



**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: €2,774
Accord: €5,108

Many thanks for your continued support and generosity

Thought for the Week

"The main challenge facing the Church in the next decade is to convince more and more people that it has the most precious of all gifts to offer, namely faith in Jesus Christ"
Cardinal Sean Brady

Lent is in The Air

On Friday we celebrate the feast of St. Brigid, which in Ireland is traditionally considered the first day of Spring. Although Spring does not officially begin until March, over the last week or so there has been a noticeable and welcome lengthening of the days. Mornings are brighter and there are first signs of a stretch in the evenings. This lengthening of the day at this time of the year is the source of the word 'Lent' {from the old English word 'Lencten'. The word 'Lent' therefore is associated from the start with Spring, new life, light and hope.

As we move in to the season of Lent this week, it might be no harm to remember this connection. Often when we think of Lent we think of fasting and some measure of self-sacrifice, giving up something or taking on to do something we think will make us better people. It can seem like a sort of keep fit course for the soul-something that we do because we think it might be good for us, and which if we complete leaves us a bit pleased with ourselves. More often than not, as with our new years resolutions to join a gym or get fit, we do not stay the course, and feel a little bit guilty.

But Lent is not a programme of self improvement, or another occasion for feeling bad about ourselves. It is not really in the first place about what we do or what we don't do. It is a chance to reflect on who we are, and who we could be if we were to respond to the call made in one of the Readings for Ash Wednesday; "Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart".

M. O'S.

ST. Blaise

His Feast day occurs this year on a Sunday. The Blessings of throats will be given on this Monday after all our Masses - at 8:00am, 9:00am, 10:00am and 7:00pm.

Bogus Callers.

A warning to the elderly and their families. A bogus caller is checking your water is in the area. Also two women are also calling at doors and endeavouring to get past the hall door. One woman had her hand bag stolen. If such callers are in your area please notify the Gardai immediately.

Trocaire boxes

This years theme for Lent is the effect of CLIMATE CHANGE on the poorest people of the World.

They are the victims of water shortage on one side and floods on the other. Trocaire is helping to make a difference through various schemes.

You can help by taking a Trocaire box during Lent. They are available at the Church doors.

Please take one.

We would be grateful if you could please either Turn Off your Mobile Phone or set it to 'Silent' when entering the Church.



FAMILY OFFERING

As highlighted in the Newsletter last weekend, the time for the new boxes to be distributed is fast approaching.

At present only 20% of families contribute by envelope or by standing order.

This is the opportunity to canvass wider support as the Family Offering pays for wages and the day to day running costs of the Parish. If you received a box of envelopes last year or are contributing by standing order we wish to thank you and ask you to ignore this appeal. You will receive your box of envelopes as usual.

If you were not giving or are a new arrival in the Parish you will find forms on a table beside the white family offering box at the rear of the Church. Please take one and complete it and return as soon as possible.

In anticipation of your support, our sincere thanks.

Fr. John P.P.

Lent is Coming

The Popular booklet "Walk With Me" with thoughts and prayers for the Season of Lent and Easter is now available at the back of the Church @ €1.50.

Make this a prayerful Lent.



BREAK AWAY.

AN EXCITING SCHEME WHERE YOU AND YOUR FAMILY CAN GIVE A CHILD WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

{MENTAL HANDICAP} A HOLIDAY IN YOUR HOME AND AT THE SAME TIME GIVE THE CHILD'S PARENTS AN OCCASIONAL BREAK.

A public information Evening will be held in Cheeverstown House on Tuesday 5th February 2008 @ 7.00pm.

Any Queries please contact Philomena Redmond 01 - 499 3700.

Recently Baptised

Joshua Patrick Joseph Gleanon-Byrne
Lilly Marie Ormonde
Luke John Daniel Carroll
Aeron Mae Langan-Byrne
Thomas Mark Quinn
Joseph Desmond Sweeney-McGovern



We welcome them into our Christian Community and wish them every blessing in their lives ahead.

Dublin Diocesan World Day of the Sick 2008

The 16th world day of the Sick will be celebrated in the Diocese on Saturday, 9th & Sunday, 10th Feb.

On Saturday, 9th Feb a reflective morning organised by the diocesan World day of the Sick Committee on the theme:

'Hand In Hand, Conversations on Caring for People with Dementia'

This will be held from 9am to 1pm in Kimmage Manor, Parish Meeting Room, Whitehall Road, Dublin 12

On Sunday, 10th February at 3.00pm, Archbishop Diarmuid Martin will celebrate mass with the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick in the Church of the Holy Spirit, Kimmage Manor, Dublin 6

All are invited to attend For further details contact Trisha Conway at : 087 6220349

Christmas Dues

We wish to thank all who sent in Dues. We only sent acknowledgements to those who requested them. In other years we would try to acknowledge all Dues received. However we would be left with a pile of undelivered acknowledgements as we could not find people to deliver them. However we do wish to say a sincere thank you to you all.



1. Christ be near at Either Hand

1. Christ be near at either hand, Christ behind before me stand, Christ with me where e'er I go, Christ around, above, below.
2. Christ be in my heart and mind, Christ within my soul enshrined, Christ control my wayward heart, Christ abide and ne'er depart

2. Lord Accept the Gifts we offer

1. Lord, accept the gifts we offer, at this Eucharistic feast; Bread and wine to be transformed now, Through the action of thy priest. Take us too Lord and transform us, Be thy grace in us increased
2. May our souls be pure and spotless, As this host of wheat so fine, May all stain of sin be crushed out, Like the grape that forms the wine, As we, too, become partakers. In this sacrifice divine.



3. Sweet Sacrament Divine

1. Sweet Sacrament Divine, hid in thy earthly home, lo! Round thy lonely shrine, with suppliant hearts we come; Jesus, to thee our voice we raise, in songs of love and heartfelt praise, Sweet Sacrament Divine. [R.]
2. Sweet Sacrament of Peace, dear home of every heart, where restless yearnings cease, and sorrows all depart, there in thine ear all trustfully we tell our tale of misery, Sweet Sacrament of Peace. [R.]

4. Be Thou My Vision

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart, Be all else but naught to me, save that thou art: Be thou my best thought in the day and the night, Both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.
2. Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word, Be thou ever with me and I with thee, Lord: Be thou my great Father, and I thy true son, Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Recently Deceased

Caroline Russell, Dowland Rd.
James Orr, Captain's Rd.

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

May They Rest in Peace. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 2nd February 2008

7:00pm Shared Mass

Sunday 3rd February 2008

9:00am Pater & Kathleen Thompson {A}

10:00am Sarah O' Hara {5th A}

11:00am Edward Finnegan {A}

12:00pm Three people who are recovering from illness.

1:00pm James & Elizabeth O'Leary {Anniv.}

7:00pm Paddy & Sheamus Fox {A}

Please Pray For: Jane Geraghty, who died in England, formerly of Captain's Rd May their Souls and the Souls of all the Faithful Departed Rest In Peace. Amen

St Agnes Parish Readers Roster

Saturday 09/ 02 / 08

7.00pm Sarah Byrne

Sunday 10 / 02 / 08

9.00am John Green

10.00am Family Mass

11.00am F. & M. Healy

12.00pm Sean Byrne

1.00pm June Winders

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.

Ash Wednesday

Blessed Ashes will be distributed at all Masses.

Please note that Wednesday is also a day of Fast and Abstinence

