



Recently Deceased

Cecil Scully, Balfie Ave.
 Maura O'Nuallain, Cherryfield Rd.
 John Leo, Drimnagh Rd.
 Theresa Callery, Windmill Ave.
 Christina Maguire, Ex Windmill Pk.
We express our deepest sympathies to their families at this time.
May They Rest in Peace. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 26th December 2009

7:00pm No Mass

Sunday 27th December 2009

9:00am Michael & Dolly Lee {A}

10:00am Kathleen McDonnell
{10th A}

11:00am Margaret McArdle {Anniv}

12:00pm Esther Walsh {A}

1:00pm Jack Doyle [Boxer] {A}

7:00pm John Brady {Anniv}

May Their Souls and the Souls of All The Faithful Departed Rest In Peace. Amen

St Agnes Parish - Readers Roster

Saturday 2nd

7.00pm Pauline Byrne

Sunday 3rd

9.00am V. McDermott & J Chalmers

10.00am Family Mass

11.00am P Morrison & t O' Byrne

12.00noon Richard Tobin

1.00pm Catherine Nagle

7.00pm Anne Kildea

The Next Readers Meeting will take place on Wednesday 27th January 2010 at 7.45pm in the Parish Centre

Donors Needed for The Irish Blood Transfusion Service Boards Mobile Unit @ 3.00—7.00pm. Perrystown/Manor Estate Wednesday December 30th.

ST AGNES' PARISH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

PARISH OFFICE: 01-4555368

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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. M. Scott Ph. 4650712
 Fr. M. Kelly Ph. 4542308

Family Offering: €2,201

Share: €2,373 approx

Many thanks for your continued

Thought for the Week

"God loves each of us as if there was only one of us." - St. Augustine

ST. STEPHEN, MARTYR.

St. Stephen, the first martyr, began his Christian ministry by waiting on tables [acts 6; 2-3]. His committed service to Christ albeit a humble and ordinary task, led him down a Path that was to end in him laying down his life for Christ as a martyr.

Our word 'martyr' comes from the Greek word for a 'witness'. St. Stephen was first and foremost a witness. Indeed, it was his ability to give eloquent and convincing witness to his faith in Christ that resulted in his death. Luke reports that St. Stephen was hated and loathed specifically by members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen. This hatred and loathing must have intensified when, while attempting to engage him in debate, they simply could not stand up to his wisdom and clarity.

Last year Cardinal Cormac Murphy O'Connor was invited to edit the Radio 4 flagship news programme PM. One of the things he said whilst on air was that in his view Britain is an unfriendly place for religious people to live. He believes that the rise of secularism has led to a liberal society hostile to Christianity and its values, in which religious beliefs is viewed as a private eccentricity and the voice of faith groups is marginalised. "Is Ireland moving in the same direction?"

If truth be told, giving witness to Christ has invited trouble and persecution in every age. To take a stand and be a witness will by definition require us to step out in faith and be prepared to suffer rejection and hostility. We cannot do this in and by our own strength. We need help and grace to be witnesses but Jesus has promised us every help and every grace.

In the face of a society that is becoming increasingly secular and hostile to faith, especially Christian faith, how are we to respond? We need to imitate St. Stephen taking heart from his witness and his courage.

'Lord, give me courage to witness for you, strength to resist anger or hostility and a love for you that will burn in my heart'.

Article taken from 'Bible Alive'.

75th Anniversary.

Our Parish Church is Celebrating 75 years this coming year. Our first event planned is a special celebration of the Feast of St. Agnes on Thursday January 21st when we bless a specially painted picture of St. Agnes and the guest preacher will be Fr. Frank Salmon SJ, who will preach on the theme "Martyrdom-a witness for Christ". The Concelebrated Mass will be celebrated at 7.00pm on January 21st. We hope that many of our parishioners will make the effort to join us on that evening.

Mass Times for Christmas Week & New Year.

Morning Masses on weekdays until January 4th will be at 10am & 11am only. No evening Mass. Our full Mass schedule will resume on January 4th, 2010.

Wednesday 6th is the Feast of the Epiphany and is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Just Arrived.

The new Church organ has arrived and was installed last Monday.

We are happy to report that it is in good voice and during the year we will be holding a special recital to show its potential and its many qualities.

It is an 'Allen' instrument and was manufactured in the USA.

Allen manufacture quality organs using the latest technology which have made their instruments famous and are installed in churches throughout the world.



Christmas Carols



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

. 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.



Candle Care

Just a little reminder to take care when lighting candles.

They carry with them a warning of danger. Particularly, would you please supervise children.

. 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

Ceremony of Farewell 2009.

For the past decade, St. Agnes Parish has hosted this coming together of the 'Parishioners of St. Agnes Parish And St. Mary's, Church of Ireland, for a Service of Farewell to mark the end of the old year and to ask God's Blessing as the new year approaches. This year our gathering moves to St. Mary's Church of Ireland in the Village and all are welcome to come and join our Hosts at 4.00pm on Thursday December 31st.

See You There. Fr. John.

Parish Office: Opening hours reopens Tues & Wed 29th & 30th December from 10.30 -12noon only. Reopens fully Monday January 4th.

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.

The Parish Pastoral Council invite parishioners to attend a discussion on the **Murphy Report**. This meeting will take place on **12th January at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre**.

The discussion will be an opportunity for all of us as a Parish Community to voice our thoughts on the report and to support each other in these difficult days since the publication of the report

The Parish Pastoral Council.