



St. Philip & St. James and St. Thomas

NEWSLETTER



SUMMER 2003



The Rector writes ...

As we head towards the end of June, things are beginning to wind down, as the sun shines, and people take off to Wicklow, Wexford and other exotic places!

But before we started to wind down, we were wound up(!!!) and we've had a busy few weeks.

BBQ and Jazz Night

On Friday 17th June, the BBQ and Jazz Night took place. The weather was wonderful and it really makes such a difference to be able to have a BBQ OUTSIDE! The food, the music, the

ambience were all super. We would have happily stayed chatting till the small hours... but for the sake of good neighbourly relations, it was probably just as well we didn't!!! Thanks to Vi Hoffman, Denise Richards and all who made it such a wonderful evening. This was a social evening, for people to have a chance to chat and spend time together and have a bit of fun, not a fundraiser, but a sum of approx. €1,000 was realised.

Youthful Things!

The following morning, was water-galore as the youth clubs did their (now!) annual car wash and breakfast. Thirty cars were washed and they did look clean after they had been washed! Loads of breakfasts

were served. Numerous youth club people including the leaders were also washed but they didn't look that shiny and clean afterwards, just soggy! Many thanks to all who scrubbed, cooked or brought their cars along to be washed.

As if that wasn't enough of a watery experience for one weekend, the youth clubs, on Sunday 19th June after the 8.30 service, went off to the Aquatic Centre in Blanchardstown, for their end-of-the-year extravaganza!

Huge thanks to Nicola Halford, Graham Hayes and Andrew Telford for their wonderful work with our youth clubs. We are so blessed and fortunate to have someone the calibre of Nicola working with our young people.

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9.00am - 12.00pm

PARISH SECRETARY:

Mrs. Deirdre Donovan



young people.

Televised Service

The week before all the above shenanigans, we toddled off to RTE to lead the Sunday morning service on 12th June 2005. Thank you to all who participated in the service, who put up with me ranting and dragging people out to rehearse. Particular thanks to the Sunday Club leaders who did so much work with the children in preparation for the service, and to the musical maestros Charles and Jackie who put us through our paces. Thank you too to those who supported us by their prayers and encouragement. There has been quite a response to the service. We have received numerous phone calls, text messages and letters from all over Ireland, saying how much they enjoyed the service and how blessed we are to have such wonderful children and young people in our parishes. The older ones are pretty good too!!! Many thanks to all who helped with this service which helped

others to worship.

Summer Sale

Saturday 14th May 2005; all roads led to the Summer Sale in Saint Thomas'. Again the weather was kind to us, and with oodles of bargains; yummy cakes and teas, and burgers; fun on the bouncy castle, a great day was had by all, and the magnificent sum of over €5,000 realised. An enormous amount of work was put into this by Vera Pepper and all the stallholders. Helpers were shattered by the end of the day. It was a super day – well done!

Scout Group

Saturday 21st May 2005, the various sections of the Mount Merrion Scout Group displayed their skills and the work that they had done over the past year. This all happened in the Monk Gibbon Hall and the grounds of the church. From the Cubs play of 'The Jungle Book' to rope bridges, it was all happening. Dr. Mike McKillen who has been such a leading light in our Scout Group, has

decided to retire from 'hands on' scouting and at the end of day, he was presented with a merit award by Gay Davoren on behalf of SAI and the new scout association, Scouting Ireland. Our thanks to Mike for all that who has given to the young people of these parishes and beyond.

So, it was a busy May and June, and the autumn is promising to be busy too!

Busy Autumn Lined Up!

On Friday 23rd September, the Youth Clubs assisted by others are organising a fashion show in the Stillorgan Park Hotel. A lot of work is going into this event by Nicola Halford and others and your support is the last piece of the jigsaw to make it a brilliant night. There will be clothes modelled for all age ranges and the models are coming from a well-known top modelling agency, otherwise known as the Grouped Parishes of Saint Philip and Saint James' and Saint Thomas'!!! Please put it

in your diary and support it. If you want to know 'what is in', and how to look glamorous for the autumn and winter, then you can't afford to miss this fun night!

On Friday 21st October, the social and fundraising committees from both parishes are jointly running an auction in the Monk Gibbon Hall at Saint Thomas'. All sorts of favours and items are going to be sold, but in order for them to be sold, we need you to donate them! We require good quality items (not junk!), and favours, so put your thinking-caps on and let Vi Hoffman or Vera Pepper know what you are giving, and then of course, we need you to come to the auction with your friends and Denis Beare will painlessly extract your cash as you enthusiastically bid for all sorts of delightful goodies!

Autumn Services

And we're not just concerned with fun, frolics and fundraisers, there are some special services coming up too.

(Gordon Linney always said that every service is a special service).

You'll find details of the 'Start of the School Year' service on 25th September, the ecumenical harvest thanksgivings and the parish harvest thanksgivings all on this newsletter. Please do make every effort to contribute to these services by BEING THERE! Your presence greatly adds to the worship.

Rectory

At the time of writing, we are nearly in the rectory. The last few finishing touches are being put to paintwork, etc. We are looking forward to moving in and making our home in the rectory. We're hoping that on the Sunday before we move, there will be open house in the rectory, so that parishioners can scoot in after the service at 10.00 in Saint Philip and Saint James' and have a look around. Just remember to "wipe your feet and don't paw the paint work"!!!!!! Huge thanks to Mike Hayes and Clive Beatty

who have done so much to make the rectory super-duper! We are having a coffee morning in the rectory on Saturday 10th September 2005, which will also, be another chance to have a peek at the work that has been done!

Holiday Cover

The Venerable Gordon Linney is taking the services on Sunday 24th July and Sunday 31st July 2005. Details of pastoral care will be on my answering machine. Blackrock Clinic and Hospice are being looked after by the Rev. Kevin Dalton and the Rev. Darren McCallig.

Holidays

I hope that you have the opportunity to re-charge the batteries, that you travel safely and that you come back refreshed.

Best wishes,
Gillian

SERVICES IN JULY & AUGUST

July every Sunday

8.30 am Saint Thomas'
10.00 am Saint Philip and Saint James'

August every Sunday

8.30 am Saint Philip and Saint James'
10.00 am Saint Thomas'

Dates of Special Services for your Diary

25th September 2005 Start of the School-year Service in Saint Philip and Saint James' at **10.00 am (United Family Service)**

2nd October 2005 Organisations' Service in Saint Thomas' at **10.00 am**

9th October 2005 Ecumenical Harvest Thanksgiving in Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Mount Merrion Avenue at **11.00 am**

16th October 2005 Harvest Thanksgiving in Saint Thomas' at **10.00 am** Harvest Thanksgiving in Saint Philip and Saint James' at **11.30 am**

Dates for your Diary

Monday 11th July 2005—Pilates Class commencing in the Monk Gibbon Hall from 7 pm—8 pm. Seven week Course €70—Contact David Byrne 087 625 1211

Friday 23rd September 2005 – Fashion Show in the Stillorgan Park Hotel. Organised by PJT Youth Clubs and the Youth Leader Nicola Halford and others.

Friday 21st October 2005 – Auction of Items and Favours in the Monk Gibbon Hall at Saint Thomas' Church. Jointly organised by both parishes.