



St. Philip & St. James and St. Thomas Newsletter



CHRISTMAS
2004

PARISH DETAILS

RECTOR:

Rev. Gillian Wharton

(For the moment)
101 Stepside Park,
Stepaside,
Co. Dublin.

Tel: 2149858

087 2300767

Email:

booters-
town@dublin.anglican.org

LAY READER:

Mr. Jason McCann

Tel: 2100933

PARISH OFFICE:

St. Thomas' Rectory, Foster
Avenue, Mount Merrion,
Co. Dublin.

Tel: 2835873

PARISH SECRETARY:

Deirdre Donovan

Email:

mountmer-
rion@dublin.anglican.org

Visit us anytime at
www.booterstown.org

The Rector writes ...

I cannot believe that it is already over four weeks since the Institution; it has been a very quick month!

First of all, I want to say how much I appreciate all the work that went into preparing for the Institution. Everything went so well and this was due to all those who made sure that every detail was attended to. I am aware that there was a small army of people who worked very hard – thank you. The army included the churchwardens, the secretaries of the Select Vestries, the parish secretary Deirdre Donovan, the 'Project Manager' Sue McDonnell, the glebewardens, those who provided the refreshments, those who arranged flowers, those who cleaned the church after the painter had been in, those who looked after parking, those who read, the magnificent music – thank you Charles, and all those others who did things that were unspoken of – thank you. Everything was wonderful apart from the weather! My family and friends and other visitors that evening have commented upon the warmth of the welcome that they received and I think that says a lot about the two parishes.

Since then, I have met many of you and have probably got your name wrong, or else not even risked attempting it... as I said on my first Sunday, please, please, keep telling me your name. Unfortunately, there is no guarantee that because you have told me your name a million times that I will remember it the next time. Please do not be offended; there are a lot of names and a lot of faces and putting the right name to the right face can be a bit tricky!

We are now at the start of the Christian year – Advent, and it is an exciting and appropriate time to be starting off. As I said at the wonderful 'bunfight' after the Institution, I am really looking forward to travelling and working with you as we journey together trying to work out what God requires of us as we seek to bring his love, to our parish community and beyond, and this has already started in some areas. The Sunday Club Leaders in both Saint Philip and Saint James' and in Saint Thomas' and I have been exploring ways of including the children in worship during Advent and Christmas by the lighting of the Advent Wreath and by making and hanging symbols on the Jesse Tree. The Jesse Tree traces the story of God's relationship with his people through the Old Testament and of how they were all waiting on the Messiah. The Sunday Club Leaders in Saint Thomas' and I went to the Children's Ministry Conference 'Building Blocks' in Saint Patrick's Drumcondra which was excellent – thank you to Jeanette Hunt for organising us to go.

Celebrating Christmas carries with it responsibilities. The Son of God was born in an outhouse, into a poor family. He was not in a maternity hospital with every facility available, his family were not at a table with lots to eat; they were not even at home, and then they had to flee their homeland. If celebrating Christ's birth is about anything, it is about caring, and reaching out. There are lots of ways in which we can do this: carol singing in aid of SIMON, contributing to the Bishops' Appeal in the envelopes provided, supporting Vera's Friendship Coffee Morning and Vi and Bob

Hoffman's Coffee Morning, the concert in aid of ARUPE, etc., etc. We can make a difference and we can bring a little of Christ's light into places and situations that are bleak and dark.

As you can see from page six, there is a wide range of services over the Christmas period. It is hoped in these services to help people to celebrate God's gift of his Son to us. On Sunday 19th December, 'A Quiet Christmas' in Saint Thomas' at 10.00 is designed for those, who, for whatever reason, may wish to celebrate Christmas in a quieter, more reflective manner. On the same day, at 11.30 in Saint Philip and Saint James', there will be a Christingle Service and Baptism. For all sorts of obvious reasons(!), it would be more appropriate for children to go to the Christingle Service that morning rather than the Quiet Service. In the afternoon of that day, there is the ecumenical carol service in Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church and later on that evening is the Carols by Candlelight in Saint Thomas'. Do please come to as much as you can; your presence will greatly add to our worship.

Over Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, there are two services in each of our churches. All services will be Holy Communion, with the 10.00 in Saint Thomas' and the 11.30 in Saint Philip and Saint James' focussed, but not exclusively so, on children families, including the family of the church.

Alan and I both wish you and your loved ones a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Yours in Christ,

Gillian



WORSHIP



SUNDAY SERVICES:

St. Philip & St. James,

Boosterstown and Carysfort

8.30am

Holy Communion

(in February, April, June, August, October, December)

11.30am

Holy Communion

on first and third Sunday of the month

Morning Prayer

on all other Sundays

St. Thomas,

Mount Merrion

8.30am

Holy Communion

(in January, March, May, July, September, November)

10.00am

Holy Communion

on first and third Sunday of the month

Morning Prayer

on all other Sundays

*The fourth Sunday of the month is our United Family Service
which alternates between the two churches—please watch for
details*

IN MEMORIAM

Carol Peilow:

Carol who was a member of St. Thomas' parish died on 17th September, after a long illness borne with great dignity. Her funeral service, on 21st September, was held in St. Philip & St. James church, where an overflow attendance paid tribute to her life as Robin's wife and mother to Karen, Katrina, Cherry and Tom, and friend to many within the parish and further afield. While not one to seek the limelight she was always ready to assist where something required to be done, and done quietly and efficiently. She will be greatly missed and our prayers and sympathy are with the family.

Kathleen Loudon:

On the 5th of October the mortal remains of Kathleen lay at the crossing of St. Philip & St. James church, Boosterstown, within feet of the fine 'Forster and Andrews' organ on which she had played for nearly fifty years until her retirement. In past times she had also acted as an assistant organist in both Christchurch and St. Patrick's Cathedrals, no mean achievement and a tribute to her ability. But, it was as a 'character' that many of us parishioners remember her. Utterly reliable in all weathers she travelled from her home in Terenure to Boosterstown. She drove a veteran MINI of which she was immensely proud. Her 'take off' after Sunday service in the car was often memorable – reminiscent of 'CAPE CANAVERAL'! - so much oil burnt and smoke produced. The writer of this note remarked to her one day that, as an organist, her signature tune might have been 'LO (SHE) GOES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING' (to misquote an old hymn). She laughed, she was a good sport! A fine teacher of piano and organ, her funeral was attended by many former pupils.

Kathleen, from all of us who remember your years of dedication in Boosterstown Parish 'WELL DONE GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT'.

ECUMENICAL CAROL SERVICE

This years Ecumenical Carol

Service will take place on Sunday, 19th December at

4 pm

in St. Andrews' Church, Booterstown.

We hope as many as possible can attend this annual gathering with our close neighbours in the community.

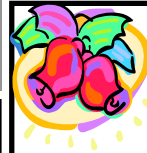


ST. PHILIP & ST. JAMES GIFT DAY

Our Annual Gift Day will be held on Sunday 19th December 2004. Please consider carefully and prayerfully, what you could contribute to your parish church, and be as generous as you can afford.

ST. THOMAS' CHURCH BISHOPS APPEAL

St. Thomas' Church Bishop's Appeal will take place over the Sundays of Advent and Christmas Day. Envelopes will be available in Church for those wishing to contribute. Your generosity will be gratefully appreciated.



Vi and Bobs'

Christmas
Coffee Morning
&
Bring & Buy Sale

Saturday 11th December
10.00—12.00

In their home at
"Velden"
Waltham Terrace
Raffle-Bric-a-Brac

All Welcome!



SCOUTING IN MOUNT MERRION 25TH DUBLIN GROUP

The Cub Pack (ages 8-11 years) and Scout Troop (11-16 years) have vacancies for boys and girls. A period in cubs or scouts gives them valuable life-skills. Scouting gives them a non-formal educational experience based as much as possible in the outdoors where they undertake challenges using the plan-do-review approach in team-work situations.. They learn first-aid skills; they play hand-eye co-ordination games; they keep fit by hiking; they go hostelling and camping in beauti-

ful places in the countryside; they go on day trips to Belfast to see the W5 science exhibition; they do art and craft work; they learn to socialise and make friends outside of the school peer group, etc. Above all, they have fun! If you would like to enrol your child then make contact with the appropriate section leader.

Cubs: Natalie Scharwatt
086 3693 824

Scouts: Pat Treacy
2884575 (H)

Ventures: Gina Liuzzi
086 8413 871

BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY!

Very many thanks and congratulations to our Rector's Glebe Warden, Ken Hunt, who so cleverly and tastefully completely redesigned the interior of our Parish Flat. This was a very time consuming project for Ken, involving not just design and drawings, but organisation and supervision of all the various skills required to do such a good job, and also the choice and purchasing of furnishings. He not only undertook this project but he had an overdue refurbishment of the Rectory to contend with as well.

We welcome two lovely Indian families as our first tenants. A member of one of the families, Mr. Monicam Thanaseelan, is our People's Church Warden.



BOOTERSTOWN COMMUNITY BRIDGE CLUB

Boosterstown Community Bridge Club welcomes new member. Bridge takes place every Friday evening 7.30 pm—10.30 pm. Annual Membership €10—For further details contact Patricia Byrne—Tel: 2880619

BOOTERTOWN NATIONAL SCHOOL



The school term is moving swiftly along and we are already heading into the Advent season and the preparation for Christmas. We

are delighted to welcome Rev. Gillian Wharton to the School, both the children and staff are enjoying assemblies on a Friday morning with her.

It has been a busy term with various activities and events:-
Diocesan Schools Service in October which was attended by eight children

from the school and two teachers. Capoeira—A Brazilian music/dance/martial arts workshop proved to be an enjoyable and interesting alternative cultural experience for us all. Operation Christmas Child was a huge success and a big thank you to all the families who contributed shoeboxes which are to be delivered to Eastern Europe for this Christmas.

Sixth class will selling Christmas Cards in the school during the week of 29th November—3rd December in aid of St. Michael's House. Our annual Christmas Carol Service will be held on Monday 20th December at 11.30 am in St. Philip & St. James' Church.

All are welcome to attend. This will be followed by the Parents Association Christmas lunch in the hall. The school will close for the Christmas holidays on Wednesday 22nd December and will re-open on Monday 10th January.

On behalf of the staff and children I would like to wish all the Parishioners a Very Happy Christmas and best wishes for a prosperous New Year.



Patricia Conran, Principal

St. Thomas' Indoor Bowling Club

Our league and cup matches for this year have already started.

Unfortunately both our McIllwaine and Rohu teams have lost their first matches but we are hopeful for improved performances in our future matches. The news is better on the Cup front. Our ladies Hope Cup team have still to play Whitechurch. We have welcomed two new mem-

bers Emma Gibney and Mike and both are enjoying playing with us and we would very much like to welcome more members from either parish.

We are in the early stages of making plans for the holding of the Champion of Champions in February and March, as we are hosting the event this year.

We hope all our Bowling friends

will be enjoying Christmas and look forward to meeting our opponents in the league and Cups in the New Year.

*Bill Semple
Hon Secretary.*



Carol Singing for the Simon Community

**Monday 20th December
2004
7.30 pm—9.30 pm**

This year we will be starting from St. Thomas' Church at 7.30 pm sharp and afterwards as usual, we will be having Supper at Hunts.

Please make a special effort to support this worthy cause. It is a great opportunity for us to serve the community. Boxes for Simons will be at the doors of the Church during the Service on the 19th December to enable those who are unable to

support us on the Monday to contribute to the cause.

(Bad weather will not be a deterrent!)

Contact Gillian—087 2300767





ST. PHILIP & ST. JAMES SUNDAY CLUB

Sunday Club recommenced on 19th September 2004 and we were delighted to welcome so many new children. This year we have 2 classes with Beverly and Fiona looking after the younger class and Gail and Barbara taking the senior class.

The Ecumenical Harvest Service was very well attended by the children. They brought baskets of fruit to church, which were sent to parishioners who were unable to get to the Harvest Service.

During the next few Sundays the children will be making symbols to hang on the Jesse Tree. These symbols will depict the Journey of Faith through the Old Testament. Week by week during Advent the children will light a candle in the Advent Wreath and explain the significance of each candle.



The Christingle Service is on Sunday 19th December. The Christingle Service is very popular with the children of the Sunday Club when each child receives a Christingle with its lighted candle.

As in previous years the children bring a small donation each week which is deposited in 'Piggy', this money is sent to Fields of Life to help the child, sponsored by the parish, her name is Yudaya Massozi. Our children have received a Christmas Card and letter from Yudaya and we are sending a card to her



ST. THOMAS' GARDEN OF REMBRANCE

As many of you will know we are in the process of putting a Garden of Remembrance in the area of the rectory garden nearest the Stillorgan Road. It will be a small area approached from the church car park and will be separated from the rectory garden by a wooden fence, up against which there will eventually be shrubs and climbing plants. The fence will be of a sufficient height to afford privacy to both areas.

Suitable trees will be planted along the Stillorgan Road wall to dull the traffic noise as much as possible.

The Representative Church Body which owns the church property has given its approval to the scheme.

While planning permission was sought for some time ago there were problems which had to be resolved, the site had to be cleared, levels taken and there had to be further consultations with the local authorities and adjoining owners.

Hopefully, if all goes according to plan the Garden of Remembrance should be in place by next August or September.

Jeanette Hunt, Arthur White & Vera Pepper

CHRISTMAS SERVICES



Sunday 19th December

08.30 Holy Communion

St. Philip & St. James'

10.00 'A Quiet Christmas'

St. Thomas'

11.30 Christingle & Holy Baptism

St. Philip & St. James'

16.00 Ecumenical Carol Service
St. Andrew's, Mount Merrion Avenue

19.00 Carols by Candlelight
St. Thomas'



Monday 20th December

11.30 Booterstown National School Carol Service

St. Philip & St. James'

Friday 24th December 2004

23.30 Holy Communion

St. Thomas'

Saturday 25th December

08.30 Holy Communion

St. Philip & St. James'

10.00 Family Holy Communion

St. Thomas'

11.30 Family Holy Communion

St. Philip & St. James'



Sunday 26th December

08.30 Holy Communion

St. Philip & St. James'

10.00 United Family Service

St. Thomas'



in
The Parish Centre
at
ST. PHILIP & ST. JAMES'

HAT

WHEN

CONTACT

Sunday Club

Sunday

Barbara Plant
2880202

Montessori School

Monday-Friday
8.30 pm-1.00 pm

Marion Gartland
0404 29961

Yoga

Monday
8.00 pm-9.30 pm

Anne Murphy
087 2200407

Whist

Monday
8.00 pm-9.30 pm

Yvonne Laycock
2885660

Kick Boxing

Tuesday
5.00 pm—7.00 pm

Glen Heenan
086 3993095

Bridge (Merrion)

Tuesday
7.30 pm-10.30 pm

Anne Murphy
2886337

League of Health

Tuesday
7.45 pm-8.45 pm

Yvonne McGuinness
2896162

Parish Women's Fellowship

Tuesday (2nd of month)
8.00 pm-10.00 pm

Sue McDonnell
2881182

Playball

Wednesday
12.40 pm -1.40 pm

Julie-Ann Hudson
2880688

Badminton

Thursday morning
10.15 am-12.30 pm

Badminton

Thursday evening
8.30 pm-11.00 pm

Maureen Millington
2809826

Youth Club

Friday
7.30 pm

Nicola Halford
087 1233338

Boosterstown Community
Bridge

Friday
7.30 pm -10.30 pm

Patricia Byrne
2880619

Stagecoach Theatre Arts
School

Saturday
10.00 am-1.00 pm
2.00 pm-5.00 pm

Helen Roche
2803336

Cut out and keep for handy reference



in
The Monk Gibbon Hall
at St. Thomas'

WHAT

WHEN

CONTACT

Sunday Club

Sunday (1st & 3rd)
10.15 am-10.45 am

Jeanette Hunt
2880777

Mother & Toddler

Mon/Thur/Fri
10.30 am-12.00 am
Saturday
10.00 am-11.00 am

Shona Ashmore
2945824

Cubs

Monday
7.00 pm-8.30 pm

Natalie Scharwatt
086 3693824

Scouts

Friday
8.00 pm-10.00 pm

Pat Treacy
086 8578331

Venture Scouts

Sunday
8.00 pm-10.00 pm

Gina Luizzi
086 8413871

Dance Class

Monday
8.45 pm-10.00 pm
Wednesday
2.30 pm-4.00 pm
6.30 pm-10.00 pm

Flora Millar
2000455

Yoga Class

Tuesday
6.30 pm-9.30 pm
Thursday
6.00 pm-7.00 pm
Saturday
12.00 pm-1.00 pm

Emma Stafford
087 9606908

League of Health

Tuesday
11.00 am-12.00 pm
Wednesday
10.00 am-12.15 pm

Alison Galbraith
2888761

Indoor Bowls

Thursday & Saturday
7.30 pm-10.30 pm

Bill Semple
2882194

Bereavement Counselling

Tuesday Afternoon

Mairead McGuinness
2884263

THE MONK GIBBON HALL IS AVAILABLE ON SATURDAY AFTERNOONS FOR CHILDRENS PARTIES, ETC. CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE, TEL: 2835873

Cut out and keep for handy reference