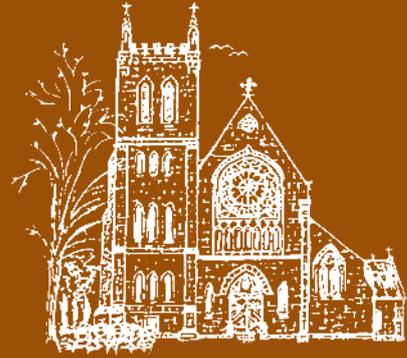


# Newsletter

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART  
DONNYBROOK



## HALLOWEEN THE EVE OF ALL HALLOWS – THE EVE OF ALL SAINTS; NOVEMBER – THE MONTH OF REMEMBRANCE

At this time of year as we approach the end of October and become more and more aware of the shorter daytime and the darker evenings, we notice in the fall of the late autumn leaves the harbinger of winter and the death of the world of Nature.

As November, the month of Remembrance draws near, we call to mind all our loved ones who have gone on before us on the path of life. What they meant to us (and still mean to us) endures. We have been encouraged by their love and by what was good in their lives.

As we prepare to celebrate All Saints Day we remember that it is also All Peoples Day. We recall the optimistic message of the salvation which is for all. The Letter to the Hebrews (chapter 12) speaks of “the cloud of witnesses which surrounds us” - the shadows of our loved ones from the past who remain close to us in the eternal Presence of the Almighty God. The God who is Love and who is always close to us despite our many failures.

This time of remembrance should be a time for peace and calm. In the quiet stillness we can come close to the God of all creation. Despite our sense of loss and bereavement (which still remains with us over the years) we Christians are called to Hope - the Hope that shines even in the darkness and pain of the dark places of human experience.

As we contemplate Nature in its stark winter dress we can still remember the hope of the Spring that will come in a few short months when all will be transformed and new life will be revealed.

As we reflect at this time of Halloween (in the true Christian spirit), the feast of All Saints, we try to fix our gaze on the Risen Lord and then find our hope renewed. As we reflect on the wonder and mystery of life let us not be afraid to confront the facts of life and death with courage and lucidity.

We celebrate Halloween, All Saints (1st Nov.), All Souls (2nd Nov.) and the November month of Remembrance with faith and hope that we are all destined for a wonderful future in the nearer Presence of God - but on a further shore.

Cardinal Carlo Maria Martini SJ, the great friend and mentor of our Holy Father Francis, has spoken of the great struggle in every human being between belief and non-belief. It is an exciting challenge to reflect on the very real questions of existence and not to be afraid to think!

May the God of Wisdom and Truth inspire us and may our loved ones who have gone on before us, remain close to us as we seek the way forward and turn towards the “light that shines in the darkness”.

*Conor Harper SJ*

## HOSPICE COFFEE MORNING, SEPTEMBER 19TH, PARISH CENTRE

Thanks to all who helped and to those who came by. A big funeral did not help the donors who could not enter the car park! Contributions amounted to €1425. Our thanks to local Donnybrook businesses who gave us contributions:-

Donna the Florist, Dunns Butchers, Greenery Restaurant, Roy Fox, Molloy Fish, O’Connells Restaurant, O’Briens Wine Shop, Hampton Books, Black Pig, Booths Chemist, Tesco Merrion, Tony Walsh Pharmacy, Merrion Jewellers, Merrion Health Shop, Hireall Catering Sandford for cups etc. Fitzwilliam LTC who lent us a Burco boiler at very short notice  
*Marion Horgan & Mary McDonogh*

## BALLSBRIDGE, DONNYBROOK & SANDYMOUNT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

[www.bdshistory.org](http://www.bdshistory.org)

THURSDAY, 21 NOVEMBER 2013

*Reflections from a Bygone Age – Tony Behan*

THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2013

*Evening for Members Presentations and Annual General Meeting.*

Lectures take place at 8.00 pm in St. Mary’s National School, Belmont Avenue, Donnybrook. (Parking is available). Members free. Guests are welcome at €3.00 admission.

## PARISH DEVELOPMENT: WHAT AND WHY?

There is a story told about St. Francis of Assisi that, while praying before the crucifix in the ruins of the Church of San Damiano, he heard a voice saying “rebuild my Church”. His initial reaction was to hear that invitation in terms of a reconstruction project. Together with some friends, he restored San Damiano, and it became the original convent of the Poor Clares. Francis, however, seems to have realised that the voice that he had heard referred to something more than just a building project. The result was a significant renewal of the Church in the early years of the second millennium, which extended far beyond Assisi.

That same basic principle must surely apply to whatever development we undertake at Sacred Heart Parish, Donnybrook. The Church in Donnybrook is more than just a building. It is a community of faith. We **have** buildings, given to us by previous generations. Before undertaking any reconstruction project, I think it is important that ask ourselves “why”? What does it have to do with the renewal of the parish?

Our parish Church is the spiritual home of this community of faith. It is here that we gather to be nourished by the Word of God and with the Bread of Life. It is here that we celebrate some of the most important moments in our lives as Christians; the Baptisms, the First Communions, the Marriages and the Funerals. Many people comment on how well the Church looks, especially on those special occasions. It certainly has character, but the good impression it makes is due in no small measure to the excellent attention given by Eileen and Paddy, as well as by our volunteer sacristans, florists and cleaners.

If you look more closely, however, you will see that the walls are quite grubby, and the carpet in the sanctuary is threadbare in places. Our children become members of the Christian family through Baptism. The baptismal font is every bit as significant as the altar, but ours is only a portable bowl on a wooden

tripod. Our only toilet facilities are in the sacristy, which is not easily accessible for people especially once Mass has begun. Our access for people with disabilities could be greatly improved. Added to this, there are the routine maintenance tasks that need to be carried out at least once in every generation, the most obvious being re-wiring. There are certainly many practical reasons for considering the renovation of the Church, but the real reason has to do with our faith. Restoring the Church would be an expression of our intention to continue our life as a community of faith and to hand on this faith to the next generation, together



with the resources that would support them in living as disciples of Jesus Christ.

The finance committee, which has a responsibility among other things for parish property, has asked the architect to prepare a preliminary proposal for the renovation of the Church and of the Parish Centre and grounds. When this proposal is ready, we plan to present it to you the parishioners and to listen carefully to whatever comments you may have.

Work on the presbytery began in July and is scheduled to be completed by the end of November. This project was the first to be undertaken because the condition of the building was such that Fr. Martin was unable to move into it when he was appointed some years

ago. It was the particular wish of the Archbishop, on my appointment, that I would live in the parish. At the moment, the parish is renting a small house on Brookvale Road. The presbytery, when it is finished, will provide living accommodation for one priest, together with office facilities, and a board room where meetings of the Parish Council etc. can be held. Apart from essential structural repairs, the basement is not being renovated at this stage, due to the shortage of funds.

The renovation of the presbytery does, in some respect, challenge the community to consider who might actually live in this house in ten or twenty years' time. This parish, like every other, wants to have its own priest. But priests don't drop from the sky. They come from ordinary families in parishes just like ours. The restoration of the presbytery may well serve as a reminder to all of us to pray for vocations to the priesthood from among our own community and to consider how we might support and encourage that possibility.

*Fr Kevin Doran*

## MARIAN COLLEGE MUSICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS 'GREASE'

It's that time of year again when the students of Marian College, in association with Muckcross Park College, are making their final preparations for this year's musical, which is the ever popular GREASE. It promises, as always, to be a memorable night. The show will run from Wednesday 20th to Friday 22nd November inclusive. On opening night (Wednesday) tickets are priced at only €8. On Thursday & Friday tickets are priced at €10 for students and €12 for adults. A family ticket which consists of 2 adults and 2 students is €40. You can reserve tickets etc. by telephone on 01-6684036 (Anne or Marguerite will be happy to take telephone bookings) or by emailing me at paul.hard@yahoo.co.uk.

*Paul Harding*

## FAMILY MASS



Tabitha Wood, Michael Quinn & Fiona Mallin

The 10.30am Mass on Sunday has had an exciting development recently. A Children's Choir has been formed with a view to performing at this Mass every week. The Choir is made up of enthusiastic singers from the age of 7 years and older. Our first rehearsal on 30th September brought 29 volunteers, all children living locally and attending schools both in and outside of the parish, together. With the whole hearted support of Michael Quinn, the resident organist in Donnybrook, and Deirdre Seaver and Tabitha Wood supervising the singing, the children learnt several new songs. An electric organ has been very generously donated by Tabitha Wood, and this enables Michael to accompany the Choir, who stand at the side altar where they can be seen and heard by all. The debut Mass at which the children contributed in an energetic and lively way, was on the 6th October. A rota of readers is also being developed who will do First Readings and Bidding Prayers. This is all part of a larger plan to re-invigorate the 10.30am Family Mass to include children in the Liturgy, Offertory and of course the music. The group behind this are all parents, with children from the ages of 1 – 14 years. Our aim, with the full cooperation of the priests, is to encourage families to have a greater participation in the Mass and to make it a rewarding experience

for all ages. The homily at this Mass is delivered directly to the children, who are invited up to sit at the altar steps. On occasion there have been up to forty children there, who are all remarkably well behaved. Choir rehearsals are just before Mass each week, with a monthly evening rehearsal to learn new material. Any new members are very welcome, as are volunteers to read or help out with organisation. Please contact Fiona Mallin (fpegum@hotmail.com) or Tabitha Wood (tabithawoodbl@gmail.com) if you or your children would like to get involved.

Fiona Mallin

## MISSION TO LOURDES



A number of men and women who volunteer in the service of Notre Dame de Lourdes arrived in Lourdes on July 19th. The floods had devastated the grotto area, uprooting trees, destroying bridges, closing churches and the Abri Saint Michel (the volunteers' restaurant). The Gave – the river that flows through Lourdes was sole, fast flowing, filthy and full of debris and silt coming from the Pyrenees.

On arrival we reported to the Accueil to be assigned our jobs. Some of us went to work at the Grotto, some to the baths, some to the train station and some to the hospital. Six of us were assigned to

Couture – the sewing room, under the direction of Sr. Rosa, a Mexican sister with no English. These were joined by French and Italian Hospitaliers and some English as well. The floods had damaged a lot of the vestments. We had to wash them, iron them and, when ready, pack them away. We mended mitres and re-lined and ironed them. We also had to scrub the rust from the clothes hangers and re-cover them. The vestments were hung up on these hangers. It wasn't all work. We had our breaks for coffee mid-morning and mid-afternoon.

We chatted while we worked, swapped stories about each others' lives and had great fun. There was a friendly light-hearted atmosphere in Couture. The week passed quickly. We went to Mass each morning, in St. Cosmas and Damien, and attended the other ceremonies – processions etc. - in the evenings. After work one evening, the whole group of us went out together for the evening and had a wonderful time.

On July 27th we headed to Lourdes Airport and back to Ireland, having really enjoyed our week working for Notre Dame de Lourdes. Please God we will repeat the experience next year. Le Cúnamh Dé.

From the 7th to the 12th of September, I was privileged to go to Lourdes again, this time with the Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage. My duty on this occasion was apostolate to the sick, which involved meet and chatting with the invalids, accompanying them to the baths and in the torch-light Procession. I got a silver medal for my 5 years services. I consider it all a great honour and privilege to serve in Lourdes and have made great friends.

Sr Bertha Lee

## MASSES FOR DECEASED DURING THE PAST YEAR

Wed 6th Nov, 7pm in Donnybrook Church: A Mass for parishioners who died during year. All are welcome.

Sunday 10th Nov, 11am in Gonzaga Chapel: A Mass for deceased past pupils.

Sunday 17th Nov, 3pm at 77 St Stephens Green: Loretto Past Pupils Union Mass.



## BAPTISMS

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

Oscar Eamonn McKeown  
 Ann Clarke  
 Louis Cotter  
 Naomi Mary Clare Sheridan  
 Frederick Mark Nathan  
 Daire Fausta MacMahon  
 Pearl Catherine Hartley  
 Grace Margaret Hopkins  
 Orla Rose Gilmore  
 Lucy Marian Carr  
 Jasper Baltazar Thomas Roche  
 Alice Catherine Moloney  
 William George Callan  
 Grace Anne O'Callaghan  
 Saoirse Una Calvert  
 Sean Patrick Fogarty  
 Aiveen Teresa MacGregor  
 Evan Frank MacGregor  
 Emmeline Freda Byrne  
 Sophie Isabella O'Mara  
 Lauren Susan Cooney-Furlong  
 Amelia May Johnston  
 Rachel Grace O'Shea  
 Alison Victoria McManus  
 Jane Louise Lawless  
 Elise Maria Crean  
 Aisling Ruth Crean  
 Sean Patrick Moran  
 Pierce Michael Kelly  
 Rory Patrick Moore  
 Carla Jane Ranalow  
 Michael Aidan Quinn  
 Libby Grace Brennan  
 Georgia O'Keefe  
 Alannah Rose Toolis  
 Eabha Catherine O'Byrne  
 Isobel Jane McLaughlin  
 Eve Robin Rusk  
 Anna Louise McInerney  
 Luke James Scallon  
 Charlotte Olivia Crowe  
 Sophia Amalia Christina Hayes  
 Annabel Alexandra Higgins  
 Oliver Joseph Rochford  
 Esme Carville  
 Molly Kearney  
 Hugo Kearney



## DECEASED

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

Phil McNamara  
 James (Jos) McGrath  
 Maurice Foley  
 Edward McEvoy  
 Bernadette (Bernie) Kerr  
 John Smyth  
 Sheila Collins  
 Ann Smyth  
 Gordon McDonagh  
 Elizabeth (Lil) Deegan  
 Kevin Feeney  
 Josephine (Jo) Murray  
 Seamus Heaney  
 Edward Staines  
 Michael Mehigan  
 Maura O'Connor  
 Frances Kirby  
 Joan Callanan  
 Marie Sweeney  
 Dairine Little  
 Aileen Barry  
 Niall O'Keefe  
 Nuala Collins  
 Noel McKeon  
 Donncha Kelly



## MARRIAGES

We congratulate

Philip Lea & Claire McArdle  
 David Gardiner & Joanne Clarke  
 Alan Butler & Caroline Gaynor  
 David Carrigy & Deborah Hargaden  
 Ciaran Thompson & Pamela Cox  
 James Boyle & Heidi Gallagher  
 Charles Dempsey & Sinead O'Connor  
 Ivano Caffola & Sophie Gleeson  
 Fergus Leonard & Sandra Walsh  
 David Cummins & Chihiro Alston  
 and wish them every happiness

## MUCKROSS PARK PPU MASS

1st Sunday of February, March, April, September, October, November and December at 11:15am in Muckross Park. The Mass on the 1st Sunday in November is dedicated to all deceased past pupils.

## PRIESTS OF THE PARISH

Fr Martin Clarke, Parish Priest

Fr Kevin Doran, Parish Administrator  
Tel: 087 244 7358  
kevin.doran@dublindiocese.ie

Fr Conor Harper SJ, Curate  
Tel: 01 218 0244

Fr John Boyers, Parish Chaplain  
Tel: 01 288 8149

Monsignor Richard Sherry,  
Pastor Emeritus  
Tel: 01 269 2102

## PARISH OFFICE

Parish Centre (behind the church)

Office Hours:

Monday to Friday 9.00 am to 1.00 pm  
(Please leave the afternoons for essential administration)

## 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	445 4973
Margaret Whitla	260 0329

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

## SPONSOR

Thanks to Maurice and Marian Horgan who have kindly sponsored this edition of the Newsletter. We are most grateful for their generosity.