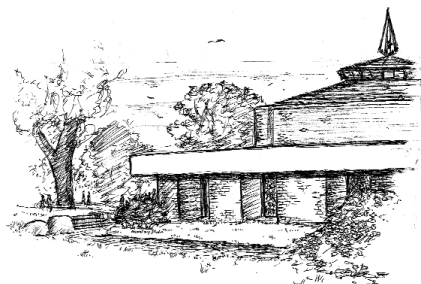


BALLINTEER PARISH NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER 2008

www.ballinteer.dublindiocese.ie e-mail: editor@ballinteer.dublindiocese.ie

A Parish Assembly

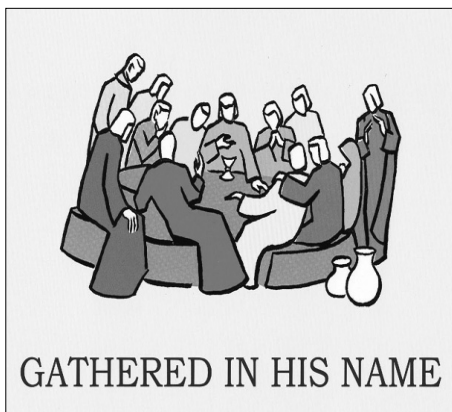
Venue: Our Lady's School Hall

Date: Saturday 4th October 2008

Time: 9.45 am to 2.00 pm

By now all parishioners will have received an Invitation through their door. They are also available at the Church entrances.

This is a time of change with the grouping of the three parishes of Ballinteer, Dundrum and Meadowbrook. It is a time



when we need to listen a little bit more to what you feel are the needs of the parish and if they are being met. There will be 3 sessions during the morning with a Refreshments break (including sandwiches) at 12 noon. I would encourage you to come along and avail of the opportunity to 'have your say'. The pastoral changes present a challenge to us to work together to respond to the needs of evangelization today. All are very welcome.

Fr. Richard Behan, P.P

Ballinteer in Team Ministry Pilot Project

The Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. Diarmuid Martin, has launched a pilot project for the establishment within the Archdiocese of five Pastoral Areas, each served by a single pastoral team. The five areas, comprising three parishes in each case, are:-

- Ballinteer, Meadowbrook and Dundrum
- Rathfarnham, Churchtown and Ballyroan
- Crumlin, Mourne Road and Clogher Road
- Rostown, Garristown and the Naul
- Three Oblate parishes in Inchicore area

The Archbishop believes that a number of parishes in a particular area will work together more effectively for the mission of the Church. He announced the project at the recent ordination of three new priests for the Archdiocese. The model is based on the concept of 'Team Ministry' by which the pastoral care of a number of parishes is entrusted to a team of priests, working with deacons, religious and lay people.

Each Parish will retain its own identity and each will have its own Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Committee, at least one resident priest and a Rector Ecclesiae, a specific priest who will have responsibility for the management of the

individual parish church. Overall responsibility and pastoral planning will, however, be shared by 'common counsel' and according to a plan determined by the members of the team.

The work of each team will be co-ordinated by a priest Moderator. His role will be one of 'primus inter pares' (first among equals), since each of the Team Members has an equal responsibility within the entire pastoral area. Each of the priest members of the team will celebrate Mass in each of the parish Churches and is bound to fulfil the duties and obligations of a Parish Priest. In addition, each Priest is also responsible to the Archbishop and to the faithful of the Parishes.

The model is both an incentive for new initiatives of pastoral care and evangelization and a support to priests. It does not envisage lessening in any way the necessary role of Parish Pastoral Councils or other groups of lay collaboration. Team Ministry is a support structure aimed at fostering creativity and new initiatives in the service of evangelization. It will support a variety of ministries in an area wider than an individual parish. Certain administrative services can be carried on more efficiently by lay people on a

broader scale. It will also allow for the expansion of specific ministries - such as youth ministry - in the pastoral area which it would be difficult for an individual parish to sustain.

The initiative began on 1st September. Archbishop Martin will be meeting the new Teams in the coming weeks, together with the Parish Pastoral Council and the Finance Committee of each parish. The Team for our Pastoral Area is:-

Fr. Richard Behan, Moderator	Ballinteer
Fr. James O'Sullivan	Ballinteer
Fr. Kieran McDermot	Dundrum
Fr. Peter Healy	Dundrum
Fr. Joseph Whelan	Meadowbrook

(Team Assistants)

Canon John Patrick Battelle PE	Ballinteer
Mgr. Donal O' Doherty PE	Dundrum

Lay Pastoral Workers

Our parish has been chosen to train Lay Pastoral Workers for ministry in the Diocese. Two will be sent to the parish for ten weeks commencing at the beginning of October. After Christmas we will have two new trainee Lay Pastoral Workers for a further ten weeks. As they arrive, they will introduce themselves at Sunday Masses.

Guided Scripture Prayer Retreat

October 5th to 10th (Sunday to Friday)

If interested, enquiries to Fr. Jim O'Sullivan at 494 4163 in case he has any vacancies.

Lectio Divina

Lectio Divina (praying with Scripture) resumes in the Church Oratory on Thursday 16th October, 8.00 to 9.30 pm, conducted by Fr. Jim O'Sullivan. As this is the Year of Vocation we will pray with passages of the Old Testament in which God calls people. All are welcome.

Eucharistic Adoration in Oratory



Adoration hours are:

Tuesday - 10am to 10pm

Wednesday - 10am to 1pm

Thursday - 10am to 1pm

Friday - 10am to 10pm

The continuing generous response by parishioners to the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament has been very encouraging. If there is any weakness in attendance, it is between the hours of 1 pm and 5 pm on Tuesdays and Fridays. Perhaps there are some parishioners who could commit to some time on these afternoons.

Parish Schools

BOYS' SCHOOL NEWS

The staff of Our Lady's Boys is delighted to welcome all our 29 new Junior Infant boys and the 5 new boys who have started in various other classes throughout the school. Welcome to all our new parents also. We know they will enjoy their time and association with Our Lady's Boys.

The new fence has finally been completed. We have waited many years for this fence and we are delighted with the quality and finish of it. The whole school has been enhanced by it. Thankfully the recession was not on the agenda when we applied for the funding from the Dept. of Education and Science. The days of broken windows and other vandalism should be well and truly over.

GIRLS' SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome back to all our pupils and their parents for the school year 2008/09. A special welcome to the 42 new pupils in Junior Infants and 8 new girls who have joined our school in other classes.

Opening of the School Year Mass: Mass of the Gifts took place in the Church on Thursday, 25th September at 9.30 a.m. The gifts were donated to the local branch of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

The school choir has resumed singing at the 10.00 am Mass in the Church every Sunday.

A coffee morning was held in the School Reception Area on Thursday, 18th September, in aid of the Hospice Movement. It realised €530. Thanks to all who helped and attended.

Ballinteer Active Retirement

We resumed club meetings in Ballinteer St. John's GAA Pavilion on Wednesday 3rd September. We meet from 10.15 am to 12 noon. We have an interesting programme of events, talks, outings etc. planned up to Christmas. We are going on a 3 night break to Wexford on 2nd November. New members, aged 55+, are always welcome.

Bereavement Support Group

1st and 3rd Mon. each month: 2pm - 3pm
2nd and 4th Wed. each month: 7pm - 8pm in the Church Conference Room by appointment through the Parish Office (Tel: 4994203).

Parish Youth Project

To: Parents/ guardians / grandparents of primary school kids!!

Do your kids feel at home in Ballinteer Parish? We want our parish to welcome our kids with open arms and help them develop their potential in a supportive and encouraging parish environment. We want to treasure the role they can play both in the church and in the neighbourhood. We're only beginning, but we offer you the projects we are developing to show our kids what parish life can be! If you think any of these might be of interest to kids you know or if you would be interested in giving us a hand, we'd love to hear from you.

To: 12 to 20's!!

Back after a lovely wet summer! All the very best to our first years in their new schools and colleges! We hope you have a great year. If you were involved in any of our projects last year, you made all the difference. If you weren't, our parish is missing out! So check us out on the parish website and mail us or give us a call if any of our projects might interest you or if you have other ideas! We'd love to hear from you.

Check out 'Youth Team' on the Parish website or call Tarny (087 2627424). Go on...get in touch!!

The Priory Institute

Tallaght Village, Dublin 24

Wednesday Seminars conducted by Fr. Philip McShane OP:-

'Paul, Apostle of the Crucified Lord'

1st Oct. - 10th Dec. Every second week, 7.30 - 9.00 pm.

'Towards a Biblical Spirituality'

8th Oct. - 17th Dec. Every second week, 7.30 - 9.00 pm.

Cost for each seminar: €60 for 6 sessions before Christmas. Continues in New Year.

Enquiries to 01-404 8132

Altar Society

We hope to set up an Altar Society in the parish. The role of an Altar Society is the upkeep of the altar on a daily basis, primarily the changing of the altar cloths depending on the different feast days etc. If we can form a team it is much easier to manage. If you are interested please give your name to Fr. Richard.

Olive Wood Crafts from Bethlehem

After Masses on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th November olive wood crafts from Bethlehem will be on sale at the back of the Church. The items are made by Palestinian Christians in the Holy Land, many of whom are living below the poverty line due to economic circumstances. All proceeds will go to 'Sabeel', an Ecumenical Liberation Theology Centre in Jerusalem working for peace, which has the support of the Christian denominations in Ireland. www.sabeel.org

Orlagh Retreat Centre

Orlagh offers 'A DAY FOR YOURSELF (You deserve it!)' retreats from 10.00 am to 5.30 pm on a Saturday in each of the months October to May inclusive, facilitated by Fr. John Byrne, OSA and Bernadette Toal. The cost is €50 including a full lunch. The dates up to December are 11th October, 8th November and 13th December.

Contact: Fr. John Byrne, Orlagh Retreat Centre, Old Court Road, Dublin 16. Tel: 495 8193.

Ballinteer St. John's GAA Club

Traditional music and song in Clubhouse every Sunday evening at 9.30 pm. All welcome. Saturday 1st November sees the return of Chris Kavanagh and the Patriots with the 'Legend of Luke' at 9.00 pm. Tickets at €15 each from the Bar or any Committee member.

Dedication of Statue of St. Anthony

Parishioners will have noted the dedication of the Statue in the main Church to the memory of Fr. Anthony Maher who served as curate in the Parish from 1988 to 1990. Fr. Maher was born on 7th February 1946, ordained on 30th May 1971 and died on 31st July 1997. He was well liked by all and it is a testimony to his memory that his fellow classmates in the Priesthood and Mgr. Dan O'Connor decided to honour him by the dedication of St. Anthony's Statue in remembrance of him.

Knock Night Vigil

Bus leaves Ballinteer Church at 5.30 pm on Sunday 7th December. Dinner in Longford on the way down and breakfast on the way home. Return to Ballinteer at 10.00 am on Monday. Total cost €45. Names and deposits to Joan Redmond, 28 The Crescent, Woodpark. Tel: 295 1372

Challenge your Faith, Change your Life!

In the Autumn, the Parish is running a course on Faith and Spirituality, based on the "Life in the Spirit" Seminars. It will commence on Monday 13th of October and will be held in the Oratory each Monday evening at 8.15 pm for the following 8 weeks, with the exception of the Bank Holiday (Monday 3rd November) when we move to Tuesday. The course involves participation in the 8 weekly sessions, accompanied by daily personal reflections. Full commitment to the course is advised. The topics for discussion will be informative and thought-provoking. Each week a guest speaker will address the group and share his/her personal experience on the topic of the night. They will include:-

John Waters (Author and Journalist), Fr. Pat Collins, Sr. Miriam Duggan, Eddie Stone, Fr. Jim Bermingham, Anne Loughman, Fr. Eamon Cahill and Dymphna Sheehan.

Explore how Faith can add value to your life!!

Course Fee: €40

Enquiries to: Parish Office: 01 - 499 4203
(10am-12.00pm) or Mobile No: 085 778 8395

Emmaus Vocation Journey

The Emmaus Vocation Journey – an initiative of the Diocesan Vocations Centre - is an opportunity for men and women between the ages of 19 and 35 or so to pray together, to discuss and to learn about priesthood or religious life. The hope of the journey together is that participants, like the disciples in the gospel, may come to know where the Lord is leading and what his call holds for them. Those interested are invited to set aside five Saturday mornings and one weekend between October 2008 and March 2009 to take part in a journey of discernment (decision making which is rooted in faith). The mornings will include:

- Quiet prayer using the Scriptures
- A short presentation on a vocation theme followed by discussion
- Mass
- A light meal

The meetings will take place at St. Alphonsus Monastery, St. Alphonsus Road, Drumcondra beginning at 11 am and concluding at around 3 pm. The first meeting will be on Saturday 18th October when the theme will be: *Vocation: A Relationship that Grows.*

**Further details from Fr. Eamonn Bourke,
Director of Vocations. 086 834 6071.
E-mail: vocations@dublindiocese.ie**



World Youth Day in Sydney

15th to 20th July

Fergal Casey, Woodpark and Heather Burns, Ballinteer Road, represented our parish at this momentous event. They write:

'Our Dublin CYC group was based in the very Irish parish of St Patrick's in Bondi. We only truly grasped the scale of World Youth Day when we saw the signs shutting down much of Sydney city centre to traffic for five days. Exuberant pilgrims thronged these streets, greeting each other on buses and trains in a Babel of languages. On Tuesday morning we travelled to Barangaroo in the heart of the city's quays for the opening Mass celebrated by Cardinal George Pell. Australian PM Kevin Rudd welcomed the crowd in a number of languages and argued passionately for the place of religion in public life, a theme taken up and developed by Cardinal Pell in a magnificent sermon.

On Wednesday morning CYC chaplain Fr Jim Caffrey led morning prayer with the Dublin CYC choir giving a boisterous rendition of the WYD theme song, 'Receive the Power'. Our first catechesis was given by the Archbishop of Brooklyn, Frank Caggiano, who was extremely eloquent and arguably the best speaker at WYD. His topic was the guiding role of the Holy Spirit in everyday life and how to listen for its quiet hints, but it was his mastery of theology and his quick wit which held the audience utterly rapt. The rest of the day offered a choice of pilgrimages and events, one of the most popular being a Franciscan prayer-meeting and concert on Bondi Beach.

Thursday's catechesis was given by the Archbishop of Perth, Barry Hickey, who outlined the Church's vision of life as being an alternative society to secularist models. Pope Benedict arrived by boat into Sydney Harbour in the afternoon to football style chants of "Benedetto!" from pilgrims located all around the harbour. Our location at Barangaroo was where Pope Benedict disembarked to briefly address the pilgrims for the first time, obviously invigorated by the welcome.

Friday's final catechesis was given by our own Archbishop Diarmuid Martin who used humorous anecdotes about Mother Teresa (among others) to demonstrate how the Spirit can enable ordinary individuals to do extraordinary things. On Friday afternoon, Sydney's streets and iconic landmarks were transformed as nearly 200,000 pilgrims gathered in Barangaroo to see a re-enactment of the Passion at locations chosen with an exquisite eye for drama. Pope Benedict appeared briefly for the staging of the Last Supper at St Mary's Cathedral, the forbidding Art Gallery of New South Wales became the Sanhedrin, while the stunning Opera House became the court of Pontius Pilate who stood washing his hands at the top of the steps while Jesus stood far beneath him. Jesus was then lowered down through a

specially constructed platform to be scourged and was winched back up to shocked gasps as the make-up owed much to Mel Gibson's visceral interpretation of the Passion. The actors were silent, performing visually for the big screens at Barangaroo, and many pilgrims were moved to tears by the distressing action being soundtracked live by a boys' choir at St Mary's Cathedral.

On Saturday morning after a rousing final prayer with Fr Jim we set out for Randwick Racecourse, which was a shorter trek for us, leaving from nearby Bondi, than for many others, but still daunting as we had to camp out without tents even though the 'pilgrim flu' had become widespread by this point. The evening vigil was the largest gathering in Australian history as nearly a million people held candles aloft in the gathering gloom while singing hymns. An ethereal silence fell upon the crowd as the Pope knelt before the Eucharist in prayer for ten minutes, inspiring quiet devotion.

On Sunday we emerged from our sleeping bags for the final Mass which featured the confirmation of 24 young people by the Pope. The message throughout the three hour Mass, celebrated by Pope Benedict and Cardinal Pell, was the need for all of us to be active witnesses to the Spirit; in the Pope's own words, "Are you living your lives in a way that opens up space for the Spirit in the midst of a world that wants to forget God?" Rumours spread by Irish Jesuits came true as Madrid was announced as the host for WYD 2011. WYD is an emotional high as you see young Catholics from all over the world gathered in one place to publicly celebrate their faith. The challenge for all these pilgrims is to turn that positive affirmation into evangelisation back in the parishes from which they came.'

Faith & Light Ballinteer

The Churchgate collection a few weeks ago raised €1,026 for our Community. Your generosity is much appreciated.

What is Faith & Light our collectors were asked?

Faith & Light is an International Christian Association, founded in 1971 by Jean Vanier and Marie-Helene Mathieu, who saw a need for a group to bring together people with an intellectual disability, their families and their friends. There are now over 1000 communities in 60 countries. In Ireland there are 24 communities. The Ballinteer Community was established in 1988, so we have served the Parish for 20 years.

The meetings of a Faith & Light Community are called Fiestas. The Ballinteer Community meets in the Church Conference Room on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 3pm, where we talk together, play together and pray together. All are welcome.

Further information is available from the
Community Co-Ordinator, Marie, at 087 271 3265,
or you can e-mail Jim, on
soceallaigh52@hotmail.com.

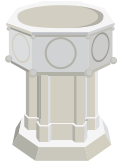
BAPTISMS - June to September 2008

We welcome into our Christian Community:-

Hannah Marie Colleran
Ava Violet Fisher
Lia Courtney Lignini
Sophie Laura Moran
Oisín O Buachalla
Sophie Therese Cullen
Aaron Conor Lebacq
Cian Aaron Bolger
Robyn Margaret Doyle

Emily Rose Sheehan
Maria Eduarda Da Costa Verdon
Rebecca Kate McCullough
Maria Bernadette McDonagh
Paul Joseph Jackson
Emily Waters
Rhys Jack Kelly
Ryan Stephen Masterson
Niamh Margaret Hyland

Peter Oisín Cullinan
Matthew Luke Dardis
Margaret Anne Kinsella
Sean Michael Brendan Lucey
Eoin Patrick Mulvey
Ross O'Riordan
Jack James Noah McKenna
Wayne Lee Daly
Killian Denis Daly



Congratulation to the proud parents.

DEATHS - June to September 2008

Lord, grant eternal rest to:-

Leo Power, Mayfield Terrace
Patricia MacGowan, The Hill, Woodpark
Louis Long, Ballinteer Drive

Jack Ward, Ballinteer Avenue
Colm O'Donoghue, The Meadow, Woodpark
Odette Mukarugwiro, Rwanda (sister of Fr. Kizito)

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

WEDDINGS - May to September 2008

Congratulations and best wishes to

Gareth Mulligan, Grange Cottages and Leona McGovern, Limerick
Michelle O'Sullivan, The Rise, Woodpark and James Culbertson, Scotland
James Byrne, Broadford Drive and Fiona O'Brien, Prospect Manor
Paul Traynor, Mayfield Terrace and Niamh Moran, Ballinteer Park
Kevin O'Toole, Broadford Crescent and Sinead Goff, Chestnut Grove

May you have many years of health and happiness.



Ballinteer Parish Cell Community

Cell Community 'Home Centres of Prayer' meetings continue every second Wednesday in our parish. These meetings are held in homes in Broadford, Pine Valley, Woodpark, Old Ballinteer and Barton Road and all are welcome. If you would like more information about Cell Community or if you would like to 'Come and See' a Cell meeting please call 085 7788395 or leave your name and number in the sacristy and we will be happy to call you. Please keep an eye on our website or Church noticeboard for up-to-date Cell information.



Parish Walking Group

New walkers are especially welcome to join us. We meet in Kilmashogue 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 goods:

Rosary Beads • Holy water fonts
Statues • Pictures
Devotional Candles
Bibles and Books for Adults and Children
Pamphlets and Novena leaflets
Cards for every occasion
Open after Saturday evening Mass and all Sunday morning Masses

Roof Fund

The amount collected in the Church door collections stands at €181,000. To date €208,000 has been repaid off the loan of €860,000 leaving a balance to pay of €652,000. The repayments are €8,000 per month. Our ability to meet the repayments is due to the continuing generosity of parishioners.

Parish Intercessory Prayer Team

Kay, 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 6677749.

Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto for Parish Grounds

This year we are celebrating 150 years since the apparitions of Our Lady at Lourdes, France. There have been pilgrims and arranged pilgrimages to Lourdes from Ballinteer since the beginning of the parish (1973). The early pilgrimages were under the spiritual direction of the late Fr. Michael Loftus.

I propose to erect a Lourdes grotto at the Broadford entrance to the Church and to dedicate it to the memory of Fr. Loftus and all those deceased who have participated in and arranged these pilgrimages.

The statues have been purchased and can be seen in the Sacristy. A local stonemason will commence work on the grotto in the next few weeks. I thank those who have contributed financially towards this project to date. Further donations would be appreciated and may be left in the Sacristy or Parish Office.

Fr. Richard Behan, P.P.

East Berlin Project

The Parish Praesidium of the Legion of Mary meets in the Church Conference Room each Tuesday night at 8.00 pm. A member was on a Legion project in East Berlin from 8th to 16th September. She writes: 'I want to thank everybody who prayed for the success of the project. I joined 20 other Legionaries from Ireland, Great Britain, Malta, Holland and Spain. We did door to door visitation in skyscraper blocks of flats with no lifts. We did street contact, contact in the Underground and at night time in the 'red light' district and 'gay' areas. There are very few East Berliner practising Catholics after the years of Communist rule. We met a lot of Protestants, but mostly among the older generation. Many of the young people were agnostic but spoke English and were open to hearing about the Catholic faith. We really felt the benefit of the prayers, we had so many chance contacts and miracles of grace'.