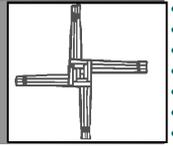




## St. Brigid's Parish, Killester

### Parish Newsletter June 2013



Dear Friends,

How time flies ! The middle of June brings the longest day of the year and then the days will gradually shorten. This time of the year is quiet in the life of a Parish. The primary schools will close at the end of the month for the Summer break and we take this opportunity of again thanking all those who teach in and manage our Parish schools so efficiently. It is also a time when many of our parishioners go on holidays and we say *bon voyage* to them. I think it is true to say that the older you become the quicker time passes. A good question to ask yourself is how old do you feel ? We are all a certain age chronologically, but we seldom feel that age. This was brought home to me when I was recently at a performance of the Lion King in the Bord Gais Theatre. There were people of all ages present and yet all became young again as we marvelled at the wonderful presentation. Age is simply a number. As long as we maintain the ability to wonder, we will be forever young. The same is true for the manner in which we live our Faith. We become old when we fail to marvel at the miracle of life. We become old when our coming to Mass becomes mere routine, and we don't allow it change us. We become old when we refuse to embrace the challenge of the future. Pope Francis in his first few months as Pope has shown that despite his 76 years, he remains very young at heart and his enthusiasm for life is so encouraging. Blessed John Paul II often quoted an old Polish proverb which said that if you spend time with young people you will remain young yourself. And he certainly did ! I hope you all have a youthful Summer! Until the next time, Fr. Michael.

#### Archbishop Martin's Pastoral Visit

On Thursday the 30<sup>th</sup> of May Archbishop Martin visited our Parish and administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to the boys of St. Brigid's School. The occasion was marked by presenting the Archbishop with a beautiful photographic record of the many celebrations of the 50<sup>th</sup> International Eucharistic Congress which took place in our Parish. This magnificent volume was made possible in great measure thanks to the untiring work of Louis Gillick, Chairperson of our Congress Committee, the Committee itself and in particular Brendan McBride whose superb photography covered each and every event. We owe them a great deal of gratitude. The Archbishop was delighted with the book. It will provide an invaluable record for the years to come and a further copy is being retained in our parochial archives. *Fr. Alex*

#### Vigil for Life

On Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> of June, there will be a vigil for Life in Merrion Square, Dublin, from 3pm to 4pm. The Government intends to legalise abortion in July, and a large attendance in Merrion Square is essential to oppose this. The vigil will send a clear, positive message about safeguarding the lives of mothers and babies in pregnancy. Posters will be available on the day. Please spread the word to family, friends and anyone you know.

#### Our Parish Auditors.

A Parishioner, on receiving our recently published financial report for the years 2009-2012, wondered who were our auditors. Through an oversight, I happened to omit their names. The financial auditors for the Parish of St. Brigid's, Killester are: **Hughes Blakes, Chartered Accountants, 23 Holles Street Dublin 2.**

*Fr. Alex.*

### **Our Parish - Moving Forward**

This time last year Fr. Alex, the Patron, asked me to be the acting Chairperson of the Board of Management of the Resource Centre. I took on the role, conscious that as a Board we had arrived at a time of transition. A number of members of the previous Board had expressed the wish to retire after many years of great stewardship and service. At the same time the Parish Pastoral Council was in need of renewal, and I came up with the idea of amalgamating the two groups, not quite knowing how it would turn out. I am very happy to report that this new Board is gelling very well together. Our combined task is to look at the *pastoral needs* of the Parish as they manifest themselves in both the Church and the Resource Centre. We are blessed in having two wonderful buildings for which many parishioners and others have such a genuine fondness. Both buildings form an integral part of St. Brigid's Parish, and our task is to ensure that those who come, be they Parishioners or visitors, experience a genuine Christian welcome. The physical stones of both buildings are important but of even more importance are the living stones which build up our Christian community. As the 1<sup>st</sup> letter of St. Peter states "Jesus is the living stone.....and you too may be living stones making a spiritual house" (2:3)

For me, Sunday in our Parish is the day that best expresses what we the parishioners should always strive to develop and nurture. We gather as the family of God and together break the bread of God's Word and Eucharist in the Church, before going across to our Resource Centre to become more fully what we have received, the Body of Christ. In the Resource Centre we share one another's stories, our joys and sorrows and we become Church. This wonderful Centre is known far and wide and it is always heartening to hear of the great sense of ownership that people continue to feel as they remember the many 'bricks' they bought to help in its construction. In the coming year the Board plans to develop even more that essential *pastoral link* between the Church and the Resource Centre. May St. Brigid continue to guide us.

*Fr. Michael*

### **The members of the Board for the next 3 years are:**

*Alanagh Brougham*  
*John Caulfield*  
*Sr. Aileen Doggett*  
*Stephen Duggan - Treasurer*  
*Sharon Feerick*  
*Pat Kenny*  
*Carol Nash - Secretary*

*Tom O'Brien*  
*Lorraine O'Byrne*  
*Fr. Michael O'Grady*  
*Kathleen O'Regan*  
*Pauline O'Regan – Centre Manager*  
*Eithne Reynolds*  
*Msgr. Alex Stenson — Patron*

### **LONELINESS**

What is loneliness ?

It isn't only the missed phone calls.

It is that those you long to speak with are no longer contactable, except in thought.

You look for the cheerful smile, the warmth of voice, the loving touch, the understanding glance, shared silence.

Above all, one needs to keep memory alive by bringing that name into daily conversations by including it in reminiscences, so that absence does not become an abyss of emptiness, but is transformed into a protecting presence which permeates all our days and weaves our past and present into Eternity.

*A Parishioner.*

### **Pope Francis: why I chose the name**

"Some people wanted to know why the Bishop of Rome wished to be called Francis. Some thought of Francis Xavier, Francis DeSales, and also Francis of Assisi. I will tell you the story. During the election, I was seated next to Cardinal Hummes, a good friend! When things were looking dangerous, he encouraged me. And when the votes reached two thirds, there was the usual applause, because the Pope had been elected. And he gave me a hug and said: "don't forget the poor!". And those words came to me: the poor, the poor. Then, right away, thinking of the poor, I thought of Francis of Assisi. Then I thought of all the wars, as the votes were still being counted, till the end".

16th March 2013 in Paul Vi Audience Hall.

**Recently deceased - please pray for the souls of:**

Patricia Collins, Carna, Co Galway.  
Dennis Byrne, Killester Park, Dublin 5  
John Creane, Tramore



Jane Clarkson Kelly, Belmont Park, Raheny, Dublin 5  
Tim Power, Castle Avenue, Dublin 3

**Baptisms—We are happy to welcome into our Christian Community:**

Joshua David Shanley, Drynam Hall, Kinseally  
Spencer Michael Lardino, Grayslake, Illinois, Chicago, USA  
Alejandro Robert Stewart, Castle view, Artane, Dublin 5  
Ada Mary Caulfield, Foxfield Pk., Raheny, Dublin 5

**Resource Centre News**

**Good Luck, Donna.**

We are losing our baker Donna who is going to bigger and better things. She has got a job in a famous restaurant. We will miss Donna for her great baking and her cheerful smile. Thank you Donna we wish you the best of luck.

**THE PEACE GARDEN.**

The new growth has started at last, and our gardeners Maura and Brian have been doing great work planting up baskets and beds and putting the gardens to rights after the long winter. Well done to both of you, you are doing a wonderful job. How pleasant it is to sit in a well-tended garden.

Thanks to you both Maura and Brian.

**VARIETY CONCERTS.**

What a night, with the talent of Killester at its best. Two sell out nights. Well done Carol and Maggie, you produced some grand performances worthy of the London Palladium, and St. Vincent de Paul benefited too.

**EUROVISION SONG CONTEST.**

Eurovision has come and gone and we did not win. Ah! Well. The Eurovision holds some wonderful memories for one of our favourite visitors to the Centre. Mary Hoey, yes she is the wife of the famous golden voiced tenor Bryan Hoey. Once long ago Mary was in the limelight when she went along to Madrid as a member of the beautiful backing singers when Muriel Day represented Ireland with the "Wages of Love". They came fourth, which was excellent. Mary was a founder member of the legendary Lindsay Singers, under the baton of Mrs. Ethna Barror. Mary remembers a great visit to Madrid, where they were treated so well with tours of the beautiful city and all the excitement and buzz of the show itself. Mary is an elegant and charming lady who well remembers the visit to Madrid when Ireland took her place among the nations of Europe.



*Pauline O'Regan*

**St. Brigid's Parish Shop, Killester**

There is now in stock a large selection of religious items including Mass cards, Mass bouquets, pictures, angel pins, crucifixes, holy water fonts, candles and christening candles, medals, rosary beads, prayer leaflets and a lot more. There is also in stock birthday, retirement, good wishes and get well cards together with Willow Tree Guardian Angels by Susan Lordi.

Why not call into the shop and see for yourself the large array of goods available. The shop is open after all the Masses at weekends and is located at the side of the Church nearest car park.

At back of Church there is now a large selection of Prayer and Reflection booklets including "The Power of an hour with Jesus" which is especially appropriate for use during Eucharistic Adoration now taking place Monday and Tuesday from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm and Thursday night from 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

**Parish contact details:**

Monsignor Alex Stenson, P.P. 01-833 3793  
Rev. Michael O'Grady, C.C. 01-853 3466  
Parish Office Ph. 01-833 2974 Parish email: [killesterparish@eircom.net](mailto:killesterparish@eircom.net)  
Parish Website: [www.killester.dublindiocese.ie](http://www.killester.dublindiocese.ie) Resource centre Ph. 01-853 4030  
Resource Centre email (new address): [resourcekillester@gmail.com](mailto:resourcekillester@gmail.com)

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26 Killester Park D5  
Contact Lina 087 9662 609 / 846 5507

**Scoil Rince Cill Easra  
Adult Ceili Classes** every Thurs  
8.30 pm in Resource centre  
**Children's Dancing Classes**  
Venue 126 Abbeyfield  
Monday -Thursday  
3.30 p.m. onwards  
Contact Jacqueline  
at 831 8654 and 086-256 1000

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George Humphrey  
087- 9787380

**St. Brigid's Resource Centre, Killester  
Every Wednesday Evening**

17:00 - 18:00 **Junior Higher**  
18:15 - 19:15 **Leaving Ordinary**  
19:30 - 20:45 **Leaving Higher**  
20:45 - 22:00 **5th Year Higher**

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