

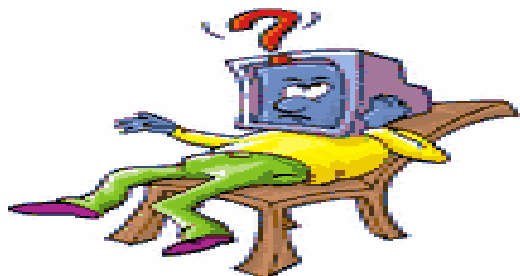


## St. Agatha's Parish Pastoral Council Update



# PARISH OF ST. AGATHA NEWSLETTER

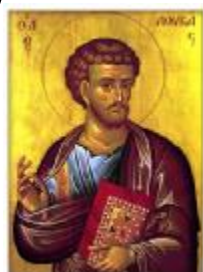
## 14<sup>th</sup> February 2010



### “Is there more to life than this?”

In these recessionary times questions like this are being asked more and more. Together, we can explore this question, and others besides, in the upcoming Alpha Course to be run in the parish. Further details will follow.

**The Alpha Course is for you and not just for somebody else.**



#### YEAR OF EVANGELISATION

Copies of the Gospel of Luke will be distributed in our parish in the coming day. As part of the year of Evangelisation, this is the latest in a series of Ecumenical initiatives spearheaded by Archbishop Diarmuid Martin and Church of Ireland Archbishop John Neill.

If you know of any housebound parishioner or anybody else who might be interested in this **NEWSLETTER** please give them a copy.

#### **Priests of the Parish**

Fr. Brian Lawless Tel: 8556474,

Fr. Tony Scully Tel: 8363451

#### **Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson**

Dan Moore Tel: 8879589- 086 4037779

#### **Parish Sister**

Sr. Bridget Tel: 087 2389247

#### **Parish Secretary**

Maureen Tel: 8554078

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### **New Parish Pastoral Worker**

Hello, I am Conor McCann and I am here in St. Agatha's Parish as part of my training as a Parish Pastoral Worker. I live near Athy in South Kildare, in the village of Kilmead, but I am originally from Churchtown, I remain a Dubs' supporter.



I have been involved in the life of the church since my teenage years. started off singing in a folk group and this led me on to various other things. I joined the Discalced Carmelites (Berkley Road Parish or S Teresa's in Clarendon Street), studying for the priesthood where I spent nearly 5 years. When I left the religious life I finished my degree in Theology, studying in the Milltown Institute. While finishing my studies I met Susan and we married in 1999. At that time I had hoped to get full time employment in the church but the opportunity did not arise so I carried on working on voluntary basis, while also doing some school retreat work. then worked in a family business for 10 years before the opportunity arose to train as a Parish Pastoral Worker.

I have heard great reports about St. Agatha's Parish from the previous pastoral workers and I am really looking forward to my time here. So far the reception and welcome that I have received from everyone that I have met has been what I was told to expect, warm and friendly, thank you all. I am also looking forward to getting to know as many of you as possible so please when you see me around, either in the Church or out and about please say hello.

## Season of Lent

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday 17th February.  
Ashes will be Blessed and distributed at the  
9.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m. Masses



### Lenten Garden

**The Lenten Garden is an excellent way to reflect on the promise of new life. Beginning with the First Sunday of Lent, and continuing through the 6 weeks until Easter Sunday when we share in the joy and glory of the Resurrection of Jesus.**

**Each Sunday symbols will be added to the 'garden'. On the First Sunday of Lent we see a desert, barren and empty looking, with little sign of life. But just as the garden changes and grows during Lent, we also grow from the emptiness of Lent to the New Life of Easter.**

**Lent is our desert time. Take a little while to reflect**

FR. JOHN SULLIVAN  
ANNUAL MASS -  
February 20<sup>th</sup> - 11.00 am  
Gardiner St. Church

In thanks for his life and prayer for his  
Canonisation  
Blessing with his Crucifix after Mass



Celebrant Fr. Noel Barber SJ Assistant Provincial  
Homily Fr. Donal Neary SJ PP



## LENTEN CAMPAIGN

The theme of this year's Trocaire Campaign is  
"Give us this day our daily bread."

Hunger is the most extreme form of poverty where individuals or families cannot afford to meet their most basic need for food. It is sometimes said that the Irish people have a particular understanding of the absolute devastation caused by hunger. Perhaps deep in our collective psyche we can understand, because of our own famine in the 19th century, the catastrophic effect of hunger on individuals, families, communities and entire countries. This year's Trocaire campaign will focus on Rwanda which is a small land-locked country, about the size of Munster, in the Great Lakes region of east-central Africa.

Trócaire boxes are normally available through the school.

However, if you wish to collect for Trocaire and do not have a *Trocaire Family Box* you can collect one from the repository.

Boxes can be returned to the Parish Office at Easter.



## HAITI EARTH QUAKE APPEAL



The total contribution from our parish to the Haiti Appeal is €6085.00. We continue to pray that the people of Haiti will be able to rebuild their lives and their country. Your wonderful generosity has been a beacon of hope and a sign of your solidarity with the people of Haiti in the midst of their suffering. We remember also in our prayers the volunteers and organisations who are working with the people in Haiti.