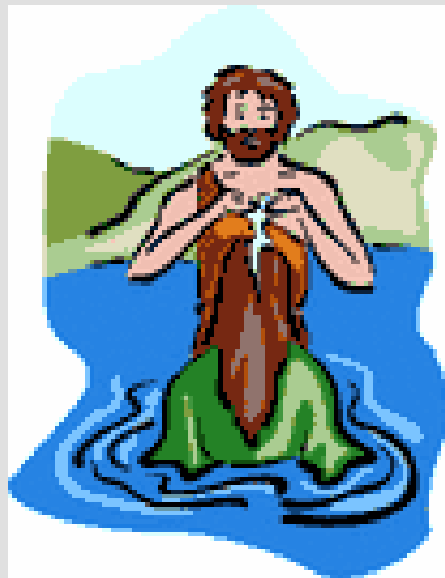


## THE ARK



The Ark starts on January 11<sup>th</sup> from 4 – 5 pm.  
This is a Parent and Toddlers Group.  
The Youth Groups will be meeting, by kind  
permission, in All Saints Hall, Raheny.

All are welcome, so dads and mums  
why not come along for a tea or coffee  
as the kids play.



Jesus is baptised by John in the River Jordan



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## *The Rector's Letter*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. The Rectory family wish each and every one of you a very happy and prosperous New Year. New Year has always been a great time to make resolutions about how we want to change in the months ahead. Tradition has it that we make New Year resolutions. They are all about turning away from the old and looking to the new. The month of January takes its name from the Roman god Janus. In Roman art and sculpture he has always been presented as having two heads, facing opposite directions. He represents the sense of looking backwards and looking forwards at the same time and so signifies the New Year. January marks the end of the old year and points us towards all that is new for us in the coming weeks and months.

January in the Church calendar moves us quickly from Christmas, through Epiphany into the early ministry of Jesus. In the space of three weeks we experience Jesus naming and circumcision, his baptism by John in the River Jordan and his calling of his first disciples. Thankfully our lives do not move as quickly as that, though this time of year does give us the chance to assess where we are in our spiritual and communal lives. Like those first followers of Jesus we are given, by him, the chance to seek his face anew and to dedicate ourselves to his service. With this in mind we look to the running of our Parish Church. Every January we amend our Register of Vestrypersons. Every person in the register is asked to attend the Easter General Vestry where they will have a vote as we seek to elect a new Select Vestry for what will be a very exciting year. The requirements are simple. You should be a regular Church attender and be financially supporting your Parish. This is a means by which you can align yourself with the Parish family and declare that you are a member of the Parish. There are many other ways to be involved with the Parish and its smooth running. Have you ever thought of helping with the upkeep of the Church, then put your name forward for the cleaning or flower arranging rota. Have you ever tried your hand at fund-raising? Perhaps you would like to help out with our 4 Youth Groups, who always need help. Have you ever considered reading prayers or Holy Scripture at the Sunday Worship? There are many ways to serve God. Seek his face and he will use you for the building up of his

Kingdom here and beyond. If you are interested in any of these or, indeed, have other ideas, please do not hesitate to contact myself or either of the Church Wardens – Graham Walsh (8533967) or Ed McKenna (8328423). Our Parish is indeed a very broad Parish. It has many needs so please seek your place.

Yours in Christ,  
*Derek*



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**GB Past Members**

We were delighted to join our MU for a demonstration of beautiful dishes given by Elaine Allen, helped by Sheila Barbour and Elaine Flood. The Mothers' Union have invited us to their Christmas lunch to be held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January in the Grand Hotel, Malahide. It will be a carvery lunch at 1.00 pm. Please let me know on telephone number 8332543/ 8530356, if you will be there. Wishing you all God's blessings for the New Year.

I. McMullen

## **Sunday Club**

We had a busy time preparing for our musical story of Christmas: 'Hosanna Rock'. I would like to thank all the children for their hard work and effort. A special thank you to Alison Jackson for co-ordinating the actions and words. We will be returning to our lessons from 'Living Stones' over the coming months.

It is great to see so many children attending Sunday Club. Here we look at some bible stories and their meanings, as well as trying out some acting, singing and art/craftwork from time to time. If there are any children interested in coming along, new members are always welcome.

We are grateful to all our helpers who have been trying out their role in Sunday Club. They have been of great assistance and we hope that they can continue coming and contributing towards our work. Any thoughts and ideas from them are always welcome.

I would like to express my thanks to Naomi, Stephanie, Conor, Ashling and Declan for leading in the lessons and to Victoria who has been coming down weekly to assist. Thanks too to the rest of our helpers who have come down on a rota basis: Cian, Laura, Casey, Keith, Cheryl and Rebecca. Kirsti and Lauren will be helping after Christmas. As you can see, we have been very fortunate in having so many willing people to help out. The more people we have involved, the more we can spread out the workload and share our different skills and talents. We open up again in Belgrove Boys' School Hall at the usual time of 10.30 am. Thanks again to everyone.

Here is the schedule for Sunday Club for Jan–March 2006.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sunday Club</b>	<b>Church Service</b>	<b>Teacher list</b>	<b>Helpers</b>
<b>JAN</b>				
1 <sup>st</sup>	No S C	Morning Prayer		
8 <sup>th</sup>	No S C	Parish Family Communion		
15 <sup>th</sup>	No S C	Songs of Praise For All		
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sunday Club	Parish Family Communion	J/S/N/C	KA/LM/ VD/KD
29 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday Club	Service of the Word	J/S/N/A/C	CS/CMcK /VD

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sunday Club</b>	<b>Church Service</b>	<b>Teacher list</b>	<b>Helpers</b>
<b>FEB</b>				
5 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday Club	Morning Prayer	J/S/N/D/C	CF/VD/RMcC
12 <sup>th</sup>	No S C	Parish Family Communion		
19 <sup>th</sup>	No S C	All Age Worship		
26 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday Club	Parish Family Communion with Church's Ministry for Healing	J/S/N/C/	KD/VD/LS
<b>MARCH</b>				
5 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday Club	Morning Prayer	J/S/N/A/C	KA/LM/VD/KD
12 <sup>th</sup>	No S C	Confirmation Service		
19 <sup>th</sup>	No S C	All Age Worship	St Patrick's Weekend	
26 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday Club	Parish Family Communion	J/S/N/D/C	CS/CMcK/VD

## **PASTORAL VISITATION TO THE SICK**



Please contact the Rector  
as soon as you hear someone is unwell  
at home or in hospital.  
This is the only way he will know.  
Don't leave it to someone else.

## **Greenlanes National School**

### ***Oliver***

The school's production of 'Oliver' took place at the beginning of December, and both staff and children worked really hard to produce a delightful show. The singing was enthusiastic, the acting was very well undertaken, and the children obviously enjoyed themselves, looking enchanting and just the part in their ragamuffin clothes and caps. Credit must go to the children who took lead roles - no mean feat at such a young age - and who all sang their parts well.

Thanks go to all who made the production possible, not least St Brigid's for the loan of their hall. But thanks go especially to Marian Sampson who brought the whole show together, and in doing so involved every child in the school. What an amazing experience for them.

### ***Sport***

The children have been enjoying playing Gaelic football this term. Next term hockey, athletics and basketball will be added to the range of sports played.

### ***Special Needs Assistant***

We welcome Tunga as our new Special Needs Assistant to cover for Sandra whilst she is on maternity leave. We hope that she will enjoy her time with the school.

H. Lyall

### **Clontarf Indoor Bowls Club**

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December we had a happy get together of our members, past and present, as well as those who played on Wednesday afternoons. It was the last gathering before the Hall is closed and about twenty of us sat round the table.

We enjoyed a lovely supper of mince pies, etc. and the chat and reminiscing was great.

Later many photos were taken in the Main Hall as mementos.

We look forward to good bowling in 2006 and wish all our members, families and friends a very happy and healthy New Year.

H. Erskine

## Youth Groups

December was a jam-packed month for the youth clubs. The toddlers and the 3-6s had a great Christmas party.



There was lots of fun, games and plenty of treats to go around.

Wired and Connect joined up for a night out; a large group headed to the RDS for a session of skating.



Everyone had a good time, with only two incidents needing an ambulance. Kirsti and the Rector ended up in Temple Street Hospital, nothing serious thankfully, and Felicity ended up in St. Vincent's. She is also fine.

A small group headed to Christ Church Cathedral the following week for a multi-media Christmas Service experience called 'Essential'.

At the time of going to print, we plan to go along with the Parish Carol Singing around Clontarf to raise money for charity. So, all in all, December has been very busy. With best wishes for the New Year.

See you on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January up in Raheny Hall (back of All Saints' Church, Howth Road).

Our renamed groups are as follows:

The Ark – (0-3 yr olds); The Klub – (3-6 yr olds)

Wired – (7-11 yr olds); Connect – (12+)

Lynn Boyle is kindly looking after The Ark. Details of the Ark can be found on the cover.

*Naomi*

### **Clontarf Branch Mothers' Union**

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>. Jan. New Year lunch in the Grand Hotel, Malahide at 1pm. Please contact Isobel or Iris if attending and if a lift is required. A very happy New Year to everybody.

I. Acheson

### Songs of Praise Service



A Songs of Praise Service takes place on  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 10.30 a.m.

You will find enclosed a sheet with the names of the most popular hymns. You are invited to choose your five favourites from the list. They should be returned to the Rectory or given to the Church Wardens by Jan 10<sup>th</sup>.

The most popular hymns will be sung with a short introduction to each. Please state why you have chosen your top hymn as your favourite.

We are looking forward to seeing you on the day.  
Tea and coffee will be served following the Service.

# SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JANUARY 2006



- Jan 1**                    **Christmas 1**  
Isaiah 61: 10 62: 3; Psalm 148:  
Galatians 4: 4-7; Luke 2: 15-21.
- Jan 8**                    **Epiphany 1**  
Genesis 1: 1-5; Psalm 29;  
Acts 19: 1-7; Mark 1: 4-11.
- Jan 15**                  **Epiphany 2**  
1 Samuel 3: 1-10; Psalm 139: 1-5;  
Revelation 5: 1-10; John 1: 43-51.
- Jan 22**                  **Epiphany 3**  
Genesis 14: 17-20; Psalm 128;  
Revelation 19: 6-10; John 2: 1-11.
- Jan 29**                  **Epiphany 4**  
Deuteronomy 18: 15-20; Psalm 111;  
Revelation 12: 1-5a; Mark 1: 21-28

## **5th Company Girls' Brigade Ireland Clontarf Presbyterian**

Since the last parish magazine the 5th Company has had some success in the Choral Speaking Competitions. One of our Junior/Senior Teams came in 3rd Place in the National Finals, gaining a place in the All-Ireland Final.

This took place in Swords on the 3rd December '05 against teams from the North of Ireland and we were placed first - winning the Margaret O'Rourke Trophy which we were all delighted about. In the Explorer Section our Choral Speaking Team came in 5th position saying their poem very well indeed on the day.

On Sunday 11th December '05 our Carol Service was held in Howth Road Presbyterian Church along with the 39th Co. Boys Brigade and each section of the Company sang a Carol or appropriate Christmas Song, namely the Explorer Section, the Junior/Senior Section and the Brigadier Section - we are very lucky to have some beautiful singers in the company - both girls and officers and we can never be accused of hiding our talents!!

On Monday 19th December '05 we went out Carol Singing around the Marino area in aid of a chosen charity - this year being St. Francis Hospice. All Sections of the Company have two weeks rest over the holiday period and then it will be 'all hands on deck' for the P.E.

Competitions/Modern Dance Competition/Scripture Test - to name but a few - which occur around February/March '06. The Junior/Senior Section have also been busy over the past few weeks making 'Advent Calendars' for the Miss Carroll Trophy which takes a different format each year - we await the results!

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy New Year and we look forward to seeing all our members back in January rested and renewed and ready for another Session.

M. McIlhinney

### **Clontarf Young Women's Group**

We had a marvellous night at the Olympia on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December. Elaine Flood very kindly hosted a Christmas celebration in her home after the play. Everyone had a great time. Thanks Elaine.

Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February. Details will follow in Weekly Notice Sheets and also in the February Magazine.

B. Sargent

### **Congratulations:**

Congratulations to Joe and Valerie on the birth of their beautiful daughter, a lovely sister for Maccon, Brian and Elva. May God bless her each and every day.

## **12<sup>th</sup> Company Dublin Boys' Brigade**

### **Anchor Boys**

We all enjoyed our last night in the Parish hall which was our Christmas party. We had plenty of goodies and Santa's visit rounded off a terrific evening. On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January we have a trip to Lambert Puppet Theatre, Monkstown. This is always a great show. Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January we re-commence normal Anchor Boys in St. Paul's College. We wish everyone a Happy New Year. Anchor Boys donated €35.00 to the Parish Charity Fund.



Here are David and Luke Sargent placing a gold ball on the Giving Tree, on behalf of the Company.

H. McCullagh

### **Junior Section**

On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December we held our Christmas Bible Class in the Parish Hall for the last time. Many thanks to Naomi for her thoughtful reflection, to those who organised refreshments and to all who turned out to celebrate the Christmas Bible Class with the Company. As usual the collection is given to a needy cause.

Just short of €300 was donated to Simon, whose work with the homeless is so important. Alan Harper, a past member of the Company, read our Scripture passage. Looking forward to January we recommence on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> in St Paul's. Just before that there is 5-A-Side Indoor Football at DCU. The Junior Section Figure Marching competition is on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February so we will be busy preparing for that. In addition we have badge work, display preparation and lots of fun to get through.

M. Acheson

## **NEEDS GROUP MEETING FOR OLDER PARISHIONERS**



An evening was held in the Parish Hall for older parishioners on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October at 8 pm. Subjects discussed included worship, social activities and the recent sale of our Parish Hall. Approximately 25 parishioners and the full membership of the Needs Group attended. (The Rector, Mark Acheson, Diane Kitching, Declan Barry, Aisling Cassidy, Heather Hunter, Iris Acheson)

It has opened the door to a number of new ideas:

- Songs of Praise Service.
- Morning Prayer monthly.
- The possibility of a Cheese and Wine in 2006.
- Ongoing Christian Discipleship Course – Alpha.

**Watch this space.**

### **Reflection**

The Rector has reminded us that 2006 will, DV, be a very new year indeed for our Parish. Whilst acknowledging the merits of progression, 'veterans', such as the writer, and indeed all of us, feel a decided nostalgia when reflecting on the razing of the Parish Hall, for many years the home for Greenlanes National School. The Hall was a veritable hub for Parish activities, too numerous to mention.

Individuals will recall an era which has left them the most indelible memory.

Chatting recently, a number of us agreed that the May Langley middle years were very telling. One recalls that she had charge of the three classes comprising an age group that was feeling its feet – out of the Miss Crampton (Mrs. Fryer) kindergarten and not yet in pressurised fifth and sixth. It was the grooming era.

Who could forget Miss Langley's tuning fork striking the note for those Irish songs and ever popular hymns in the hymnal? We even learnt the descant for some. We learnt by heart, reams of Scripture verses aiding us to pass the annual Synod exams. She took no prisoners, but was fair. She didn't, from memory, have any favourites. She later became Headmistress of Howth Road Girls' School and her loss was felt for some time. Change is unsettling. Sunday School met in the Parish Hall, each class located in the fashion of day school. Mr. Armstrong was Overseer and after a brief assembly led by Mr. Neligan, the Rector, we dispersed to our classes. One had to be 14/15 for confirmation and the senior class of that age was pre-confirmation. Some of us were 15 when we left Sunday School. After our class, we joined parents for Morning Prayer at 11.30 am each Sunday. Young people to-day may think we were subjected to an endurance test but we were geared to the programme and most accepted it as the norm. Sunday was very much Sunday.



Our prayerful hope for 2006 is that the Holy Spirit will move upon our Parish during the changes and that our spiritual awareness of the centrality of Jesus Christ will be renewed. May we experience much blessing in 2006. We remember that "Jesus is the same yesterday, to-day and forever."

A. Maharry

### **Parish Registers Burial Register**

William (Bill) Condell; 4<sup>th</sup> December; Columbarium.  
Leonard (Leo) Kemmis; 4<sup>th</sup> December; Columbarium.  
Fred Lynch; 17<sup>th</sup> December; Columbarium.

# PARISH DIARY



## 2006

Jan 15	10.30 am	Songs of Praise Service
Jan 24	8.00 pm	Select Vestry Meeting
Jan 25	10.30 am	Holy Communion with prayers for those who are sick.
Feb 26	10.30 am	Healing Service. Preacher: Rev. Susan Watterson, Director of the CMH. The laying-on of hands and anointing with oil will be offered.
Mar 1	10.30 am 7.00 pm	Ash Wednesday Liturgy Ash Wednesday Liturgy
Mar 12	10.30 am	Rite of Confirmation
Mar 26	10.30 am	All-Age Mothering Sunday Worship
Apr 6	8.00 pm	Easter General Vestry Meeting
May 11	8.00 pm	Mothers' Union Diamond Jubilee Celebration

## PARISH WORSHIP - JANUARY

<p><b>1st</b> 8.30am 10.30am</p>	<p><b>CHRISTMAS 1</b> Morning Prayer Morning Prayer with Sermon</p>
<p><b>8th</b> 8.30am 10.30am 7.00pm</p>	<p><b>EPIPHANY 1 (THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST)</b> Holy Communion Parish Family Communion Holy Communion</p>
<p><b>15th</b> 8.30am 10.30am</p>	<p><b>EPIPHANY 2</b> Holy Communion Songs of Praise Service</p>
<p><b>22<sup>nd</sup></b> 8.30 am 10.30 am 7.00 pm</p>	<p><b>EPIPHANY 3</b> Holy Communion Parish Family Communion Holy Communion</p>
<p><b>25th</b> 10.30 am</p>	<p><b>THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL</b> Holy Communion with prayers for those who are sick</p>
<p><b>29th</b> 8.30 am 10.30 am</p>	<p><b>EPIPHANY 4</b> Holy Communion Service of the Word</p>