



Newsletter

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART
DONNYBROOK



ADVENT

The Season of Advent is that special time of spiritual Preparation for the celebration of the Feast of the Birth of Christ and to reflect on the meaning of His coming among us.



It is a time when we reflect on the parable of the good Samaritan, conscious of so many lacking not just luxuries but the necessities we take for granted.

Welcoming Jesus means welcoming all His brothers and sisters. The church is God's family in the world. In the family no one ought to be without the necessities of life. Your generosity to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a clear indicator of our parishioners concern and generous response towards the most needy.

WELCOME

Many of our parishioners living abroad have come home for Christmas and we are so pleased to welcome them at the Church of the Sacred Heart.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

One of the messages of Mary to Bernadette at Lourdes was the call to Penance. Our Christmas Penitential Service at 7.30pm on Tuesday 18th December, conducted by Monsignor Sherry, is a very important celebration in our immediate preparation for Christmas. In this Jubilee year, let all of us endeavour to celebrate well this great sacrament of reconciliation and maybe rediscover its importance in our living out our call to discipleship with Christ.

ABSENT FRIENDS

Our parishioners who have died since last Christmas will be remembered at the Christmas Mass, together with the bereaved, as their absence at the table is so acutely felt at Christmas.

Fr. Pat Carroll P.P.



LUCIA CONCERT & CELEBRATION

Thursday Dec. 13th, 7.30pm Sacred Heart Church, Donnybrook. The choir comes from the very northern part of Sweden bringing Swedish and International Christmas songs and carols. Tickets at €10 available from the Embassy of Sweden, Iveagh Court, Block E, Harcourt Road, Dublin 2, 9.30am - 12.30pm weekdays. Tel: 4744400. Remaining tickets will be sold at the church from 6.30pm on the day.

THE PASTORAL COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Pastoral Council takes place on Wednesday 12th December. Members of the Council may be approached directly or through the Parish Office. The Council may be contacted through The Secretary, Pastoral Council, Parish Office, Church of the Sacred Heart, Donnybrook, Dublin 4.

The Pastoral Council seeks to foster and support other Parish Groups in their work. There have been a number of such initiatives in recent months:

- Family Mass
- Shopping trips for the elderly
- 2008 Parish Calendar

Also being examined are:

- Visitation of housebound
- Parish Centre committee
- Bereavement group
- Liturgy group involving a Litmus (Liturgy and Music) course
- Public discussion meetings on various topics
- Parking near the church
- Disabled parking
- Loop system in the church for hard of hearing
- Parish social gathering



HAPPY CHRISTMAS

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

Fr. Pat Carroll P.P.

NEW BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

26th November, 2007

A new Board of Management took office in St. Mary's, our parish school on Belmont Avenue, on 1st December. Their term of office is four years. The Board has eight members. Two are nominees of the Archbishop, who is the school's patron. Archbishop Martin will appoint one of his nominees as chairperson of the Board. Two members of the Board are teachers in the school. The Principal, Ms. Rita Kinsella, is a board member ex officio. The other teacher, Ms. Fiona Murphy, was elected by members of the teaching staff. The parents elect two members of the Board to represent parental interests. Parents recently elected are Ms. Ann Marie Tyrrell and Mr. John Hogan. Ann Marie lives on Nutley Road and John lives in Bushfield Place. The remaining two members are chosen from the wider local community by the people already mentioned. They are Ms. Lucia Leahy and Mr. Tom Millar.

This incoming Board will have to decide how best St. Mary's can be refurbished to meet the needs of the 21st century. We have a well experienced design team appointed. We hope, with their help, to build a school which people will admire, because it represents what is finest in modern school architecture. This is a challenge which the new Board will face with great enthusiasm.

We are aware that the number of applicants seeking admission to St. Mary's has grown enormously since it opened as a co-ed school in 1980. It gives us no pleasure to have to tell parents that we cannot accept their children. We will try to see what we can do to increase accommodation. We will need all your support and encouragement.

I would like to pay tribute to the retiring members of the out-going board. They gave great service and were most generous with their time. Some out-going members have been re-elected. Their experience will be invaluable as the new Board begins its mandate.

*Rt. Rev. Mgr. Richard Sherry
Outgoing Chairperson,
Board of Management 2003 - 2007*

THANK GOD

If you can't thank God for what you have
Thank Him for what you haven't.

CARDINAL BRADY

Congratulations to Cardinal Seán Brady on the occasion of his elevation to the College of Cardinals on November 24th last.

“Love, not ambition, is the characteristic of Christ's disciples”, Benedict XVI recalled during the consistory in which 23 new cardinals were elevated on Saturday, including Ireland's Cardinal Seán Brady.’

‘With the elevation of the new cardinals the college now has 201 members, 120 of which under 80 and would thus be electors in a conclave. There are 104 European cardinals, 20 from North America, 34 from Latin America, 18 from Africa, 21 from Asia, and 4 from Oceania. Ireland has three cardinals.’

‘Cardinal Brady told the media following his elevation to cardinal that he was full of hope for the future in Ireland, in particular because of the well wishes he had received from Loyalists.’

“I hope that people in Ireland will see in it an expression of our Holy Father's particular regard and affection for them and for the Church in Ireland,” he told a press conference.’

‘But in the midst of the challenges, the “overwhelming majority of priests and religious” had continued to serve the people, “in humble patience, with quiet devotion and outstanding generosity.”’

www.catholicireland.net
Catholicireland.net 2002-2007

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Eucharistic Adoration in the Adoration Chapel will break for Christmas on Wednesday 19th December.

Eucharistic Adoration in the Adoration Chapel resumes on Monday 7th Jan 2008 at 9am - 5pm and continues ‘as is’ Tuesday 7am - 9pm & Wednesday 9am - 5pm.

Christmas Greetings to all who share in the Eucharistic Adoration throughout the year. Your commitment, help and devotion to the Blessed Eucharistic is greatly appreciated.



NELLIE MULCAHY

Congratulations to Nellie Mulcahy, an exhibition of whose haute couture of the 50's and 60's has opened in the National History Museum, Collin's Barracks, Dublin.

ECUMENICAL CAROL SERVICE

There will be an Ecumenical Service of Carols and Lessons in the church of the Sacred Heart, Donnybrook on Sunday 16th December from 3.30 - 4.30 pm. We will be welcoming representatives from St. Mary's Church of Ireland Anglesea Road, St. John's Sandymount and from the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches as well as Star of the Sea Church Sandymount and St. Patrick's Ringsend.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE

The Penitential Service will be conducted by Monsignor Sherry at 7.30pm on Tuesday 18th December. There will be a number of visiting confessors.

THE TERESIAN ASSOCIATION PERU SALE

Heartfelt thanks to all parishioners who very generously came and supported our Peru projects.

You will be delighted to hear that we raised €2,800 which will be put to very good use in Villa El Salvador. A group of students from the Teresian School will go there next Summer to continue the hands-on involvement in the Social Projects. Special thanks to Fr. Carroll for facilitating and supporting this sale.

Inés Neira

YOUTH CORNER

CONGRATULATIONS to our two chosen writers, Becky & Hannah, who each receive €50. Thank you to all those who submitted excellent articles. We encourage all the youth of the parish to submit further articles, on any subject that might interest our readers, to newsletter@vodafone.ie

HOW RELIGION IS RELEVANT IN 21ST CENTURY IRELAND

Through the last decade, Ireland has grown in prosperity. Our once small rural society has become a hive of activity filled with colour and vibrance - anyone would think that all this progress would bring happiness to the people of Ireland. However, this would not seem so.

In recent years church attendance has declined. People say they have no time, there is no space in the modern world for God, his church and the worship of it. The country has changed - and so too has it's people, the church should accept this - and adapt to the changes. Instead, they

have become blind to the fact that they are misreading the present situation.

People need guidance in our modern world, to help cope with the pressures of life. In each person there is an empty space that can only be filled by God. Though many people ascertain that God is irrelevant in today's world, they don't seem to realise they are losing what defines them, gives them a sense of wholeness, and at the end of the day isn't that what everyone wants?

Becky Scott

Fifth Year, The Teresian School, Donnybrook.

Religion can never be forbidden

Or completely banished from our lives.

But occasionally it is hidden,
Simply striving to survive.

Sometimes we may forget.

The sacred slipping from our minds.

But it's a fairly safe bet,

That it's what our hearts will surely find.

Hannah McCarthy,

Fifth Year, The Teresian School, Donnybrook.

LOCAL HISTORY

Ballsbridge, Donnybrook & Sandymount Historical Society recently announced their forthcoming events to commemorate the centenary of the Irish International Exhibition of 1907, held on the site of what is now Herbert Park. This exhibition will now be on show at Dublin City Library Pearse Street from 11th December to the end of January.

Other events in the New Year are:

Thursday, 24 January 2008:

Down the Dodder

- Dr. Christopher Moriarty.

Thursday, 21 February 2008:

Baggot Street Hospital

- Professor Davis Coakley.

Thursday, 13 March 2008:

Writers and Artists of Ballsbridge, Donnybrook and Sandymount

- Peter Costello.

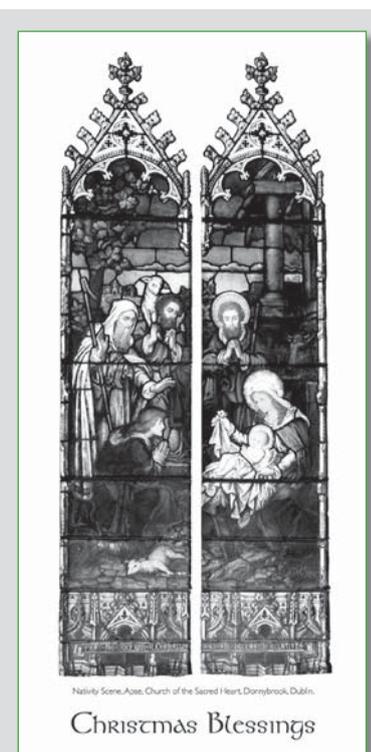
Thursday, 10 April 2008:

From Bootmaking to Building - a look at how Patrick Plunkett and Patrick Cranny became Dublin 4 and 6 developers.

- Honor O'Brolchain.

All lectures take place at 7.30 pm in St. Mary's National School, Belmont Avenue, Donnybrook, Dublin 4. Parking is available. Members free. Guests are welcome at €3.00. Ballsbridge, Donnybrook & Sandymount Historical Society, Pembroke Library, Anglesea Road, Ballsbridge. Dublin 4.

CHRISTMAS AT OUR PARISH SHOP



PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS

The parish shop is a busy place at the moment. Our volunteer shopkeepers are delighted with the sale of our parish Christmas cards. They are still available at €10 for a pack of 10 cards or €1.50 for a single card.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

We stock the very popular children's book "Usborne Advent Nativity book" which is a best seller in Veritas, as well as jigsaw puzzles and Bible pop-up books for young children.

DUBLIN DIOCESAN GUIDEBOOK 2008

You can place an order for the 2008 edition by reserving your copy and paying €12 (price to be confirmed) in advance. We expect delivery in mid-January.

Church Art calendars and diaries are always popular and tend to sell quickly.

"CLONSKEAGH A PLACE IN HISTORY" BY MARTIN HOLLAND

Copies of this book are available for sale at €20. It has many references to Donnybrook particularly in regard to education. There is a photograph of a stained glass window in our church.

LIBRARY

A gentle reminder to those who have borrowed books and especially DVDs to return them and mark them off in the Library Notebook.

THANKS

Thank you to our loyal customers who have supported the shop and offered us advice and requests. We are a committee of three, Daragh Mulvagh, Peter Dunn and the writer. We are most grateful to our shopkeepers for their commitment. The shop is an important parish faith resource and depends on your support.

Gráinne Davitt

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE

6pm and 12 Midnight.

CHRISTMAS DAY

9.30am, 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30am

The Church Parish Choir with soloists and orchestral players will sing the Midnight Mass and the 11.30am Mass on Christmas Day. The 10.30am Mass on Christmas Day will be a Family Mass.

There will be no evening Mass in Donnybrook on Christmas Day. The only evening Mass on Christmas Day is celebrated at 8pm in Frances Street.

The weekday Mass after Christmas Day is celebrated at 11am instead of the usual 10am. The regular timetable returns on Monday 7th January.

Masses for the Feast of the Epiphany - Sunday 6th January will be celebrated at 9.30am, 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30am and 5.30pm. There will be a Vigil Mass at 6pm on Saturday 5th January.

POBAL DÉ

Pobal Dé (the people of God) are a lay group which was set up in 1987. The aims of Pobal Dé are:

To increase awareness and understanding of the vision of the Church as The People of God - an inclusive Church of love, of justice, and truth.

To explore ways of giving practical effect to this vision.

To consider how the members of the Church might dialogue more effectively with one another and with society.

To develop spirituality which engages with the contemporary world and supports people in their daily lives.

The next conference will be held on 1st March 2008 in the Jesuit Conference Centre, Milltown Park. The theme of the meeting is "Is love enough - action makes love real" and all are welcome.

Pobal Dé may be contacted at

Pobal Dé Information, C/O 58 Belmont Avenue, Donnybrook, Dublin 4.



MARRIAGES

We congratulate

Nicholas Norman and Avril O'Connor
and wish them every happiness



DECEASED

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

Patrick Walsh
Mary Reilly
Margaret Murphy
Peter McGuire
Maureen Murphy
Brendan O'Malley



BAPTISMS

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

Ciarán Owen Sweeney
Malena Maria McEnroe
Julie Sarah Breslin
Mateo Andrew Guterrez
Kate Bernadette Hackett
Aaron Franz James McGuire
Emily Ann Bragonier Walsh
James Paul Bragg
Daniel Martin Ryan
Abbie Christine Collins
James Michael Maher
Andrew Joseph Norse
Sophia Vitteria Haughton
Sibéal Ula Duffy
Keelin Niamh Murphy
Liberty Jean Marshall-Lacey
Méini Rose Kelly
Mathew Kevin Haugh
Seán Francis Caulfield
Ciara Mary Doody
Sophie Mary O'Connor

MASS TIMETABLE

Saturday Vigil Mass at 6 pm

Sunday Mass at 9.30 am, 10.30 am,
11.30 am, 12.30 pm, 5.30 pm

Daily Mass at 7.30 am and 10 am

Mass cards may be signed in the sacristy after each mass. Enter at the side of the altar or by the back door.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 9.30 - 9.55 am and after
6.00 pm Mass until 7.00 pm

BAPTISM

Second and Fourth Saturday of each month by arrangement.

MARRIAGE

3 Months notice required by both Church and civil authorities

PRIESTS OF THE PARISH

Fr. Patrick Carroll, Parish Priest
Tel: 283 8311

Fr. Declan Gallagher, Curate
Tel: 269 2052

Monsignor Richard Sherry,
Pastor Emeritus
Tel: 269 2102

PARISH TEAM

Pastoral Sister: Sr. Bertha
Tel: 269 3926

Director of Music: Catherine Killoran
Tel: 087 233 1797

Organist: Michael Quinn
Tel: 085 362 3128

PARISH CENTRE

Mon - Fri 10.30 - 2.30 pm
Mrs. Cassidy

Tel: 269 3926
Fax: 269 3903

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Coreen Dennis	269 4852
Mary McDonogh	269 2338
Peter Dunn	668 3074
Gaye Fallon	283 9059
Daragh Mulvagh	269 4482
Mary Plunkett	668 3407

Correspondence to the Parish Centre.

SPONSOR

Thanks to Tony and Mairéad Lynch who have kindly sponsored this edition of the Newsletter. We are most grateful for their generosity.