

ST. MOCHTA'S COMMUNITY & SOCIAL NEWS

CROSSCARE BLANCHARDSTOWN offers the following services: **Information Clinic** every Monday (excl Bank holidays) from 2pm to 4pm. **Migrant Project**—'Walk In' information and advocacy clinic on immigration, emigration and return migration matters. Free service, no appointment necessary. **Housing & Welfare information.** 'Walk In' information on homelessness services & housing options, etc. Free service, no appointment necessary. **Let's Dance**—Every Thursday from 2pm to 4pm—Dance-Meditation-de-stress session. For more information please see the notice board at the back of the Church or contact Jean Martin, Area Coordinator on 01 8219892 or jmartin@crosscare.ie.

CROSSCARE—CARER SUPPORT PROGRAMME has been working with Family Carers in the North Dublin area for the last 15 years. We are starting a new service in the Blanchardstown area, with parents who are caring full time or part time for children who may have a special need, a disability or long term illness. You are welcome at our **Coffee Break** next **Thursday, 26th February** from **3.30 pm to 4 pm** in the **Crosscare Centre, Main Street, Blanchardstown** for a chance to meet other parents, have a break and a chat. For more information please contact Rosemary Daynes on 01 8360011 or 086 8269977 or email rdaynes@crosscare.ie

PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: A new Parent and Toddler Group will be starting in St. Mochta's Parish Pastoral Centre on **Tuesday, 3rd March, 2009**. It will run on Tuesday mornings from **9.40 am to 11.40 am**. Cost: €2 per adult and 50c per child. Everyone welcome! From Baby to School Going Age. For further information email mary-oriordan@hotmail.com or call into the Parish Office between 10.30 am and 12.30 pm—Mon-Fri.

CASTLEKNOCK GAA: Dates for your diary—**Annual Club Mass** takes place in St. Mochta's Church, Porterstown on Saturday, 14th March at 7 pm. **Annual Spring Ball** takes place on Sat. 21st March in the Castleknock Hotel & Country Club. More information to follow. **Club Lotto** takes place every Thursday. If you're not in, you can't win. **Forget the X-Factor**, if you wish to show off your musical, dance or singing talent why not represent the club at Scor, the GAA All-Ireland talent competition. For further information contact Barbara on 086 3782419. The Club has a warm welcome for **New Players** at all ages and levels. For more information please www.castleknock.net Go on, Give it a Go!

YOGA CLASSES: Jakki's Yoga Classes have started in the Parish Centre. The are on every **Tuesday evening at 8pm** and **every Thursday morning at 11am**. Yoga is for everyone regardless of age or levels of fitness. Classes run for 1 1/2 Hrs. over six weeks and cost €75. If you are interested in joining or to book your place please contact Jakki at **086 0792469**.

FRENCH FOR CHILDREN: La Jolie Ronde French classes will start in the Parish Pastoral Centre **next Saturday, 28th February** for **3-12 years old children**. La Jolie Ronde methodology is a **proven and structured method** and give children the opportunity to excel at an age when they are most **receptive**. Children are grouped per age in small classes. **French native accent** for children to copy. Weekday classes also available for children who are not available at weekends. To enquire or book your child's place please contact Sabine Maher at **087 2279027**.

EMMAUS are holding a number of workshops and courses at their Emmaus Retreat Centre, Swords—**26th Feb.-In Memory Of You, 7th/8th Mar.-Meditation with Fireflies, 8th Mar.-Intuitive Solutions-A Tool for Inspired Action**. Further information on the notice board.

Archdiocese of Dublin - Deanery of Finglas

ST. MOCHTA'S PARISH

Porterstown & Clonsilla, Dublin 15

PARISH NEWSLETTER 22ND FEB. 2009

7TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Parish Priest : Rev. John Daly Tel: 8213218

Parish Pastoral Worker: Mary GreeneByrne Tel: 8213218

Parish Secretary: June Phelan Tel: 8213218

Pastoral Parish Centre Enquiries to: Donal Russell

Parish Pastoral Committee: Chairperson George McLellan

Parish Finance Committee: Chairperson Colm O'Neill

email: frjohn@stmochtasparish.ie

email: pastoralcare@stmochtasparish.ie

email: secretary@stmochtasparish.ie

email: pastoralcentre@stmochtasparish.ie

Parish Web Address: www.stmochtasparish.ie

WHEN DOES LENT START?

We will celebrate the beginning of the season of Lent with **Ash Wednesday** on **February 25th**. Lent is a time of prayer and fasting as we prepare to celebrate Easter, the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and the Church's biggest celebration in the liturgical year.

Masses for Ash Wednesday 10am & 7pm



KIDS CORNER:

1. Why is this Wednesday called Ash Wednesday?
2. Why does Lent last for 40 days?
3. Why do we fast or give up things during Lent?

TASK FOR THE WEEK: The season of Lent begins this coming Wednesday. It is important to try to give up (eg chocolate or sweets) for the 40 days of Lent to prepare for the celebration of Easter. We use the money saved to give it to the poor to help them to have food.



Please pray for those who are sick or housebound at this time:

Bridget Matthews, Joan Allen, Pdraig Byrne, Sarah Harris, Mary Rodgers, Miriam Soughley, Baby Reiltin, Martin Crotty, Ruth Dayman.

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP



FORTY HOURS ADORATION

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7.00 pm: James Lovely & Simon Lovely (Anniv.)
8.30 am: Rita & Joe Malone (Anniv.)
10.30 am Billy Balfe (M/M)
12.00 pm Intentions of the Sick of the Parish
EXPOSITION 7pm—9pm

Monday: St. Polycarp

10.00 am: Anne & Patrick Nolan & Jason Nolan (Anniv.)
Baby James Anthony Leddy (Anniv.)

Tuesday:

10.00 am: Deceased members of the Daly Family

Wednesday: Ash Wednesday

10.00 am: Intentions of the Parish
7.00 pm Intentions of the Parish

Thursday:

10.00 am Rosena O'Brien (Anniv.)

Friday:

10.00 am James Lynch (Anniv.)

Saturday:

10.00 am: Special Intention

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

7.00 pm: Paddy Callaghan (1st Anniv.)
8.30 am: Intentions of the Parish
10.30 am Kathleen Hughes M/M
12.00 pm Jean Ennis (5th Anniv.)
EXPOSITION 7pm—9pm

NEW CHRISTIANS:

We welcome **Hannah, Sarah, Hannah and Conor** who join our community through the waters of baptism this weekend. May they continue to grow strong in body, mind and spirit in the years ahead. Anyone enquiring about baptism please take one of the leaflets from the back of the church or see Fr. John after Sunday Mass.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: Would anybody have a cooker or buggy in good condition to donate to VDP? If so, please contact John Kane, VDP on 086 0780697. Thank you.



WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

If you are a new parishioner or just visiting St. Mochta's you are very welcome and we, the existing community, hope you feel at home. If you are new to the parish please make yourself known to Fr. John. I would be also grateful if you could fill out a **Registration Form** in order to register with the parish. These can be found at the back of the Church.

ARE YOU REGISTERED IN THE PARISH?

Are you on the parish data base? If you have not registered with the parish please fill out one of the forms at the back of the church and return it to Fr. John. It is very important that we continue to build our data base and keep it up to date. Thank you.

PARISH OFFICE: For all parish enquires please ring our secretary June on 8213218 or email: secretary@stmochtasparrish.ie **Our parish office is open Monday to Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.**

PARISH WEBSITE: The address for our new site is: www.stmochtasparrish.ie

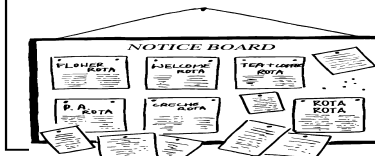
MASS INTENTIONS: If you would like to have Mass offered for someone or offered for a particular intention please see our sacristan, Mary after Mass.

CONFESSION: the sacrament is celebrated each Saturday from 6.00pm 6.45pm or by appointment. The sacrament offers you an opportunity to receive the Lord's forgiveness and healing.

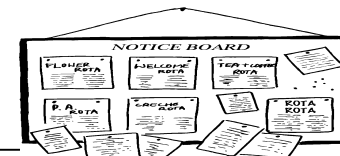
HOSPITAL VISITATION: If you know of a parishioner who is sick and would like a visit please don't hesitate to contact Fr. John.

40 HOURS ADORATION: St. Mochta's Parish 40 hours Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in St. Mochta's Church **commenced after 10am Mass on Friday and will finish after Benediction Sunday 22nd February at 9 pm** The Forty Hours Devotion is a special forty-hour period of continuous prayer made before the Blessed Sacrament in solemn exposition. The Forty Hours Devotion provides a wonderful opportunity for the spiritual growth of each person and the parish as a whole. In a world where temptation and evil abound, we need the Forty Hours Devotion more than ever.

SCRIPTURE READING: Each week we suggest a piece of Scripture to use in your prayer. Light a candle and read slowly the passage, re-read it a couple of times and reflect on it and listen to what God is saying to you. **This week's is Mk 2:18-22.**



PARISH NEWS



WEEKLY REFLECTION

Forgiveness

Forgiveness is like the child's dream of a miracle.

Through forgiveness what is broken
is made whole again,
what is soiled is made clean,
and what is lost is found.

Nothing greater can happen to a human being
than that he or she is forgiven.

Those who are forgiven
are no longer trapped in their past.
They are set free—free to move forward again.

The Lord not only forgives our sins,
but helps us to learn from them.

We learn about our own weakness.

We learn about the goodness of God.

And we learn to be compassionate
towards others who sin.

LENTEN TROCAIRE CAMPAIGN 2009:

We are nearing the Lenten season. Trocaire's campaign for this year highlights the plight of people who have been forced to flee their homes as a result of armed conflict, violence and violation of their human rights. Globally there are 163 million people displaced. No country around the world is untouched by displacement. Of these 26 million have been displaced as a result of war and conflict. The Trocaire box focuses on displacement in Somalia and tell the story of Khalid and his family. Somalia is currently one of the most unstable countries in the world and one of the world's most forgotten crises. The Trocaire Boxes have already been delivered to our schools and parish. Trocaire deeply appreciates the work you undertake each Lent in your home, school and parish. As always your support enables Trocaire to work with the poorest communities in the developing world. Go on take some action.....**TAKE A BOX HOME TODAY**

PARENTS MEETING 1st HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION:

The third meeting for parents in the Programme for Preparation for First Holy Communion will be held in St. Mochta's Parish Pastoral Centre on **Tuesday, 3rd March, 2009 at 8 pm**. This meeting will be about Penance and Reconciliation for your children. This will be celebrated in St. Mochta's Church on Tuesday, 10th March for St. Patrick's N.S. and Thursday, 12th March for St. Mochta's N.S. Please ensure that at least one parent or guardian attends this meeting.

WHEN DOES LENT START? We will celebrate the beginning of the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday on **February 25th**. Lent is a time of prayer and fasting as we prepare to celebrate Easter, the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and the Church's biggest celebration in the liturgical year. **"You are dust, and to dust you shall return."** It is one of the most ancient phrases of Scripture, coming right out of the early chapters of Genesis. As we are about to be reminded by our tradition, it forms the central theme of what we're about here today on Ash Wednesday. We're being reminded of our mortality and our need for penitence. But there's another theme at work deep within this sentence that we might do well to ponder as we enter the period of self-examination and renewal we call Lent. Part of our journey as people of God in this season is about re-energizing our spirituality, setting aside time to be with the divine light in our lives and to truly stop for a moment and allow it to do some of its transformational work in us. To re-emphasize, we need to truly stop, perhaps two of the hardest words to hear in our fast-paced always-in-motion culture today. On a day like Ash Wednesday, it seems appropriate to pause and take a hard, honest look at what drives us.

MAKING THE MOST OF 40 DAYS: We live lives of tortured complexity. Inside each of us there is both a saint and a sinner. Our hearts are a murky cauldron of grace and sin, angels and demons. Always, it seems, we are torn in a way that leaves us feeling unsure, guilty, and tense. The 40 days of Lent gives us the opportunity, like Jesus, to enter the desert. To go into the desert means to stare our inner chaos in the face. What demons live inside this chaos? They maybe the demons of bitterness, anger, jealousy, lust, deceit, addiction, hatred, distrust, selfishness etc. All these demons are inside every one of us. To stare them in the face is to enter the desert. A scary thing? Yes, but the scriptures assure us that if we muster the courage to face them, God will send angels to minister to us. Let us seize this opportunity to enter the desert, to trust in the Lord, to overcome our demons.

