



**ST AGNES' PARISH
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**
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Priests of the Parish

Fr. J. Deasy P.P. Ph. 4550955
Fr. J. Foster Ph. 4650714
Fr. P. Coffey Ph. 4650707
Fr. P. Brewster Ph. 4650716

Family Offering: €2,720
Share: €3,391
Many thanks for your continued support and generosity

Thought for the Week

"We do not inherit the Earth, from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children."

Time for New Beginnings

The 'Weather' is always a great conversation starter. And now the topic of climate change tends to raise the bar several notches. While other areas of the world are already in the grip of big changes in weather patterns we are still waiting to see what will happen in our little corner of the globe. In warmer regions drinking water is becoming a scarce resource, and deserts are creeping into once cultivated land. We know all this, but perhaps this Advent might be an appropriate moment to reflect, for a change, on what kind of world we are welcoming the Christ Child into? Many of the Advent readings have an ecological 'slant' reminding us that Jesus came, not just for me, not just for us but to inaugurate the reign of God, to reveal the beginning of a new creation. At the very start of Advent Isaiah shouts his excitement "Let the wilderness and the dry lands exult, let the wastelands rejoice and bloom; let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil, let it rejoice and sing for joy"



Because:
"God is coming to save you"
And the sign of this coming will be, not only that the sick will be healed, but also, incredibly, creation itself "for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wastelands, the scorched earth becomes a lake... There is a very close connection between the state of humankind and the state of creation in the Bible. From the very beginning God made it so. The first humans were entrusted with the garden that was earth to till and care for it. After they sinned, earth also began to get disorderly and out of control. The author in Genesis says that God "Cursed" the earth because of human sinfulness: "Accursed be the soil because of you! By the sweat of your brow will you earn your food"

Sin is like a contagious disease. It destroys relationships, not only between God and humans, or between humans themselves, but also between humans and the world around us. Advent, the beginning of a new Liturgical year, is a time of new beginnings. A season of active waiting and expectancy. It is a time to "prepare the way of the Lord" How? By taking the time to reflect more deeply on the ecological aspects of Incarnation. Of Jesus taking human flesh and becoming human. One consequence of this great mystery is that all of the natural and human world is sacramental; each created thing reveals some aspect of God's life. But is it beyond the bounds of possibility to envisage, sometime in the future, in some place, that there is no water to baptise an infant, because all the fresh water has dried up?. Or that the grain has become so contaminated that bread is poisonous? Experts have pointed out more than once that a polluted earth cannot truly reveal or convey the love, life, and holiness of the Divine. It is still not too late to take the collective steps needed, although the need to do so is of absolute urgency.

The mystery of Incarnation allows us a glimpse of the indwelling presents of the Divine in all things, throughout all human history and within our daily, yearly lives. Jesus came not just to be born, but to remain with us. With this faith our eyes open to see God's presence, not only in certain people, certain experience, but all around us. Everything is infused with the sacred. Reverence is an attitude to pray for; awareness and mindfulness too. Can you see the presence of God in the world around you, in creation, in the life of the people? What contribution can you make to caring for the earth?
Columban Justice and Peace Newsletter.

**Society of St. Vincent
De Paul.**

**ANNUAL CHURCH COLLECTION
IN PLACE OF SHARE
AT ALL Masses this weekend
Please be generous**

**Multi National Carol
Service.**

Walkinstown Parish is home to many people of many nationalities. We invite our neighbours from overseas to sing Christmas Carols with our local choirs in the Assumption Parish Church on Monday the 17th of December at 7.30pm. National traditional musical instruments would be most welcome. Those wishing to take part should leave name and contact number with the Priests of the Parish or Jimmy Banks at 4519 695

Christmas cards in aid of the Lorcan O'Toole Centre are available from Carmel [at back of Church]. Fantastic Value @ €4 per pack of 12.



St. Anthony's Brief.

Behold the cross of the lord!
Fly ye powers of Darkness!
The Lion of the tribe of Judah,
The Root David,
Has conquered.
Alleluia.

Ever since it's propagation, people have been wearing 'The Brief' as a protection against temptation and illness. It is usually printed for this purpose on linen or some other kind of cloth. It can also be done in metal and worn as a medal-in the form of a cross. No enrolment or investiture is necessary. Copies are available in the Repository and from the Missionary Union in Merchant's Quay.

**Christmas Youth
Retreat.**

14th to 16th December
2007
St., Paul's Secondary
School, Greenhills, D.12.
www.youth2000.ie

Free Buses.
Contact
Kevin 086 3025 442
Youth 2000 Office
01 6753690
MARY 0785 1203 181
[From N.I.]
No cost-Donation only.
Bring a sleeping Bag!

Advent Prayer.

"A maiden is with child"
Continuing Tuesday 11th
7.45pm to 8.30pm in the
Parish centre.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 8th December 2007

7:00pm Shared Mass

Sunday 9th December 2007

9:00am David Blood {1st A}

10:00am Terri Dore {A}

11:00am Brigid Downes {A}

12:00pm Edward Rabbitte {A}

1:00pm Jack Brennan {A}

7:00pm Edward McDonnell {A}

Please Pray For: Bridget Mooney {A}
Gerard Manning {A}

*May their Souls and the Souls of all the
Faithful Departed Rest In Peace. Amen*

St Agnes Parish Readers Roster

Saturday 15 / 12 / 07

7.00pm Sarah Byrne

Sunday 16 / 12 / 07

9.00am John Green

10.00am Family Mass

11.00am F. & M. Healy

12.00pm Sean Byrne

1.00pm C. Nagle

7.00pm William Elliott

*Spare Copies of Prayers of the Faithful
are available in the Sacristy. If you
cannot make your reading, please
contact John Green or the Sacristy.*

**St. Agnes' Family Mass
Group.**

We would love to welcome new children & leaders to our Family Mass Group. We practise in Parish Centre 6pm-7pm Wednesday evening to prepare for Mass Sunday 10.00am.
Queries to Susan 087 2244 048

Bring your Skills to the Developing World!

Since 1960, Viatores Christi {Catholic Lay Missionary Development Workers}, has aimed to respond to needs overseas and at home by giving people an opportunity to share their lives and skills with those in need. People from all backgrounds and professions join Viatore Christi—people who want to challenge themselves to make a difference in the world, however big or small.

Viatores Christi lay Missionary development workers are assigned to projects which deal with a range of Social and Justice issues throughout the world including AIDS /HIV projects, displaced peoples, healthcare, intellectual disability, education and indigenous peoples. We need people from all disciplines, from teachers to electricians, doctors to administrators, farmers to childcare workers.

If you are interested in learning more, please come along to our information and recruitment session in Dublin on Saturday 15th December 2007 from 11.0am -3.30pm[All day event] at 38/39 Upper, Gardiner St., D.1
Contact Colette Rooney at Colette@viatoreschristi.com or Tel. +353 -1-8749 346/ 8728027 or Log on to www.viatoreschristi.com



O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear, Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel!
2. O come, now Wisdom from on high, Who orders all things mightily; To us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel!

Christ be our Light

Christ, be our Light! Shine out through the dark, shine! Christ be our Light! Shine in your Church gathered today. Longing for Light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth we turn to you. Make us your own, your Holy people, light for the world to see. Christ be our Light!
Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone has power to save us, make us your living voice. Christ be our Light!



Receive O Father in Thy Love

1. Receive O Father in thy love, These humble gifts of bread and wine: That with ourselves we offer thee, Returning gifts already thine.
2. Behold this host and chalice, Lord, To thee on high the gifts we raise: Through them may we our honour pay, Our adoration and our praise.

How Great Thou Art

1. O Lord my God when I in awesome wonder, consider all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars I hear the mighty thunder thy power through-out the universe displayed.
Chorus: Then sings my soul, my saviour God to thee, how great thou art, how great thou art, then sings my souls my saviour God to thee How great thou art, how great thou art.
2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees when I look down from lofty mountains grandeur and hear the brook and feel the gently breeze.