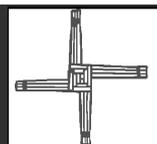




St. Brigid's Parish, Killester *Parish Newsletter September 2013*



Dear Friends,

In the last Newsletter when speaking of our new Pope Francis, I wrote that "The Holy Spirit remains full of surprises and is alive and active in the Church today". Little did I realise just how full of surprises the Holy Spirit is when springing one on both Fr. Michael and me at the end of last July.

It was then we were both asked to meet Archbishop Martin who really surprised us when suggesting that we extend our pastoral care to the Parish of Artane. Due to an acute shortage of priests in the Diocese, their two priests were being moved to pastures new: Fr. O'Connor to Baldoyle and Fr. Healy to Roundwood, Co. Wicklow. We were asked to consider taking on the responsibilities for the additional neighbouring Parish and to reflect on this proposal while the Archbishop was away at World Youth Day in Rio.

You are probably aware that St. Brigid's had been 'clustered' with the two Parishes of Raheny and Kilbarrack. Indeed, throughout the Summer because of Church renovation in Raheny and the unavailability of their priests, we had seven or eight of their funerals in St. Brigid's. So, in so far as we were anticipating any possible change, we envisaged little happening for perhaps a year or two when some closer links might then develop with our cluster group. But that was not to be!

On the Archbishop's return we met with him again, talked through the new proposals and shortly after received our letters of appointment in respect of Artane. I was appointed P.P. of Artane in addition to my current position and Fr. Michael was to be Administrator pro tem there, while maintaining some agreed responsibilities with Killester. This all takes effect from the 7th of September.

Obviously this unexpected development necessitates immediate changes in St. Brigid's which I outline below. It will also mean my covering both Sunday Masses here for three weeks of every month and Artane for the remaining one, while Fr. Michael will celebrate Sunday Masses in Artane with one Sunday each month here in St Brigid's. While all these changes are not written in stone, you will understand that they are a first attempt to cope with our new situations! I trust you will appreciate that we had to act speedily to meet this unexpected development and challenge. The Holy Spirit is certainly a God of Surprises!!

Fr. Alex.

New Mass Times at St. Brigid's Church as and from the 6th of September:

Saturday Vigil Mass: 6.30 p.m.
Sunday: 10.30 a.m. and 12.00 noon
Weekday Mass: 9.15 a.m. *

**If there be a funeral, the funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. as usual,
but the 9.15 Mass will be cancelled on those days.*

Message from Father Michael

Dear Friends,

As Fr. Alex has outlined, we were both very surprised at the invitation of the Archbishop to extend our pastoral care to the parish of Artane. The change will have a big impact on me personally as I have to move house and also take on a new role as Parish Administrator, while maintaining links with St. Brigid's. You will be seeing me less often. I thank you for the warmth of your welcome extended to me when I arrived here on the 1st of February 2010. The last three and a half years have been enriching for me. I felt very much at home here, and hopefully in some small way I have helped you in your following of the Lord. I want to thank especially Fr. Alex. We have worked well together and enjoyed many a laugh.

St. Brigid's is a great parish and as I move on from here I pray that the beautiful Church Building and the Parish Resource Centre like a seamless garment will together continue to offer solace and hope to all who come through their doors.

For me it is farewell, but not goodbye. *Fr. Michael*

Mass Times in Our Lady of Mercy, Artane

Saturday Vigil (at present) 6.30 p.m.

Sunday 10.00 a.m. and 12.00 noon

Weekdays 10.00 a.m. only.

Changes in St. Brigid's Church

A very special welcome to our new Sacristan Paddy Orange who is already finding his feet in the complex task of looking after the Church, the Altar and the Sacristy. We wish him a long and happy stay with us.

Parishioners will have noted the relocation of the **Shrines of St. Anthony of Padua** and **St. Teresa of the Child Jesus**. Attention is drawn to a **Relic** of St. Teresa at her Shrine along with a document attesting its authenticity.

It is proposed to transfer the lovely picture of **Our Lady of Perpetual Succour (Help)** from the back wall of the Church and place it in a 3rd Shrine, close to that of St. Anthony. A short history of the Picture along with an explanation of some of its features and the Novena Prayer will be available on a card at the new Shrine.

The **Seating** in our Church has been adjusted to facilitate easier movement for the reception of Holy Communion. Passageways are now accessible on both sides of the Pillars, facilitating ease of return also. All of the **Name Plates** of the deceased, which were attached to seats that have been removed, are being replaced on the benches that remain in the centre of the Church.

The 3:7 at Croke Park?

Now that Dublin are in the All Ireland Final a question has been asked of me by people either attending GAA matches or watching them at home on TV. They ask what is the significance of the banner which simply states "Jn. 3:7" held up in the crowd behind the goalposts. It's almost like the score of one of the teams.



It is a reference to Ch. 3 verse 7 of St. John's Gospel, a particularly important text which reads: **"Do not be surprised when I say: You must be born from above"**.

The context: Jesus is responding to Nicodemus, a leading Pharisee who visited him by night and who questioned him as to how a grown up person could be "born again". What did it mean? Jesus goes on to explain that we are reborn through Baptism by the Holy Spirit of God and begin to share even here and now in God's eternal life — a life which conquers all things even death itself.

So it is a promise of everlasting life! And that is surely Good News!

Fr. Alex

Recently deceased - please pray for the souls of:

Seamus Yeats, Dunluce Road
Margaret (Gretta) Flanagan, Vernon Drive
Ann Arnold, La Verna Grange, Baldoyle
Patricia Murphy, All Saints Road
Frank Barry, Howth Road, D5
Finnbar Fay, Avondale Park, D5
James McGraine, The Demense



Lar Fagan, The Orchard Killester
Catherine Wilds, Bayside Square east Sutton
Betty Teeling, Rathmore Park, D5
Peadar Dowling, Nannikin Avenue, D5
Joanne Courtney, Bettystown Avenue, D5
Kathleen Farrell, Abbeyfield
Maureen Murphy, St. Annes Avenue, Raheny

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

Anna Richmond, The Orchard, Killester
Chloe Popovich, Maryfield Drive, Raheny
Rachel Delany, Dunluce Road.
Lochlann O'Rourke, The Orchard, Killester

Ruby Davis, The Pines, Killester
Amelia O'Brien, Dunluce Road
Harry Ball, Howth Road, D5

Weddings — our congratulations to:

Paul Ryan & Emily Murphy, Island View Court, Raheny Sarah Price & Donal Relihan, Shannonbridge, Co. Offaly
Rachel Fennelly & Neil Dalton, Howth Road Louise Fealy & Paul Callely, The Orchard, Greenwood Estate

Resource Centre News

The Centre reopened after our break on Sunday 1st September. All our clients and volunteers are very welcome back for another season. The Centre has had a complete refurbishing and is fresh and ready to meet you all. **All our usual classes and courses will be starting soon**, so do have look at our activities sheets to find out what's on that might suit you.

COFFEE MORNING for St. Francis Hospice will take place on Wednesday 18th September. Your continued support for this very worthy cause would be much appreciated. Tell your friends, and come along for a chat and meet everyone.

ARTS AND CRAFT FAIR will take place on 9th and 10th November this year. It is always a great weekend, with a variety of stalls to tempt us to get ahead of the Christmas present list.

S.B.S. CLUB re-opens on Wednesday 18th September, when we welcome back all our members.

Ms. Alice Leahy, the co-founder of **TRUST** will come along to thank all our members for their very generous help after her previous meeting with us last year. TRUST is a voluntary body set up in 1975 to help people who have fallen on very hard times

There is a full programme of events planned for the coming season by our every efficient committee who will be on hand to welcome you all on the 18th Sept.

WELCOME ON BOARD to our new maintenance staff of Bernadette, Paul, Thomas, and Tony who will join Karol and Tommy in keeping our Centre in the excellent condition you have become accustomed to.

OLD KILLESTER SOCIETY will be getting together in the near future to make plans for coming events and ideas. The Exhibition held in June was an outstanding success and much talked about on the Internet and elsewhere. This was all down to the hard work done by the Heritage and Cultural Studies Group in St. Peter's College (2013) and Old Killester Society members. If you are interested in joining please contact Margaret Bonar at 087 649 1605.

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 are 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 the 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 Wednesday 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
Parish Office Ph. 01-833 2974 Parish email: killesterparish@eircom.net
Parish Website: www.killester.dublindiocese.ie Resource centre Ph. 01-853 4030
Resource Centre email (new address): 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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