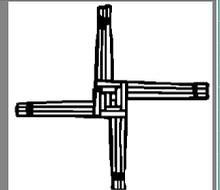




St. Brigid's Parish, Killester

Parish Newsletter

October 2014



Dear Friends,

The saga continues! In recent Newsletters I have tried to keep you updated on the alterations that were taking place in our Parish due to the changes in personnel. Well, the surprises continue. In a letter I received from Archbishop Martin on my return from the Holy Land, he informed me that Fr. Brian Durnin was being appointed "Curate in the Parishes of St. Brigid, Killester and Our Lady of Mercy Artane", with effect from the 20th of September. He will reside at 12 Brookwood Grove, Artane, the presbytery vacated by Fr. Michael. Needless to say, Fr. Brian is most welcome to the Parishes and the fact that Fr. Jim will also be with us, albeit not on a full time basis, greatly eases our situation for the time being. I know you will also make Fr. Brian most welcome.

The recent Pilgrimage to the Holy Land was most successful thank God and we encountered no difficulties. It was clear that the recent terrorism and violence in the area had totally discouraged many from making the trip. The scarcity of Pilgrims not only from Ireland but from many other countries was most understandable. I reflected as we drove around the Sea of Galilee in the shade of the slopes of the Golan Heights that it was hard to believe we were not far from a war-ravaged country where chaos and slaughter continues to take place as ISIS infiltrates Syria from Iraq. One has only to watch the News to see the horrific turmoil. Please God, all Middle East Countries, Israel included, will find their way to true peace with all their neighbours.

Fr. Alex

"Could you watch one hour with me?" (cf. Mk:14:37)

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



We here in St. Brigid's Church, Killester have a group of approximately 55 dedicated "Adorers" who give an hour of their time in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on either Monday or Wednesday from 11.00 am to 3 pm, or Thursday from 7 pm until 8 pm.

We operate a roster system and each individual commits to an hour per week, thus ensuring that Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is seldom left alone. It would be wonderful to be able to add another day or even two to our Eucharistic Adoration. This of course, would require more volunteers to come forward. Sometimes it may be possible to only give half an hour of one's time to any particular day, but even that can be very fulfilling.

To be honest, I was a reluctant joiner. The idea of giving up an hour of my time, even once a week, simply to sit and pray didn't appeal to me at all, but now I look forward to the peace and serenity which weekly Adoration affords me. My friends benefit also, as I use the time to pray for their special needs and causes.

If you wish to join and respond to Our Lord's invitation to his Apostles in the Garden of Gethsemane: "Could you not watch one hour with me". (Mt.26:40), please contact Carmel at 01- 831 0559 or Louis at 087 242 838 for more information.

Thank you, Breda Dunlea.

Dates for October

Thursday 2 nd October –	Baptism meeting 7.30 pm Resource Centre.
Tuesday 14 th October –	Funeral Ministry Meeting 7.30 pm Resource Centre.
Thursday 16 th of October –	Board of Management Resource Centre 7.30 pm
Sunday 19 th October –	1st "Do this in Memory" Mass (Mission Sunday) 10.30 am
Thursday 30 th October –	Baptism Meeting 7.30 pm Resource Centre

The Holy Land Pilgrimage

People asked were we wise to go to the Holy Land and why do I return there so often. At this stage I have just completed my 12th visit, having first gone there in 1976. In a sense visiting the Land where Jesus was born, lived, died and rose again, opens up an entirely new experience on the Old and New Testaments. Indeed many writers refer to the Land as a 5th Gospel as it continues to provide a vivid backdrop to the life and times of Our Lord.

On Monday 8th of September we left Dublin for Istanbul, where we made the connection to Tel Aviv. We were met by Abe Hillel, an absolutely wonderful Jewish guide, whom I have known for many years, and we travelled with him the 40 miles up to Jerusalem to our hotel.

Our Pilgrimage first focused on visiting the holy sites in and around Jerusalem and Mass was celebrated daily in some of the most revered of these, e.g. The Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre, and a cave close to Gethsemane. Carrying a large cross we made the journey along the Via Dolorosa to Mount Calvary. We visited Bethlehem and celebrated Mass there in a cave used by St. Jerome where he translated the Bible into Latin (the Vulgate).

In Galilee we sat out on the Sea there in glorious sunshine, with the boat's engine switched off. It was a blue calm lake, with the Golan Heights on one side, and Capernaum, Magdala and Tiberias on the other. There in complete and absolute silence took in the view. We then held a Prayer service on board as the silent boat rocked ever so gently on the Sea. It was a glorious moment and one to treasure. It was so hard to believe that wars and rumours of wars were so close.

Throughout the Pilgrimage we were all conscious that we were walking in the footsteps of Jesus and seeing many of the sights and views He himself had seen. In many ways it helped make more concrete our knowledge and experience of the Faith we have in Our Lord. The scenes spoke powerfully to us and not only was our Faith strengthened, our minds enlightened, our hearts uplifted, but we are left with beautiful memories and experiences that will stay with us always.

Fr. Alex

Padre Pio (Feastday September 23rd) Capuchin Friar and Mystic (1887 – 1968)



Padre Pio was forced to carry a double cross. On one hand he bore the painful, bleeding wounds that marked his body with the passion of Christ. At the same time he endured the burden that came from being popularly acclaimed as a living saint. It is hard to say which was the heavier burden.

Vatican experts scoffed at reports of Padre Pio's wounds. Disturbed by his popularity, they instructed him for a number of years not to say Mass publicly – an order that caused him great spiritual pain. They suggested that his stigmatic wounds were a result of psychosomatic stress, caused by too much concentration on the passion of Christ. To this Padre Pio responded: "Go out to the fields and look very closely at a bull. Concentrate on him with all your might. Do this and see if horns grow on your head".

Padre Pio was capable of extraordinary prophecies. In 1947, when he heard the confession of a young Polish priest, Karol Wojtyla, he made the astonishing declaration that this priest would one day be Pope. He was later to be canonised by Pope (now Saint) John Paul II in 2002.

Guardian Angels (Feastday October 2nd)

Today we celebrate God's messengers who protect each and every one of us. We read about them throughout the Bible. Angels delivered special messages from God, protected people from dangers and rescued them. In chapter 12 of the New Testament, Acts of the Apostles, we read how St. Peter was set free from his chains and led out of prison by an angel. The Church has taught for many centuries that human life is under the watchful care of angels from infancy until death.

The picture of a guardian angel that we often see is an angel protecting two small children as they cross a small bridge. In reality, angels are spirits and do not have bodies as humans do. That is why we cannot see our guardian angel, who never leaves our side! In 1608, Pope Paul V added today's feast to the calendar of saints and celebrations. It is encouraging to know that we each have an angel guarding and protecting us. Our guardian angel is a gift from our loving God.

We can say this brief prayer often throughout the day:



***Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love entrusts me here,
ever this day be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.***

Recently Deceased - please pray for the souls of:

Bridie Moran- Ennafort Road



Michael Finglas – Donnycarney Road

Baptisms—We are happy to welcome into our Catholic Community:

Amelia McCann – Abbeyfield
Nia Brennan – Howth Road, D.5
Jack Powell – Killester Park
Kyle Mead – Finglas



Alex McMahon – Templeview, D.13
Jack Drysdale – Abbeyfield
Noel Grant – Gracefield Road, D.5
Keelin Mooney



Wedding—our congratulations to:

Paula Dalzell and Darragh O'Malley – Custom House Harbour, D1

Resource Centre News

Coffee Morning: once again our Coffee Morning in aid of St. Francis Hospice was a great success. It was fantastic to see so many people out to support such a great cause. We had a wonderful team of Volunteers on duty on the day. Hats off to every one of them - you all played a blinder!! As funds are still coming in, the total raised will be announced at a later date.

Classes: These are back in full swing, as is our **Coffee Dock** with freshly baked cakes and breads on offer. Why not drop in for a cuppa and a chat... We are always looking for new Volunteers to help out in the Dock. It is a great way of getting out and meeting new people in a friendly and welcoming environment.

Last month the Centre was once again chosen to host the **Dublin City Council Annual Neighbourhood Awards**. The Centre received great reviews and a brilliant night was had by all. Well done to all who won on the night. A huge "thank you" to Sharon and Feerick, and Kathleen O'Regan, for all their hard work and excellent hospitality.

Film Club: I feel I need to take this opportunity to set the record straight regarding the Wednesday film show. This was not cancelled by the Board of Management. The Board however did feel that Room 4 could be better utilised and so allocated the film show to another room. The Centre has the equipment available to continue showing movies and we are willing to continue with the Film Club provided someone wishes to take this responsibility on board. It was never the Board's plan to see the movies discontinued and we would like to see them back up and running soon.

Karol

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.

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, and CDs covering our Catholic faith, life and truth for all.
All proceeds go to Parish funds.



Parish contact details:

Monsignor Alex Stenson, P.P. 01-833 3793

Parish Office 01-833 2974

Parish email: killesterparish@eircom.net

Parish Website: www.killester.dublindiocese.ie

Resource Centre Ph. 01-853 4030 email: resourcekillester@gmail.com

Maths Classes

George Humphrey 087- 9787380
St. Brigid's Resource Centre
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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