
The Feast of St Stephen is not
celebrated this year

Monday 27th Dec to Saturday 1st Jan

One morning Mass only at 11.00am

Saturday/Sunday 1st/2nd Jan 2011

Saturday Vigil Mass at 6.00pm
Sunday Masses at 9.00am, 10.30am,
12.00noon & 5.30pm

Monday 3rd Jan 2011 (Bank Holiday)

One morning Mass only at 11.00am

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CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS

Saturday 18th December:

11.00am to 1.00pm

Monday 20th December:

Service of Reconciliation at 7.30pm

Friday 24th December:

11.00am to 1.00pm

PRIESTS OF THE PARISH

Fr. Martin Clarke, Parish Priest,
Tel: 283 8311 / 087 220 8044
E-mail: mclarke@donnybrookparish.ie

Fr. Conor Harper S.J., Curate,
Tel: 218 0244

Fr. John Boyers, Parish Chaplain
Tel: 668 4356

Monsignor Richard Sherry,
Pastor Emeritus
Tel: 269 2102

PARISH OFFICE

Pending appointment of a Parish
Secretary all correspondence may be
addressed to:

Fr Martin Clarke, P.P.
Parochial House, Church of the Sacred
Heart, Donnybrook, Dublin 4.
Tel: 087 220 8044
mclarke@donnybrookparish.ie

PARISH TEAM

Pastoral Sister: Sr. Bertha
Tel: 269 3926

Pastoral Sister: Sr. Fiona
Tel: 086 169 7677

Director of Music: Catherine Killoran
Tel: 087 233 1797

Organist: Michael Quinn
Tel: 085 362 3128

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Coreen Dennis 269 4852

Mary McDonogh 269 2338

Niall Loftus 269 2063

Daragh Mulvagh 269 4482

Mary Plunkett 668 3407

Margaret Whitla 260 0329

Correspondence to the Parish Centre.
email: newsletter@donnybrookparish.ie

SPONSOR

Thanks to Perdita Quinlan who has
kindly sponsored this edition of the
Newsletter. We are most grateful for her
generosity.

A BIG THANK YOU

To all who contributed to the Peru sale in
aid of the Teresian Association's Social-
Educational Projects in Villa el Salvador.

The amount collected at the sale was:
€ 1260.00

Thank you again

Inés & Suzanne