

Dunhill & Fenor

Parish Newsletter

Autumn 2008



Times of Change

This Newsletter, the third publication of the Parish Pastoral Council, comes after a period of great change. July brought the appointment of Father Desmond as Parish Priest of the Parish of Newcastle and Fourmilewater; Father Purcell retired from active service (but thankfully he continues to celebrate weekday Masses in Fenor); and I was appointed to the revered parish of Dunhill & Fenor. I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Father Desmond for his dedication to the parish during his time here and to wish him every blessing for the future. I would also like to thank Father Purcell for his welcome to me and for such a devoted ministry among the people of this parish. We pray that we will benefit from his presence and his wisdom for many years to come.

Change also surrounds us in terms of increasing numbers of parishioners becoming actively involved in the work and ministry of the parish. The 'Volunteering Sunday' initiative proved to be very successful with many volunteers offering their services. Thank you to all who have indicated their willingness to become involved, and especially to all those who have been doing the work over the years. During the coming weeks we hope to meet with these groups to discover ways in which we can best address the needs of the Christian community in Dunhill & Fenor. If you haven't yet returned your Volunteer Form but would like to become involved please let us know as soon as possible.

The future will inevitably be a time of change too. In the short term we need to complete the process of reviewing the numbers and times of Masses in the parish which was begun by Father Desmond. To this end, I will host an OPEN PARISH MEETING on Tuesday, 28th October, to which everyone will be welcome. I will be anxious to hear the wide variety of opinions on the matter before deciding what will be best for our parish. They say, 'To change is to grow, and to change often is to mature'. May the Lord guide and direct our efforts as the winds of change blow around us.

God bless you always.
Father Paul

Parish Notices

Baptismal Team

Training for the Baptismal Team took place on Saturday 4th October in the Sacred Heart Parish Centre and eight people from Dunhill & Fenor attended. The first parish meeting of this group will be held on Monday 20th October in the Eco Park at 8 pm.

Eco Park Open Day

An Open Day is being held in The Eco Centre on Monday 13th October from 9.30 am to 4.00 pm. This is to officially mark the commencement of the 3rd stage of the development. The County Mayor will be turning the sod at 9.30 and all are welcome to attend or to drop in at any time during the day.

Confirmation

Bishop Lee has announced that the Sacrament of Confirmation will once again be celebrated in the parish each year from now on. This is due to the large numbers receiving the Sacrament. Therefore only Sixth Class pupils will be confirmed this school year in The Sacred Heart Church in Dunhill. The date has not yet been finalised.

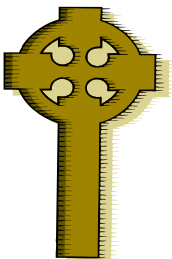
Envelopes

The envelopes for the coming year have been distributed in the last few weeks. A big thanks to all the distributors for the time and effort they put into ensuring the envelopes are delivered throughout the Parish. If you have not yet received your box of envelopes please give your contact details at the sacristy.

Pastoral Council

The next meeting of the Pastoral Council takes place on Thursday 16th

A number of people have mentioned that they would like to have the Irish version of The Lord's Prayer so here it is...



Ár nAthair atá ar neamh,
go naofar d'ainm;
go dtaga do ríocht;
go ndéantar do thoil ar an talamh
mar a dhéantar ar neamh.
Ár n-arán laethúil tabhair dúinn inniu;
agus maith dúinn ár bhfiacha
mar a mhaithimidne dár bhféichiúna féin;
agus ná lig sinn i gcathú,

Mass Times in Dunhill

Saturday: 7.30pm

Sunday: 11.00am



Mass Times in Fenor

Saturday: 6.30pm

Sunday: 9.30am

The Sacrament of Baptism

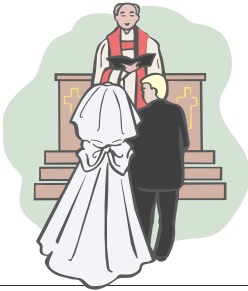
We welcome into our Christian community those who were baptised recently in our parish: Eoghan Matthew Moodley-Barry; Jane Priscilla Power; Rhianna Rebecca O'Shea; Conor James Barry; Keilah May Browne; Hannah Emily Connolly & Alice Anne Rainey.



We pray that these children growing in love for God each week.

Marriages

Congratulations to Noelle Murphy of Ballydermody and Gary Butler of Tramore who were married recently in the Church of the Sacred Heart, Dunhill, and to Patrick Burns and Louise Grant who were married recently in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Fenor. Best wishes for a happy marriage.

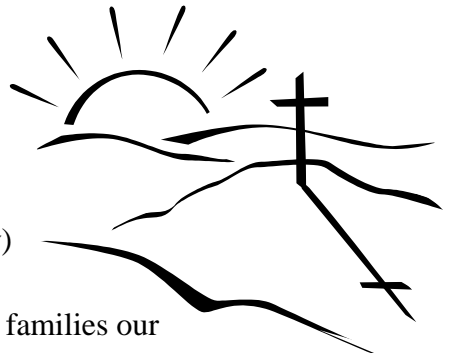


Deaths

We record our sadness at the deaths of the following parishioners who died during August and September:

John (Jackie) Barry, Ballybreagan, Dunhill; James (Jim) O'Hanlon, Lisaviron, Annestown; Patrick (Paddy) McCarthy, Knockane, Annestown; and Bridget (Biddy) Power, née Murray, Ballylinane, Dunhill.

May they rest in peace. We extend to their families our deepest sympathy and an assurance of a remembrance in our prayers.



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Black Dogs, Baidhbs and Ghosts!

*"There's fairies up around Dunhill,
There's goblins between Smoor and Kill,
There's ghosts go leor near Carrolls Cross,
And baidhbs and pucas down near Ross".*



Everybody had an uncle who saw a ghost or a granny who heard the baidhb. Fairies were everywhere and our parish had some of its very own.

The Headless Coach (An Coiste Bodhar)

The headless coach or the headless horses, was always seen and heard over at Reisk. The coach came from Reisk by Ballydermody, to Fenor and on to Tramore. It was heard regularly at Islandtarsney. *"If you were out at night and heard horses coming we'd run like the wind for fear 'twas the headless coach".*

The Collegians

There were twenty-nine small houses on the knock between Power's forge, Landy's boreen and Ardnahoe boreen. On fine summer evenings, when the days work was all done, the women would sit outside on the stone ditches. They said that they could sense or see the Collegians going from Islandkane churchyard to Dunhill. No one knows who or what the Collegians were except that they were spirits.

Strange Haunting near Fenor

Fenor village was haunted by two nuns, who walked the roads from the bridge at the Kilfarrsey road to the bridge at Finnegan's land (below the church). These two nuns walked the road from one bridge to the other. Ghosts and spirits were trapped in the triangle between the streams. It is also believed that ghosts and spirits cannot cross a ploughed field.

The Baidhbe (Baib or Biab)

The baidhbe was regularly seen on the roads around Fenor. She was a ghost like woman with a long drawn face who drifted from place to place screeching at the top of her voice. She was dressed in white and was very frightening to see or hear. She was regularly seen on the Kilfarrsey road near the little bridge and also between Fenor Church and the school. Over in Ballyscanlon she was seen at the Baidhbe's Rock which is on the ditch near the entrance to the forestry. The baidhbe also roamed the road near Annestown Bridge. She was also seen near the church at Reisk and she floated up and down the main road at Islandtarsney.

Rita Byrne

*This Newsletter is a publication of Dunhill & Fenor Parish Pastoral Council.
We welcome articles, notices or announcements relating to parish activities.
These can be given to any member of the council or emailed to
dunhill.fenor@gmail.com*