

# Newsletter



## Church of the Sacred Heart, Donnybrook

Autumn 2017

ISSUE 85

### Parish Pastoral Centre Update

Tenders for the building of our Parish Pastoral Centre were sought at the beginning of September.

Seven were received from contractors by the closing date of Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October.

The Parish Finance Committee met on Tuesday the 17<sup>th</sup> October to consider the tenders. The committee was very pleased to receive so many tenders from contractors with a record of delivering good work. All the tenders received were for a cost considerably in excess of what was envisaged when plans for the Centre were first drawn up three years ago. However, they were in line with what the Finance Committee had expected.

We want to maintain the current uses of the Parish Centre while the new one is built and this adds to the cost. Our next step is to meet with the first contractor of our choice. We hope that signing a contract to build the Centre will follow and that we will have good news of 'room at the inn', the building of our New Parish Pastoral Centre, by the end of next month.

### Do This in Memory of Me

On Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> of September, at the Family Mass, over sixty girls and boys were enrolled as candidates for First Communion, the next step in their journey of Christian Initiation which began at Baptism. At baptism their parents were asked "Do you accept the responsibility of bringing up your child in faith, knowing God as Jesus Christ has revealed him and keeping God's commandments as Jesus Christ has taught us?" Godparents are asked: "Will you support the parents in their duty as Christian mother and father?"

Baptism is the entry into Christ and His Church. Jesus asks all parents, "Let the children come to me?" Our Catholic Schools, St. Mary's and the Teresian School support parents in helping the children to know and love Jesus Christ and to form a close personal relationship with Him. The Parish 'Do This in Memory of Me' programme of special Sunday Masses throughout the year, also supports parents in helping their children to be 'in communion' with Jesus Christ and the Church.

Our parish is blessed in our Family Mass at 10.30 each Sunday Morning, at which children can participate very actively in the liturgy, singing, proclaiming God's Word, leading the Profession of Faith and Prayers of the Faithful, presenting the gifts, and gathering round the Table of the Lord for a special word for them. Our Family Mass Team also arranges refreshments for all the families after

some of these special Masses, to help build the ties of friendship and affection which enable us to be the Church.

At the Enrolment Mass, we, the Parish, were asked to journey with these families, to support, help and pray for them, to play our part in helping the children to respond to the invitation of Jesus "Come Follow Me".

### Child and Vulnerable Adult Safeguarding and Protection Training

A training day on the safeguarding and protection of children and vulnerable adults is taking place in our Parish Centre on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Members of the Parish Pastoral Council, the Parish Staff, those who lead the Family Mass and bring Communion to the sick and others, will attend. It is important in each parish that those who have contact with children and vulnerable adults have training in safeguarding and protection and training in awareness of signs of neglect or abuse and in responding appropriately. This training is both a responsibility and a service in our fidelity to the command of Jesus, 'Let the children come to me'. Any interested in participating should contact [parishsecretary@donnybrookparish.ie](mailto:parishsecretary@donnybrookparish.ie)

## The Altar of St Joseph

The altar in our church, dedicated to St Joseph, could also be dedicated to the Holy Family, displaying, as it does, events in the life of the family in which all share. The World Meeting of Families will be held in Dublin from 21<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> of August 2018; this event, begun by St. John Paul II is held every three years to celebrate the family as the fundamental block of society and the Church. The altar contains a wealth of details, many of which have relevance to present-day family life; while Joseph is a key figure in these scenes, he interacts with Christ and Mary, who share equally in the narrative.

Joseph is a link between the Old and New Testaments - being a righteous Jew who observed the Mosaic laws and customs of his ancestors, he was unwilling to marry his fiancée, the pregnant Virgin Mary until counselled in a dream (Matthew 1:20) to take her as his wife. He obeys the wishes of God, and the subsequent marriage is seen in the right altar panel. The Jewish High Priest presides, wearing his “horned” Mosaic headdress, *ephod*, and breastplate, the latter containing twelve stones inscribed with the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. Behind the priest is seen the Veil of the Temple, which encloses the room known as the Holy of Holies. This space was where God dwelt, and in which the Ark of the Covenant stood, containing the two Tablets of the Decalogue (1 Kings 8:2-6). The High Priest entered this space alone, once a year, to make atonement for the sins of the people. It was believed by the Israelites that God had left this earthly dwelling during the Babylonian captivities of 598, 597 and 588 BC, and that the Ark was lost, captured or hidden (Ezekiel 8:12-13).

In the altar panel, the Veil is being drawn back, and this gesture is interpreted as a reference that God, in the presence of Mary’s unborn child, Christ, is now returning to the Temple and will live among men; Christ, by his death, will atone for all the sins of humanity.



The flight into Egypt, on the left of the altar, shows Joseph again responding to God’s will, which has been revealed to him in another dream (Matthew 2:13-23). Joseph is taking Mary and Jesus away from the murderous intent of Herod the Great. This connects him to his ancestor Joseph, son of Jacob, who, also a dreamer, had been sold into slavery in Egypt (Genesis 37:12-35), and also to Moses, who, acting in obedience to God, will subsequently release the Israelites from slavery (Exodus 13:17-14, 29); Moses has been interpreted as a precursor figure of Christ.

This image has contemporary resonance with the daily reports of refugees fleeing dangerous political situations to foreign lands

with potential family fragmentation. The altar frontal shows Joseph in his role as patron of a happy death, attended by Jesus and Mary. There is no reference to the death of Joseph in Scripture; he is last mentioned on the occasion of finding the twelve-year-old Christ in the Temple (Luke 2:22-24). Traditionally, Joseph is thought to have died prior to Christ’s public ministry.

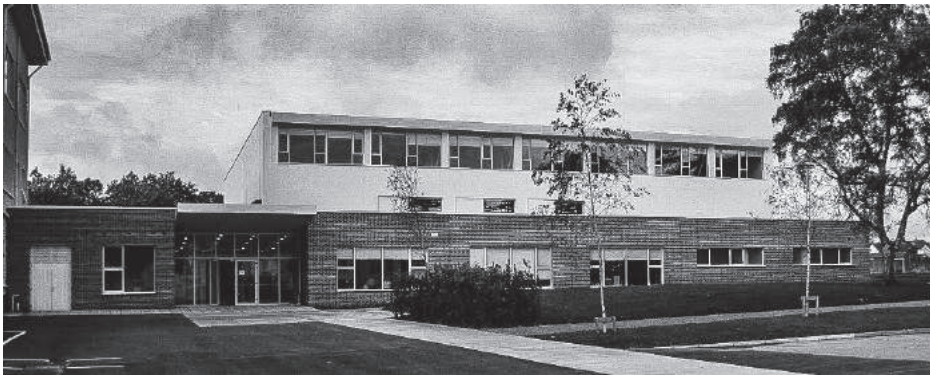
Devotion to the Holy Family dates only to the sixteenth century, when the concept of family came to mean immediate family, rather than the earlier interpretation of family as the entire household of all relatives, servants and even small private armies. The St. Joseph altar is linked to the early church through the relics of Christian martyrs, St. Probus and St. Eugenia (†257/258 AD), which were placed in the altar stone in 1923; both saints are depicted as corbel figures on the arch mould of the South Porch door.

Under the guardianship of St Joseph, the Holy Family here fulfil their vocations within the framework of family life. His care of the young, the unprotected, the refugee, is an inspiration to families and to the contemporary church, and is relevant to today’s world, while also being in dialogue with the world of the Old Testament.

The Feast of the Holy Family, as a model for Christian families, was instituted by Pope Leo XIII in 1893, and is now held on the Sunday within the octave of the Nativity

Colette Pegum





## Stillorgan Citizens Information Centre

The Citizens Information Centre, held in St Laurence's Parish Centre, Kilmacud, behind the Mill House pub, is now open again. The opening hours for our general information service on rights and entitlements are as follows.

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday**

**10am – 1pm**

**Monday and Thursday,**

**2pm – 4.30pm**

**There is no need to make an appointment.**

And you can phone us at **0761 077 440** or email [stillorgan.cic@citinfo.ie](mailto:stillorgan.cic@citinfo.ie).

We also offer a free **Tax Information Clinic** which is **strictly by appointment**. Please phone us at **0761 077 440** or at **0761 077 400** to book an appointment. At present we do not have a **Free Legal Advice Clinic (FLAC)**, but can make an **appointment for you in Dun Laoghaire or Dundrum**.

The Teresian School welcomes the appointment of Brenda Hynes as Acting Principal of the Secondary School and Lynda McHale as the Pre-School & Junior School Principal.

The school celebrated the official opening of the Jubilee Building Project on Sunday October 15<sup>th</sup> with a mass of thanksgiving concelebrated by Monsignor Paul Callan (past pupil) at 2.30pm in the new multi-purpose hall. This project is a transformational development in the life of the Teresian School and we look forward with great excitement to using the extensive new facilities.



## Getting Back on Track Financially

Most of us have some level of debt, but when unpaid debt becomes such a burden that it prevents you from getting out of bed in the morning, brings a sense of dread when answering the phone or opening the post, it is time to take control of the situation.

The effects of problem debt on a person's wellbeing and mental health can be severe and can prevent them coming forward for help but there is a solution to every debt problem and this is where the Insolvency Service of Ireland (ISI) can help.

The ISI is the independent government body with four debt solutions to help people with all levels of problem debt - from credit cards to mortgages. It regulates debt advisors called Personal Insolvency Practitioners (PIPs).

You could be insolvent if:

- you can't pay your bills in full when they are due
- You're paying a little off each bill trying to keep creditors at bay
- You've had calls and letters about missed repayments and threats of repossession.

If you are insolvent and in arrears on your home mortgage you could also be eligible for a free consultation with a PIP under the State-funded Abhaile Scheme. The purpose of that Scheme is to help people in serious arrears to find the best available solutions, with the help of professional advisors. The priority will be to find a sustainable solution that keeps a person in their home, where possible.

For more information visit [backontrack.ie](http://backontrack.ie), phone the ISI information line on 076 1064200 or freetext GETHELP to 50015 for a callback.

## BAPTISMS



We welcome the following, recently baptised, to the Christian Community in Donnybrook

Faye Roche  
Alfie Hurson  
Cian Leonard  
Isabelle Larkin  
Tom Barrins  
Eloise Kerrin-Wright  
Jack Atkinson  
William Geaney  
Harper Kilbride-Moody  
Robert Behan  
Mark Mooney  
Eve Jeffers  
James McHugh  
Tom Cullinan  
Charlotte Cullinan  
Kyle Billane  
Michael O'Donnell  
Will O' Sullivan  
Ronan O'Grady  
Liam Hughes  
Grace Harrington  
Hugo Gillespie  
Cara Kelly  
Alexander White  
Flynn Daly  
Alice Smithwick  
Henrietta Hourican  
Cole Baird-Cogan  
Gerard Mulhall-Harrison  
Skyla Mulhall-Harrison  
Florence Flanagan  
Frederick Flanagan  
Oisín Moffatt  
Rose Coyle  
Amelia Coyle  
Ewan Gaster  
Honor Hewson  
Darragh Heneghan  
Samuel Bennett  
Rhys Butterly  
Emma Kearns  
Chloe Murrihy  
Theodore Fearon

Emma McAree  
Eva Scalzo  
Andrew Lenehan  
Cara Quigley

## MARRIAGES



We congratulate

Aidan Mitchell/ Nicola Cox  
Kurt Kreltszheim/ Fiona Meehan  
John Flynn/ Helen Gaynor  
Byron Smith/ Ellen McCague  
Derek Parker/ Aoife Connolly  
Paul Kennedy/ Joan Malana  
Billy Norman/ Ruth Sullivan  
Peter Daly/ Susan Coates  
Henry Conway/ Eloise O'Riordan  
who were married recently.

### Priests of The Parish

Monsignor Lorcan O'Brien,  
Administrator,  
Tel: 087 2408975  
obrienlorcan@  
donnybrookparish.ie  
Fr. **Conor Harper** S.J., Curate,  
Tel: 01 2180244  
charper@clongowes.net  
Fr **Pat Sheary** S.J., Parish  
Chaplain, Tel: 01 2180255  
Fr. **John Boyers**, Parish Chaplain  
Tel: 01 6684356

### Parish office

Parish Centre (behind the church)  
Office Hours:  
Monday to Friday 9.30 am to 1.00 pm  
Parish Secretary: Oonagh O'Toole  
Tel 269 3926 E-Mail:  
secretary@donnybrookparish.ie

### Newsletter Team

Joseph Leahy, Niall Loftus, Anne Mescal, Daragh Mulvagh, Margaret Whitla.

## DEATHS



We extend the sympathy of the parish to the families of the following who died in recent months:

Ann Faulkner  
Peter McCusker  
Michael O'Brien  
John (Jack)Hickey  
Clare Cryan  
Samir Kerzzo  
Joan Madden  
Patrick Dolan  
Tom Dillon  
Joe Connolly  
Martin O'Connor  
Anne McCreanor  
Finola Quinn  
Teresa Supple  
Carmel Kelly  
Joan Whelan

May they rest in peace

### Consultation Christmas Night Mass

There are two Masses on Christmas Eve, a Vigil Mass and a Night Mass. In Donnybrook, we celebrate the Vigil Mass at 6 p.m. and the Night Mass at Midnight. Last year, we celebrated the Night Mass at 11.15, as it was broadcast live on RTE One. In recent years there have been requests to celebrate the Night Mass at an earlier time. The Parish Pastoral Council has decided that we should consult the people of the parish on the timing of the Night Mass. A Questionnaire will be issued to give you the opportunity to express your preference, Midnight, 11p.m or 10p.m . The Questionnaire will be available at the entrances of the Church over the next couple of weeks. Please fill one in and let us know your preference.