



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: €2,541

Share: €2,742

Many thanks for your continued
support and generosity

Recently Deceased

Christina Walsh, Milgate Drive
Matthew Blanchfield, Windmill Pk
Catherine Smithers, Drimmagh Rd

We express our deepest sympathies to
Their families at this time.

May They Rest in Peace. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 29th December 2007

7:00pm Shared Mass

Sunday 30th December 2007

9:00am Alfred Byford {1st A}

10:00am Teresa & James Clancy &
Teresa O'Neill {A}

11:00am Margaret McArdle {A}

12:00pm Peter & Mary McGuinness
{Anniv.}

1:00pm Margaret & William Byrne
{Anniv.}

7:00pm James McEvoy {49th A}

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

St Agnes Parish Readers Roster

Saturday 05 / 01 / 08

7.00pm Pauline Byrne

Sunday 06 / 01 / 08

9.00am V McDermott

10.00am Family Mass

11.00am P Morrison

12.00pm R Tobin

1.00pm N Talbot

7.00pm J O'Rourke

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

Christmas Dues

May we remind you about your
Christmas dues Envelopes were
distributed to all homes in the Parish
before Christmas and spares are
available at the exit doors in St Agnes
church. Please return your dues to the
Parish Office, the Sacristy or the
Family Offering Box at the rear of the
Church.

Thought for the Week

"Those who saw courtesy reap friendship, and those who plant kindness, gather love"

LESSONS FOR US

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph—the model family. How in God's name can the likes of us be expected to imitate a family like that, One of them was a Saint, another was God's Mother and the third was the Son of God Himself! Sure the thing about the Holy Family is that it was different—so different, so exceptional, so out of the ordinary that it has lessons for nobody but itself.



That the Holy Family was different there can be no doubt. But to say they have no lessons for us is simply not true. In fact, one of the most noticeable things about the Holy Family is that they had problems. They had a problem even finding a stable where Mary could give birth. Joseph and Mary had the immediate problem of protecting their newborn baby from the murderous intentions of Herod. All their lives long, the three of them lived in deep shadow, the deepening shadow of the Cross. One thing the holy Family was not is a plastic family, a cellophane family. It experienced all the difficulties and trials that human flesh is heir to. Holy it may have been, but wholly irrelevant, never.

Another thing I can say with certainty is that there isn't a family that doesn't have some kind of trouble. The Chinese have a proverb that says "Nobody's family can out the sign "Nothing the matter here". No family escapes. Suffering takes different forms and different degrees of severity but at some time or another it seeps under every door. No matter what form trouble takes, there is one way in which the Holy Family can support us and serve as model. And that's the way in which they loved one another.

They became holy as a family in the way they loved. And their togetherness as a family, their cohesiveness as a family is very much Known—they travelled up to Jerusalem together, Mary and Joseph presented their child together to the Lord. They travelled back together to Galilee. They settled together in the town of Nazareth, where Jesus in the warmth and faith of His own family, grew in God's favour and wisdom to his maturity as a man. Loyalty is very important to your own family. Reserve your deepest kindness for your own home. We all have faults, but don't forget we all have virtues too.

Like the Holy Family, every family is a suffering family at some stage or another. Let there be cohesiveness in your family as there was in theirs. If some member of your family is suffering—rally round. Carry the Cross together as best you can. When the going gets really rough—pray to the Holy Family for inspiration and support. They know what you are going through and they were given by God to help you. May God bless your family in the coming year. May you enjoy above all harmony and health. And may you as a united and prayerful family have the grace and strength to cope with the inevitable troubles when they come.

CEREMONY OF FAREWELL

This Monday 31st December at 4pm in St Agnes's Church, we invite our Parishioners and friends to join us for a Service of Farewell for the Old Year and to ask God's Blessing as the New Year approaches. Refreshments in the Parish Centre Afterwards. All are welcome to come and join us.



CHRISTMAS CAROLS



Please Join with us in Singing Our Carols this Christmas and New Year

1. Adeste Fideles

1. Adeste fideles, laeti triumphantes, Venite, venite in Bethlehem. Natum videte, regem angelorum, Venite adoremus, venete adoremus, venete adoremus dominum.

2. Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine, Gestant puellae viscera. Deum verum, genitum non factum, Venite adoremus, venete adoremus, venete adoremus dominum.

2. Away in a Manger

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head, the star in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay.

2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes, I love thee Lord Jesus look down from the sky, And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

3. Be near me Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me forever and love me I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

3. While Shepherds Watched

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground, the angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around

2. "Fear not", said he, for mighty dread, Had seized their troubled mind. "Glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and all mankind"

3. "All glory be to God on high, and on the earth be peace; Good will henceforth from heaven to men, begin and never cease.

4. Once in Royal David's City.

1. Once in royal David's city Stood a lowly cattle shed, Where a mother laid her baby In a manger for his bed; Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

2. He came down to earth from heaven, Who is God and Lord of all, And his shelter was a stable, And his cradle was a stall; With the poor, and mean, and lowly, Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

5. Silent Night

1. Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright round yon virgin, mother and child; Holy infant so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

2. Silent night, holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight, glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing alleluia; Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.

3. Silent night, holy night, Son of God, loves pure light, Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord at thy birth, Jesus Lord at thy birth.

6. Angels we have heard on high

1. Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply echo still their joyous strains

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2. Shepherds why this jubilee? Why your rapturous strain prolong? Say what may your tidings be, which inspire your heavenly song. **Refrain**

3. Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing; come, adore on bended knee, Christ our Lord the new born king. **Refrain**

4. See within a manger laid, Jesus, Lord of Heaven and earth. Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise. **Refrain**

7. The First Nowell

1. The first Nowell the angel did say, was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel!

2. They looked up and saw a star, shining in the east, beyond them far, and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. **Refrain.**

8. O come all ye faithful

1. O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold Him born the King of Angels.

Refrain: O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

2. Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above, Glory to God in the highest. **Refrain.**

3. Now Lord, we greet you, born this happy morning, Jesus to you be glory given, word of the Father now in flesh appearing. **Refrain.**

9. Hark the Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark the herald angels sing, glory to the new born king, peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled; Joyful all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies, with angelic hosts proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem.

Refrain: Hark the herald angels sing, Glory to the new born King.

2. Christ by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb; veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity, pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel. **Refrain.**

World Peace Day

New Year's Day is World Peace Day. Let us remember in prayer this year those who are the innocent victims of armed struggle and ethnic violence. Pray also for our soldiers serving overseas on peace missions under the auspices of the United Nations.



Diocesan Guidebook, 2008 Edition

Each Year the Diocese publishes a Directory filled with information. I'm afraid publication is running late and it will not appear until the middle of January or even later in the month. If you wish to order a copy, please leave your name, address and phone number in the Sacristy or Parish Office on or before Tuesday 8th January. The cost is approx € 12 per copy

Mass Times following Christmas and New Year

Early New Year 9am & 10am only.

Our daily Mass schedule of 8.00am, 9.00am, 10.00am, and 7.00pm will not resume until Monday 7th January 2008

Please Note This change this year.