

**ST AGNES' PARISH  
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**  
TEAM MINISTRY OF CLOGHER ROAD.,  
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**Priests of the Parish**

Fr. Paul Tyrrell Ph. 4555368  
Fr. Peter Coffey Ph. 4650707  
Fr. Michael Kelly Ph. 4542308  
Fr. John Deasy Ph. 4550955  
Fr. John Foster Ph. 4650714

**Family Offering: € 1,704**

**Share: € 1,483**

*Many thanks for your continued support and generosity*

*Thought for the Week*

*"Happiness is accepting and choosing life, not just submitting grudgingly to it." - Jean Vanier*

**Darkness that Nurtures**

Every year, in the cold dark days of January, a quiet miracle takes place. In gardens, at the foot of tall trees or in forgotten corners, a small white flower emerges from the hard and often frozen earth. Like a secret long hidden in the dark, the snow drop emerges without fuss or fanfare; a little white flower whose presence in these wintry days draws a reaction from even the bleakest soul.

Shortly afterwards the crocus comes, then daffodils, narcissi and all the wonderful flowers of spring. But it is the little, tender snowdrop that first breaches the bleakness, that gently and silently hints of something or Someone beyond the deepest darkness.

Who would have thought that so delicate and seemingly frail a flower, on so slender a stem could withstand the cold of January? Who could have imagined that the darkness held so precious a treasure?

Life grows in darkness. Hidden in the silent earth seeds and bulbs are nurtured until the day comes when they emerge into the light. We too need darkness in our soul - making journey through life. There are treasures hidden in our hearts, treasures we ourselves do not know, though we may sometimes get a glimpse of the riches within. More often we bemoan the dark, lash out against our painful and unwanted circumstances and ignore the little shoots climbing to the light. The nurturing power of darkness is a great gift from God. But how difficult it is for us to believe this! How difficult to wait with patience, with acceptance, for the creative power of God to bring us through. Seasons of growth take time. No one becomes fully human in an instant. God will, in His own time, fill us with light. Then our life, like the snowdrop, will reflect something of His beauty. *Sr Margaret*

**Dublin Diocesan 21st World Day of the Sick 2013:** Invites you to a seminar on 'SHARE THE GOOD NEWS', The word of God and the sick. Saturday February 9th 2013 9.45am-1.00pm. All Hallows College, Grace Park Road, Drumcondra. Telephone 087 6220349

**CONFIRMATION AND FIRST COMMUNION**

Some of our young parishioners are presently preparing for the Sacraments of Confirmation, First Communion & Reconciliation.

All Parishioners are invited to pray for these children by taking a child's name (or two) from the baskets placed at the church exits and praying for that named child over the coming weeks.

**Alpha Ireland National Coordinator:** Vacancy: The purpose of this role is to grow the number of Alpha courses in Ireland year on year, to achieve the vision of Alpha Ireland. The successful candidate will need to be committed to, and knowledgeable about Alpha as a tool for evangelisation. If you know anyone interested in this role please indicate interest by emailing [alphairel@eircom.net](mailto:alphairel@eircom.net) for the full Job Description, a vision statement for Alpha in Ireland, and an invitation to an Open Day in January.

**The Parishes of Mount Argus – Rathmines - Harold's Cross,** invite you to **Learning to forgive to lead the joyous life** a presentation by *Dr Robert Enright* In Our Lady of the Rosary, Harold's Cross Parish Church, **Mon 4th Feb** from 8.00pm – 9.30pm (45 minute talk with time for questions and discussion)

**Sunday, Feb 3 THE BODY OF CHRIST**  
*An afternoon of reflection and prayer for Ministers of the Eucharist.*

2.30pm-5.30pm €15 John Byrne and Bernadette Toal

**Saturday, Feb 9 DAY FOR YOURSELF**

*The God of surprises; dealing with the unexpected.* 10.00am-4.30pm with the option of staying on for Mass at 4.30. €50 Bernadette Toal & John Byrne.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND BOOKING CONTACT: Fr. John Byrne OSA, Orlagh, Old Court Road Dublin 16.**

Tel (01) 495 8190

Email: [info@orlagh.ie](mailto:info@orlagh.ie)

Website: [www.orlagh.ie](http://www.orlagh.ie)

**Simon of Cyrene Meeting** on Tuesday 29th Jan at 7.30pm in the Liffey Room, in St Agnes Parish Centre. The Speaker will be Anne Mescal, Alzheimer's Society.

**Church Refurbishment.** 'A small amount of the grey / green wall mosaic will be removed from the side aisles and transepts during Wednesday and Thursday afternoon 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> of January. This is being done in advance of the refurbishment works in order to examine the original plasterwork and wall'

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN MAKING A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE? COME AND JOIN US (18-35 year olds)**

**Where :** MagisIreland, 20 Upper Gardiner St. Dublin 1. **When :** July/Aug 2013

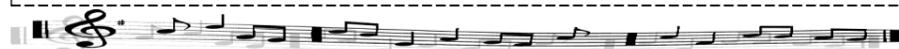
**Contact :** Debbie at [debbie.moore@magisireland.com](mailto:debbie.moore@magisireland.com) Tel: 01894 3165

Download application form from our website [www.magisireland.com](http://www.magisireland.com)

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**OVERSEAS IMMERSION PROGRAMME SOUTH AFRICA 2013**



**Christ Be Beside Me**

- 1.Christ beside me, Christ before me, Christ behind me King of my heart; Christ within me, Christ below me, Christ above me never to part.
- 2.Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all around me shield in strife; Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting, Christ in my rising light of my life.
- 3.Christ beside me, Christ before me, Christ behind me King of my heart; Christ within me, Christ below me, Christ above me never to part.

**Gifts of Bread and Wine**

Gifts of Bread and Wine; Gifts we've offered, Fruits of labour, Fruits of love Taken, offered, sanctified, Blessed and Broken; Words of one who died: Take my Body; take my saving blood. Gifts of bread and wine: Christ our Lord

**All People That On Earth Do Dwell**

- 1.All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice. Him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell; come ye before him and rejoice.
- 2.Know that the Lord is God indeed; without our aid he did us make; we are his folk, he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
- 3.O enter then his gates with praise; approach with joy his courts unto; praise, laud, and bless his name always, for it is seemly so to do.



**Accord Collection:** The Annual Collection of ACCORD, The Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family, will be made at all Masses on the weekend of 2nd and 3rd February. The Collection for ACCORD will replace the usual Share Collection. ACCORD Dublin throughout the diocese offers Marriage Preparation Courses Counseling for couples and individuals experiencing difficulties in their relationships, marital sexual therapy and a Relationship and Sexuality Programme for Schools.

**Feasts Celebrated this Week**

1. **Thursday January 31st is the Feast of St. John Bosco**, Founder of the Salesians. He died in 1888. He worked with boys educating them for life. He is Patron Saint of Youth and Catholic Publishers
2. **Friday February 1st is the Feast of St. Brigid.** One of our Patron Saints. She was born in the year 454 and was renowned for hospitality, Almsgiving and care of the sick. She died in the year 524 and she is honoured in several European countries.
3. **Saturday February 2nd is the Feast of The Presentation of The Lord.** It is the custom to Bless Candles on that day. It is a reminder of Simeon who recognised Christ as 'A Light to reveal Jesus to the Nations'. Let us walk always as children of the light.
4. **Sunday February 3rd is the Feast of St. Blaise.** He died a martyr in Armenia in 315AD.

**N.B. As the feast takes place on a Sunday this year, the blessing of throats will take place this year on Monday 4th February after 9, 10am, and 7pm Mass**

Adoration in the Oratory. Spend some time in silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Dedicated Adorers are always required

**A Brand New Start**

We are into the 'Year of faith', and we are encouraged to ask ourselves the question: 'What can I do to increase my Faith'? The Little Flower has said 'It is not necessary to do extraordinary things, just to do the ordinary things well'.

In St. Joseph's Young Priests Society we are only asked to do two simple things : To pray for vocations and for priests, and to help students for the priesthood, both at home and abroad with their studies. We have a small and hardworking group and would like to increase our numbers in this Year of Faith.

We have planned a quiet Holy Hour in the Oratory from 3pm to 4pm on Monday 28th January and all are welcome and I hope that many people will join us in prayer that God's Blessing will be on our Society and that he will grant us good vocations and priests according to His heart. Fr John Foster will preside. The Society meets the 2nd Thursday of each month after 10am Mass until 11.30 in the Parish Centre.

**There is Power in Prayer.**

Marie Lawlor

**Recently Deceased**  
*John Nolan, Cromwellsfort Road  
Larry Johnston, Armagh Rd  
Margaret Finnegan, Stanaway Ave  
We express our deepest sympathies to their families at this time.  
May They Rest in Peace. Amen.*

**Readers Roster**  
**Saturday February 2nd 2013**  
7.00pm D Callaghan  
**Sunday, February 3rd 2013**  
9.30am John green  
11.00am F & M Healy  
{Family Mass}  
12.30pm Richard Tobin  
7.00pm William Elliott  
*If you cannot make your reading, please contact John Green.*  
*The next readers meeting will take place on Monday 28th Jan @ 7.30pm in the Parish Centre*

**Christmas Dues**  
The Dues envelope you receive at Christmas And Easter helps to support the priests of the Parish. They are an important source of income for the Clergy. All working people in the house should be asked to contribute. Spare envelopes are available at the Church exits.  
We thank you for your generosity

**Perrystown & Manor Est. Lady's Club will re-open on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January.**

**We would like to welcome Fr. Tom Clowe from Salesian House who will help out in the Parish over the next few weeks.**

**Catholic Schools Week**  
This Sunday, 27th Jan marks the beginning of Catholic Schools Week 2013. The purpose of the week is to highlight and celebrate the wonderful contribution that Catholic Schools make to our local communities and society in general. This year's theme is Catholic Schools in the Community of Faith: Sharing the Good News. We invite our schools to mark the occasion. Material has been supplied to each school in the Parish.

**John Delaney will speak at Bread of Life Prayer Group – Blessed Sacrament Chapel, 20 Bachelors Walk, at 8pm on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January. All welcome.**