



# ST COLMCILLE'S CHURCH, HOLYWOOD PARISH

5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY in LENT, Cycle A, 6<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2014

## Anniversaries :

Johannes & Bernie Kerstens, Michael McKeown(snr),  
Stephen Maguire.

**PLEASE COLLECT YOUR PARISH  
ENVELOPES IN IONA THIS WEEKEND**

## Mass and Confession Times

### Sunday Mass

Saturday vigil at 6.30pm  
Sunday at 10.00am and 12noon

### Weekday Mass

Monday – Wednesday at 10.00am  
Friday at 7.30pm & Sat at 10.00am

### Eucharistic Adoration

Before weekday Mass for ½ hour for the following intentions:

Monday for Peace, Tuesday for Families,  
Wednesday for the Youth & Vocations,  
Friday for those who are ill or sick.

Every Saturday 10.30am – 6.30pm

### Confessions

After Saturday 10.00am Mass,  
12noon – 1.00pm, and after Saturday Vigil Mass.

The **Frassati Club** for altar servers meets  
**this Monday, 7 April**  
from 6 to 7pm in Iona.

**Serendipity Singing Group** continues  
every Wednesday night in Saint Patrick's  
Hall, come along and join us!

The **Centering Prayer Group** continues  
on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April,  
at 7.30pm in Gartan.

Fr Peter O'Kane T:028 9042 2167  
Office Hours: 10.00am-2.00pm Monday-Friday  
Email: stcolmcilleshollywood@btconnect.com  
Website: www.parishofhollywood.org



**ON TWITTER? check out -  
Pope Francis @Pontifex**

**MICHAEL ENGLISH CHARITY DANCE** at  
The Elk Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April. All proceeds in aid of  
Macmillan Cancer. Doors @ 9pm.  
Admission £12

## CHRISTIAN MEDITATION AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

The Christian Meditation After School Club meets this  
**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April** from **3.10 to 4.15pm** in St Patrick's Hall

## GIFT PROGRAMME

The **GIFT** (Growing In Faith Together) programme for Year 8 pupils has **its last session** this **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April from 7.30 to 9pm** in St Patrick's Hall. For further information, please contact Joe on 07841102376.

If you have recently completed **Child Protection Training** and  
have yet to return Access NI application forms please come to  
Gartan (beside Fr Peter's house)  
on **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> or Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April**  
from **7.30 - 8.30pm** and bring along relevant ID.



**The Folk Group** will practice on  
**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 7.15- 8.30!!**  
All budding musicians and singers welcome,  
come along and join us.



**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April** will mark the 20th anniversary of the start of one of the most horrific events in modern history. Over the course of just 100 days in 1994, around one million people were killed in the Rwandan genocide - more than a fifth of Ireland's population. **Irish people donated £6m to Trócaire's emergency appeal for Rwanda.** This was, at the time, the largest public donation in the history of the organisation. Trócaire continues to work in Rwanda on your behalf, helping to improve the lives of the most vulnerable people. Thank you for continuing to support Trócaire's work, particularly during this Lenten season. [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org)

**LIVING YOUTH - Why not join us to celebrate PALM SUNDAY on SUNDAY 13TH APRIL 2014** for the 3rd Annual Youth Gathering between 10.30 am and 6.00 pm at St Mary's University College, Falls Road, Belfast. The day will include a guest speaker, an opportunity to take part in various workshops including, art, prayer, social awareness and faith development. We will then process to Corpus Christi Church for Mass. More information on our website [www.livingyouthni.org](http://www.livingyouthni.org) and download a registration form or contact us at [info@livingyouthni.org](mailto:info@livingyouthni.org)

**Repair work to both the Tower and Church Roof** will be starting very soon, probably early May. In order to fully survey both structures a large Crane will be arriving on site on **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April** to allow the engineers to do this detailed work. The Crane will be on site from first light for a full day and perhaps a second day. This will result in restricted access to both the church and car parks. Updates will be given in the Bulletin in the coming weeks as the programme of work is confirmed and the safety restrictions are established.



**Easter Draw for Trocaire, ballots on sale in Iona.**



## ST COLMCILLE'S CHURCH, HOLYWOOD PARISH

5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY in LENT, Cycle A, 6 APRIL 2014

A local bus will be provided for the **Prolife Rally in Dublin on Saturday 3 May 2014**. Contact Jacinta during office hours 10am to 2pm Mon-Fri. T:028 9042 2167. Leaving Portaferry, Newtownards, Bangor & Holywood. Details to follow. Cost £15 per person, bring a packed lunch we will be stopping in Applegreen going and coming from Dublin.

**Are you suffering the pain of loss?** Looking for help and understanding?

**Beginning Experience** (a support group for widowed, separated and divorced people) *continues to meet every Wednesday* from **8pm to 10pm** in St Bride's Hall, 38, Derryvolgie Avenue, Malone Rd, Belfast.

For further information please contact Phil Tel: 02890 207645 or Marie Tel: 07542070835

### HOMILY OF POPE FRANCIS

#### **Sunday, 2 February 2014 – Feast of the Presentation of the Lord**

It was also the first encounter within the history of the people, a meeting *between the young and the old*: the young were Mary and Joseph with their infant son and the old were Simeon and Anna, two people who often went to the Temple.

Let's observe what the evangelist Luke tells us of them, as he describes them. He says four times that Our Lady and St Joseph *wanted to do what was required by the Law of the Lord* (cf. Lk 2:22, 23, 24, 27). One almost feels and perceives that Jesus' parents have the joy of observing the precepts of God, yes, the joy of walking according to the Law of the Lord! They are two newlyweds, they have just had their baby, and they are motivated by the desire to do what is prescribed. This is not an external fact; it is not just to feel right, no! It's a strong desire, a deep desire, full of joy. That's what the Psalm says: "In the way of thy testimonies I delight.... For thy law is my delight" (119 [118]:14, 77). And what does St Luke say of the elderly? He underlines, more than once, that *they were guided by the Holy Spirit*. He says Simeon was a righteous and devout man, awaiting the consolation of Israel, and that "the Holy Spirit was upon him" (2:25). He says that "it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit" that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ" (v. 26); and finally that he went to the Temple "inspired by the Spirit" (v. 27). He says Anna was a "prophetess" (v. 36); that is she was inspired by God and that she was always "worshipping with fasting and prayer" in the Temple (v. 37). In short, these two elders are full of life! They are full of life because they are enlivened by the Holy Spirit, obedient to his action, sensitive to his calls....

And now there is the encounter between the Holy Family and the two representatives of the holy people of God. Jesus is at the centre. It is he who moves everything, who draws all of them to the Temple, the house of his Father.

It is a meeting between the young, who are full of joy in observing the Law of the Lord, and the elderly who are full of joy in the action of the Holy Spirit. It is *a unique encounter between observance and prophecy*, where young people are the observers and the elderly are prophets! In fact, if we think carefully, observance of the Law is animated by the Spirit and the prophecy moves forward along the path traced by the Law. Who, more than Mary, is full of the Holy Spirit? Who more than she is docile to its action?

In the light of this Gospel scene, let us look at *consecrated life* as an encounter with Christ: it is he who comes to us, led by Mary and Joseph, and we go towards him guided by the Holy Spirit. He is at the centre. He moves everything, he draws us to the Temple, to the Church, where we can meet him, recognize him, welcome him, embrace him.

Jesus comes to us in the Church through the foundational charism of an Institute: it is nice to think of our vocation in this way! Our encounter with Christ took shape in the Church through the charism of one of her witnesses. This always amazes us and makes us give thanks.

And in the consecrated life we live the encounter between the young and the old, between observation and prophecy. Let's not see these as two opposing realities! Let us rather allow the Holy Spirit to animate both of them, and a sign of this is joy: the joy of observing, of walking within a rule of life; the joy of being led by the Spirit, never unyielding, never closed, always open to the voice of God that speaks, that opens, that leads us and invites us to go towards the horizon.

It's good for the elderly to communicate their wisdom to the young; and it's good for the young people to gather this wealth of experience and wisdom, and to carry it forward, not so as to safeguard it in a museum, but to carry it forward addressing the challenges that life brings, to carry it forward for the sake of the respective religious orders and of the whole Church.

May the grace of this mystery, the mystery of the Encounter, enlighten us and comfort us on our journey. Amen