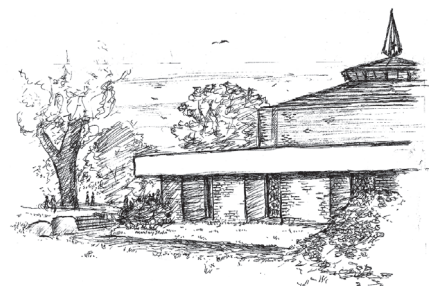


# BALLINTEER PARISH NEWSLETTER



EASTER 2012

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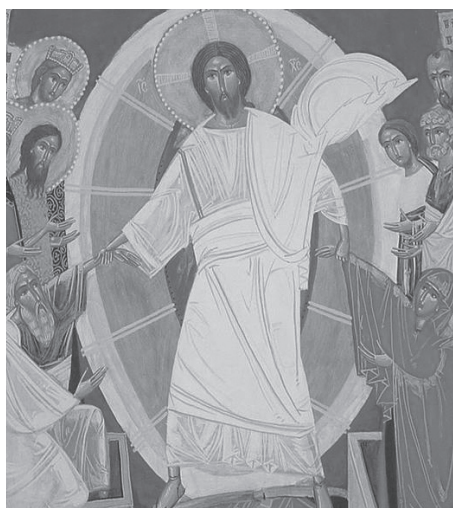
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## Creed

One of the high points of the Easter Vigil is the renewal of our Baptismal promises. We even do this holding a lighted candle to show that this is the light by which we live our lives and through which we strive to bring God's light of love into the world. Sunday after Sunday we profess our faith both as individuals and collectively as Church. The Creed or profession of faith is central to our lives as Catholic followers of Jesus. As Catholics we belong as one body made up of individuals but united in a common aim and faith.

The Creed has a three part structure and speaks of our relationship with God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. We understand God to be one God with three persons and we call this mystery the Holy Trinity. *"It is in this very relationship (as Trinity) that we come to know God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the living God, revealed to us by Jesus as our compassionate and merciful Father"*. (National Directory for Catechesis in Ireland). In the Creed the depth of God's love for us is revealed in Jesus: *"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."* (John 3:16)

God has given Himself completely to us, taking on our human nature in Jesus Christ. Not only did He become one with us but He *"emptied Himself on the cross and died to save us."* (St. Paul to the Philippians



2:8) *"Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross"*. In Jesus' life, death and resurrection we are offered the possibility of a new life with all our sins forgiven – a new life of loving service of God and of one another. Our whole understanding of what it means to be a human being is changed. We can find fulfilment and meaning in this life if we follow the example of Jesus' life. We can be daughters and sons of God, given dignity beyond compare. And like Mary, His mother, we say 'yes' to Christ and His invitation to love without desiring anything in return, but in response to having been loved by God immensely.

Now we declare our need for and our utter dependence on the Holy Spirit. We believe that it is through the Holy Spirit that we are enabled to live in the love of Jesus Christ. We live under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We are never alone. The Holy Spirit makes us Church and part of the Communion of Saints. We profess our belief in the forgiveness of sins because Jesus says it is so (*"those sins you forgive they are forgiven"*) John 20: 19-31)

We conclude by declaring our Easter Joy and faith in the resurrection of the body and the gift of eternal life. The power of the Holy Spirit enables us to bear witness to Jesus. *"The believer has received faith from*

*others and should hand it on to others. Our love for Jesus and for our neighbour impels us to speak to others about our faith."* (Catechism of the Catholic Church). We are, each one of us, a link in a great chain of believers. I cannot believe without being carried and supported by the faith of others, and by my faith I help support others in their faith. So whether we profess "I believe" or "we believe" we need each other so as to be Church and bear witness to the love of God in the world.

Fr. Richard

## Easter Services in Ballinteer

### Palm Sunday, 1st April

Masses:

6.00 pm Vigil Mass (Sat.)

9.30 am (Irish/As Gaeilge), 10.30 am,

12 noon and 5.30 pm

### Holy Thursday, 5th April

(Morning Prayer at 10 am)

Solemn Mass of Lord's Supper (Children's Mass) at 7.30 pm

Adoration at Altar of Repose concluding with a conducted half hour of Prayer 9.30 - 10.00 pm

### Good Friday, 6th April

(Morning Prayer at 10 am)

Day of Fast and Abstinence

Stations of the Cross at 12 noon

Solemn Ceremony of the Passion with

Holy Communion at 3.00 pm

(Ballinteer Male Voice Choir)

Prayer around the Cross at 8.00 pm

### Holy Saturday, 7th April

(Morning Prayer at 10 am)

Vigil Mass at 9.00 pm with Baptism

(Choir, Organ and Trumpet)

### Easter Sunday, 8th April

Masses:

9.30 am (Irish/As Gaeilge), 10.30 am

(Organ and Singer), 12 noon (Gospel Choir).

**No evening Mass**

### Easter Monday to Saturday

Morning Mass at 10.00 am only.

(Vigil Mass at 6.00 pm on Saturday)

## Preparing for Easter Penitential Services

<b>Tuesday 27th March</b>	Marley Grange 8.00 pm
<b>Monday 2nd April</b>	Meadowbrook 7.30 pm
<b>Wednesday 4th April</b>	<b>Ballinteer 7.30 pm</b>
<b>Holy Saturday 7th April</b>	Dundrum 12.00 noon

## Confessions in Ballinteer

<b>Good Friday:</b>	10.30 - 11.30 am
<b>Holy Saturday:</b>	3.00 - 4.00 pm



## Canon Battelle

A few weeks ago we celebrated the Feast of St. Patrick and I am very aware that we should on that day have celebrated the 81st Birthday of Canon Battelle. As I think of this I also reflect on his legacy here in Ballinteer and throughout the Diocese. The attendance of so many people, priests and bishops at the Canon's funeral is a testimony to the esteem and respect with which he was held during his lifetime. When

he got ill, just two days before Christmas, it was sad to see such a bundle of energy (especially for an 80-year-old!) laid low. A short illness which followed ended peacefully on 29th January 2012. Canon Battelle was a priest to his fingertips. His energy as a priest made him responsible for schools and Churches at a time in the history of the Diocese when it was expanding rapidly. The Canon brought this energy to Ballinteer and this shows very clearly in the beautiful condition of our Church and grounds. To me he was most welcoming and encouraging. He was a constant source of wisdom and advice and he gave very generously of his time in retirement. It has been my privilege to have served with both Canon Battelle and Fr. Jim O'Sullivan since my arrival in 2006. Now both have gone to God. May they have the reward of their goodness.

Fr. Richard

## An tAifreann Gaeilge

Mar cuid de *Seachtain na Gaeilge*, tháinig an cóir agus na daltaí ó *Scoil Naithí* chun bheith páirteach linn san Aifreann ar 4ú Márta. Ar Lá Fhéile Pádraig bhí grúpa ceoltóirí againn ó Chraobh Naithí de Chomhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann. Chuir siad gliondar ar ár gcroí agus sinn ag ceiliúradh Aspal mór na hÉireann.

As part of *Seachtain na Gaeilge* the pupils and parents of *Scoil Naithí* attended an Aifreann as Gaeilge on 4th March and the children sang and read beautifully. On St. Patrick's Day we had a feast of Irish music from the local *Craobh Naithí* branch of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann. Go raibh míle maith agaibh to the clergy, the sacristans and parishioners for their support and help. A lovely selection of books and prayer books for children etc as Gaeilge are on sale in the parish shop after Mass on Sundays.

## Deiseanna don phobal Gaeilge a labhairt agus a léamh.

Bíonn ciorcal comhrá Gaeilge i leabharlann Dhún Droma gach maidin Luain tríd an bhliain ó 11am go meán lae. Fáilte roimh chách.

Tá sé i gceist ag an Leabharlann **Club Leabhar Gaeilge** míosúil a thosnú go luath. Beidh rogha leabhair (nach bhfuil ró-chasta) curtha ar fáil ag an Leabharlann don chlub. Má tá suim agat sa chlub nua seo cuir scairt ar an Leabharlann (Carmel Kelly, leabharlannaí: 01 2985000) nó ar Chaitríona (01 2955410). Is seans iontach é seo do dhaoine le Gaeilge bualadh le daoine eile le Gaeilge, agus ag an am céanna leabhair a léamh agus a phlé. Beidh údar ag teacht ó am go chéile chuig an Club.

## Bereavement Support

If interested, please phone the Parish Office (01 499 4203) who will put you in touch with the Parish Bereavement Support Group.

## Boys' School News

On Sunday February 5th both schools held an Open Day. The day started with a lovely and very well attended Grandparents' Mass. We then had a hectic two hours with a cake sale organised by the Parents' Association and families visiting all the classrooms. There was much praise for our fantastic guides from 6th class who represented the school so well on the day. Well done boys.

The boys have had a very busy term. The 2nd class boys celebrated their 1st Confession on Saturday March 3rd and are doing really well at the moment with their preparations for their First Holy Communion on May 26th. Sixth class celebrated the Service of Light a few days later on March 8th and are currently doing their level best to be angelic in preparation for their Confirmation on April 28th.

The last two weeks have been very much Irish themed with the boys engaged in all manner of activities to celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge. We had a visit from Mr Pat Fogarty who taught us all the Walls of Limerick and the Siege of Ennis; he even organised an 'exhibition' dance by some of the teachers! Exhibition was the right word! We now know why you rarely see an unfit set dancer. We were filmed and broadcast on News2day on RTE 2, taking part in a radio broadcasting workshop organised by Radio Rí Ra and we also took part in a Gael Linn table quiz. These last two events were organised by our own Gaelgoir Iníon Breathnach, so go raibh míle maith agat Deirdre. We also had a St. Patrick's Day ceolchoirm and took part in the Rith run along with our friends in the Girls' School. Many thanks to our Seachtain na Gaeilge organising team, Mrs Dempsey, Mr. Brennan and Ms Breathnach.

On Thursday 15th of March both schools came together for a visit by the World Harmony Run team. We learned all about the run and the idea of World Harmony and we all got to hold the torch and run with the team. It was a lovely occasion and we managed not to set off the smoke alarm.

Congratulations to the following boys who were recently awarded Merit Awards for the 2012 'Write a Book' competition. Well done Killian Oman, Dylan Bannon, Leo Troy, Aaron Kelly, Hugh Grant, Jordan Needham, Gary Moran, Ruairi Browne, Ben O'Leary and Sean Saunders.

On a final note, we would like to extend our congratulations to Mrs Yvonne Lane on her recent appointment as Principal of Our Lady's Girls' School. We look forward to a constructive and fruitful relationship between our two schools under her stewardship.

## Faith & Light

The Ballinteer Faith & Light Community was established 24 years ago and meets on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 3 pm in the Conference Room of the Church of St. John the Evangelist. We invite those with an intellectual disability, their family and those who wish to be their friends, to our meeting. All will be welcomed.

For further information contact the Community Co-ordinator, Marie, on 087 271 3265 or email your query to [faithandlight-ballinteer@ireland.com](mailto:faithandlight-ballinteer@ireland.com)

Also, you can visit the national website on [www.faithandlight.ie](http://www.faithandlight.ie) where you can see details of recent activities as well as other useful information about Faith & Light.

## Girls' School News

1. Our Camogie Team have started the season with a very successful run. We wish them continued success.
2. Four teams of girls entered the Credit Union Schools' Quiz and came out on top or as runners-up in the first two rounds. One team has qualified for the next round to be held soon in the R.D.S.
3. Congratulations to the Table Tennis girls on Team 2 who won the 2012 league. Team 1 were runners-up. Soon our school will be receiving a plaque with our name on it. After Easter the two teams will be playing in the Cup semi-final at the Irish Wheel-Chair Association's premises in Clontarf. Best of luck to both teams.
4. First Confession was held on March 3rd and The Service of Light was held on March 8th.
5. The Girls have continued their work on Green Schools by undertaking workshops in school on litter, recycling, water conservation, energy and climate change. We have also been busy doing some planting.
6. Enrolment of new pupils is underway at the moment. Forms should be completed in the Secretary's Office as soon as possible.

## Eucharistic Adoration in Oratory



Adoration hours are:

Tuesday - 10.30am to 10pm  
Wednesday - 10.30am to 1pm  
Thursday - 10.30am to 1pm  
Friday - 10.30am to 10pm

'Be still and know that the glory of the Lord is shining all around'

Attendance at Eucharistic Adoration continues steadily with a little weakness on Tuesday and Friday afternoons. As part of the parish preparations for the International Eucharistic Congress in June, we are inviting more parishioners to come along and pray for the success of the Congress.

## Good Friday Appeal

For the past four years parishioners responded very generously to an appeal by the 'Heart to Hand' Charity founded in 1991 by Kieran Byrne, a Wexford Transport Haulier. The charity's trucks still travel to Albania and Romania with much needed aid. The following are the types of non-perishable food gifts which would be greatly appreciated:

Flour, Sugar, Vegetable Oil, Pasta, Jam, Rice, Tinned Food, Breakfast Cereals, Porridge, Instant and Packet Soup, Drinking Chocolate, Tea, Coffee, Biscuits, Baby Food. Also Soaps, Shampoos, Creams, Incontinence Pads and Nappies would be most welcome.

Please bring what you can when coming to Church Ceremonies on Good Friday. The donations will be collected from the Church early on Holy Saturday.

For additional information look at [www.hearttohand.net](http://www.hearttohand.net).



## Pilgrimage to Lourdes

(Ballinteer, Meadowbrook and Marley Grange Parishes)

**12th - 17th September 2012**

Hotel Roissy\*\*\*

€719 per person sharing,  
inclusive of taxes and insurance.

Deposit €200 per person.

Single room supplement €150.

Bookings in Conference Room on Thursday  
mornings at 10.30 am and Sundays after  
12 noon Mass.

For further details contact:

Ann Forde 086 085 9725 (Ballinteer),  
Mary O'Kelly 086 858 6480 (Ballinteer),  
Geraldine O'Keefe (Parish Pastoral Worker)  
424 0613

## New Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross in our Church which were executed in copper by Cecil King in 1973 are very beautiful but not as easily understood as more traditional Stations. In October last an opportunity arose of purchasing a traditional small scale set of Stations which would fit beside our existing Stations. Following conservation work and reframing they were erected and blessed on Ash Wednesday. The reaction to them from parishioners has been very favourable.

These Stations were drawn around 1944 by William Dowling, Chief Designer in the Harry Clarke Stained Glass Studios. They were commissioned by the members of a Dublin Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society as a going-away present to their Spiritual Director, Fr. Matthias Bodkin, S.J., when he was appointed Chaplain to the Royal Navy base in Derry. They were first erected in a Nissen hut chapel at the base. In 1945 Fr. Bodkin was assigned to a battleship, Anson, which went to the Pacific in the latter stages of World War 2. Before going, he gave the Stations to his sister, Margaret Robinson, Newberry Hall, Carbury, Co. Kildare, and they were erected there in 1949 with the permission of the local bishop. The Newberry Hall estate and house contents, including the Stations, were sold in 2010.

We are indebted to Mr. Richard Robinson, who will be 92 years young this year, for the background to his mother's Stations.

*Sean Roche*

## Taney (C. of I.) Parish Easter Services

### Thursday 5th April - Maundy Thursday

7.15 am - Holy Communion

12 Noon - 1.30 pm - Final Lenten Lunch

8.00 pm - Holy Communion - Rev'd Garth Bunting

### Friday 6th April - Good Friday

7.15 am - Ante Communion & Litany

10.15 am - Family Service

8.00 pm - A Service by the Cross - Rev'd Garth Bunting

### Sunday 8th April - Easter Day

#### Christ Church:

8.30 am - Holy Communion

10.15 am - Family Communion

Creche in Parish Centre

Tea & Coffee in Parish Centre

7.00 pm - Holy Communion

#### St. Nahi's:

11.45 am - Parish Communion

## Roof Fund

With the approval of the Archdiocese a new term loan over 20 years was negotiated in Summer 2010 for the outstanding balance of €650,000. Repayments can vary and are in the region of €4,000 per month plus interest which is added quarterly. The current position is:

Opening Balance in August 2010	€650,000
Interest to November 2011	27,837
Repayments to January 2012	62,135
Outstanding Balance 31st January 2012	€615,702

The funding of the loan repayments is only made possible by the great generosity of parishioners through their contributions to the regular outdoor Roof Fund collections, donations and, of course, the regular Family Offerings (Envelopes and Standing Orders). The parish website is updated every three months on receipt of Bank Statements but the total for each outdoor collection is entered when it occurs.

We are most grateful to parishioner Joe O'Neill whose idea it was to hold a Céilí in the School Hall on St. Patrick's Night. We would like to thank the musicians and dancers, organised by Joe, those who attended and especially the catering team who provided the welcome cuppa tea. It was a very enjoyable night and raised a satisfactory €663 for the Roof Fund.

## Developments in and around the Church

Having regard to Health and Safety requirements a number of improvements were effected since Christmas:-

- the provision of spaces within the seating area of the Church for people with disabilities;
  - the repair of some seats in the Church;
  - the revision of arrangements for parking etc so as to ensure the safety of children attending the Schools and people attending the Church;
  - the removal of obsolete bollards, the repair of kerbing and closing of holes in the Church grounds
- Other developments include:-
- the lowering of the set of Stations of the Cross in the Oratory;
  - the erection of a complementary set of Stations of the Cross in the Church (see separate item);
  - the putting in place of an Information Board beside Our Lady's Altar in the Church detailing the events at the forthcoming Eucharistic Congress;
  - the erection of a Statue of Saint Patrick in the main entrance porch of the Church.

Over the next few months it is hoped to replace the sound system in the Church and Oratory and to erect the proposed gates in the front porches of the Church.

## Attention Young People!

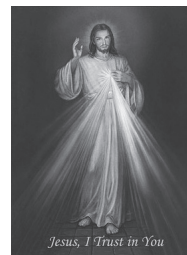
The following events may interest you:-

- Teen Masses in Ballinteer on 1st Sunday of the month at 5.30 pm and in Marley Grange on the 4th Sunday of the month at 7 pm.
- Ballinteer and Marley Youth Choir: weekly practice Tuesdays 7.30 pm to 9 pm.
- Ballinteer Acting up Drama Group - Contact: Jacqueline McCoy c/o Ballinteer Parish Office, Tel. 01-499 4203.
- Teen Spirit, Olympia Theatre, 29th April. See <http://www.teenspirit.ie/news.html> or contact Tarny Reilly at 087-262 7424.

## Parish Book of Life

The Book has been on display in a glass case near the 14th Station of the Cross since 2nd November and has proved to be of great interest to parishioners. Each morning the names of those who died on that date since 1974 are given to the priest celebrating Mass and they are added to the Mass intention for the day. It is nice to see relatives, who are attending Mass on the anniversary of a loved one, looking in the Book and seeing the name there. It is possible that the names of some deceased parishioners (or non-parishioners buried from our Church) are missing from the Book. Over time we hope that we will become aware of these and make good the omissions. Enquiries are always welcome.

## Feast of the Divine Mercy



The Divine Mercy Novena starts on Good Friday. Leaflets are available on tables in the Church.

Divine Mercy Sunday is the Sunday after Easter (15th April). **Devotions in the Oratory with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 3.30 pm to 5.15 pm.** All are

welcome for 10 minutes, an hour or two hours or whatever you can do for this special Sunday.

## Gospel Choir

St. John's Gospel Choir had a busy start to 2012. Apart from our regular singing at the 12 noon Mass in Ballinteer, the choir sang at one of the Holy Communion preparatory Masses in St. Attracta's Oratory. On Saturday 3rd March the choir sang in the Hope Centre in Crumlin. The Hope Centre is a Christian Church and this is the second time that the Gospel Choir has sung there.

Our biggest event of the last 3 months, however, was a weekend trip to Ballina, Co. Mayo. Sixty members of the choir travelled west to sing at two Masses at the invitation of Rejoice Gospel Choir who had sung in our Church back in 2009. This was a hugely successful visit and further strengthened the ties between our two parishes. After the success of this trip the Gospel Choir is looking to see what other parts of the country we can visit in the next 12 months.

## Methodist Church United Services for Easter

### Holy Week:

#### Visiting Speaker: Dr. Heather Morris

Tuesday - Dundrum - 8.00 pm

Wednesday - Dundrum - 8.00 pm

Maundy Thursday - Holy Communion - Rathgar 8.00 pm

Good Friday - Dundrum - 8.00 pm

### Easter Sunday morning:

Sunrise Service - Three Rock - 7.00 am

Followed by breakfast in Dundrum.

All welcome to both. Coffee at 10.30 am.

Joint Service (with Holy Communion) at 11 am

## BAPTISMS – December 2011 to March 2012

*We welcome into our Christian Community:-*

John Patrick Reville  
Maria Elizabeth Regan  
Clodagh Mary Sáez Walsh  
Cillian James Sheridan  
Liam John Fox  
Cara Ailsa Waters  
Oliver William Atticus O'Hagan  
Cronan Joseph Skrba

Max Ivan Doyle  
Megan Eileen Anne O'Leary  
Ava Nicole McAdam  
Lalla-Marie Lynch  
Keeva Nobantu Christina Byrne  
Robyn Amelia Simmons  
Elsie Isabel McAllister  
Luke Patrick Graham

Eoin Matthew Brady  
Callie O'Riordan  
Lucy Rose Moore  
Annabelle Bourke  
Michael Patrick Cronin  
Rachel Teresa Cronin  
Kayla Ann McGrath

Lucy Niamh Marie Toher  
Milo Mark Kneen  
Sean Kerrigan  
Tadhg Conor Jaffrey  
Leah Emily Griffin  
James Herbert Mulvey  
Jamie Harry Kelly



*Congratulations to the proud parents.*

## DEATHS – December 2011 to March 2012

*Lord, grant eternal rest to:-*

Brian O'Grady, Ludford Road  
Margaret Löw, Ballintyre Meadows  
Patrick O'Neill, Ballinteer Park  
Anne McCormack, Ballintyre Meadows

Jean Ebbs, Broadford Crescent  
Canon John Patrick Battelle  
Brid Murray, The Rise, Woodpark  
Mary Corcoran, The Green, Woodpark

Thomas Byrne, Broadford Drive  
David Waters, Mayfield Terrace  
Mary Thompson, Ballinteer Park  
Patrick Brady, Ballinteer Drive



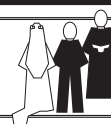
*Our sympathy and prayers are with their families, friends, relatives and neighbours.*



## WEDDING - February 2012

*Congratulations and best wishes to:*

Martin Staunton, Broadford Avenue  
and Michelle Troy, Broadford Lawn



## Parish Cell Community

For over 20 years we have been blessed with this 'home small faith group' community in our parish. We meet fortnightly on Wednesday in homes in Woodpark, Pine Valley and Broadford for prayer and praise. The meeting takes about one and a half hours and includes hymns, scripture passage, teaching CD on scripture by Fr. Richard Behan and intercessory prayers. We maintain a spirit of confidentiality and are totally open to welcoming new members.

If you would like to know more or to 'come and see' a meeting, please call 085 778 8395 or see Church noticeboard or parish website or you may leave your name in the sacristy and we will call you.

## Family Offering

The annual cycle of contributions towards the running costs of the Parish commences at the beginning of May. A big thank you to all who contribute. Anyone else who wishes to contribute by way of a Bank Standing Order or a weekly Family Offering Envelope may do so by leaving their name and address in the Sacristy or by contacting the Parish Office, Tel 01-499 4203.

## Ballinteer Male Voice Choir

The Ballinteer Male Voice Choir will sing at the 3 pm ceremonies on Good Friday, 6th April. It is actively seeking new members and is planning concerts in our Church with a Finnish choir in October 2012 and French and Italian choirs in May 2013.

For membership enquiries, please contact Brendan on 086 839 5122 or contact the Choir via [www.bmvc.ie](http://www.bmvc.ie).



TO ALL OUR READERS

## Tax Benefit on Donations

**"Thank you"** to all who signed and returned the Certificates for 'Tax Relief' on Donations made in 2011. The Parish can now get the tax benefit of those donations as a result. In the 2010-2011 Parish financial year over €25k was returned to the Parish by the Revenue. This assists the strained Parish funds and is of great benefit to us. All of this was without any cost to you, the taxpayer.

If you have not returned the Certificate, and would still like to be associated with this fund raising effort, please sign the form and send it to either Fr. Richard or the Parish Bookkeeper, Jim Kelly, at the Parish Office as soon as possible.

If you did not receive the letter or Certificate, but feel your contributions to the Parish would qualify for the tax benefit under the scheme, then please contact the Parish Office, telephone 01 499 4203, between 10.00 am and 12 noon Monday to Friday.

This arrangement with the Revenue only applies to those who are on the PAYE system. Should you be self-employed, please contact the Parish Bookkeeper on any Tuesday or Wednesday and he will provide you with information as to how donations made by those who are self-employed can also benefit the Parish.

## Parish Intercessory Prayer Team

*Ann, Jennifer, Pat and Philip meet regularly to pray for the needs of all in our parish and for the particular needs of those who ask for prayer. They can be contacted on 087 174 4839.*

## Parish Walking Group



Now that Spring is here new walkers are especially welcome to join us. We meet in Kil-mashogue Wood car park on Saturday mornings at 11.00 am and walk for approximately one and a half hours – a reasonable level of fitness is desirable. Enquiries to 01 494 1948.

## Church Repository Shop

For all your religious cards and gifts for:  
Confirmation • First Holy Communion •  
Easter • Birthday

Get Well • Thank You • Sympathy • Wedding  
Also Catholic newspapers, magazines, pamphlets,  
Children's books and Bibles

Shop open after Saturday evening Mass and  
all Sunday morning Masses

## The Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary was founded in Dublin by Frank Duff 90 years ago and is now in virtually every country in the world. There is a local Legion group that meets in the Parish Conference Room on Tuesday evenings at 7.30 p.m. One of the local Legionaries went to Surrey Docks in London on Holiday Apostolate from 31st March to 7th April. On the team of 12 was Ann Murray who had been a Legion Envoy in Peru from 1966 to 1970.

Frank Duff found it difficult to imagine how you could save your own soul without seeking to save the souls of others. It was this desire to save souls that led him to found the Legion of Mary. John Paul II said that the Legion of Mary has made countless lay Catholics aware of their indispensable role in evangelisation and sanctification and has enabled them to fulfil that role zealously and effectively. Of course, friendship was very important to Frank Duff as it is to all Legionaries, and many lifelong friendships, not to mention marriages, have been made in the Legion. If you want a fulfilling life with plenty of friends, the Legion is for you!

## Parish Lenten Retreat

Ballinteer Parish hosted a very successful Lenten Retreat for the Pastoral Area of Dundrum, Ballinteer, Meadowbrook and Marley Grange from 10th to 16th March. The Retreat took place in our Church and was conducted by a Redemptorist Team. It was well attended by parishioners from the four Parishes. The Retreat Themes centred on the Eucharist having regard to the forthcoming Eucharistic Congress. Each Session was special but of particular note were the blessing of Babies and Children, The Healing Ministry, the Reconciliation Service with 12 priests hearing Confessions, the Youth Service and the Anointing of the Sick.

A big thank you to those who organised the Retreat, those who delivered leaflets to each household in the Parish or otherwise helped in any way.

## Thursday Coffee Morning

Since our last issue the Thursday group and Bridge players on Tuesday mornings have sent to charity:  
€100 to Capuchin Penny Dinners  
€100 to Pieta House (Suicide prevention)  
€100 to Aware (Depression support)