

ST. SYLVESTER'S PARISH, MALAHIDE

**A REPORT FROM THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
To Parishioners and All Malahiders
June 2011**

Dear Parishioner/Malahider,

Our third Parish Pastoral Council began its work in September 2010. The Council facilitates leadership, review and planning structure for the parish. The members of the council includes staff of the parish and parishioners. We meet on a monthly basis, the first Thursday of each month. At each meeting, we include a time for prayer. We communicate and provide leadership within the parish and Archdiocese and wider community. The purpose of the Council is to build a vibrant parish community that reaches out beyond itself and is characterised by faith, prayer/liturgy, service and building a community through caring, inclusive and welcoming relationships. Most of all, we are there to assist parishioners, their needs and any concerns at any point in time.

A Summary Diary of the Parish Year September 2010 – June 2011:

The Parish Retreat

The Parish retreat took place from Sunday 26th September 2010 to Sunday 3rd October 2010, facilitated by The Spiritan Fathers. The retreat was well attended and there was positive feedback from the parishioners.

Our Farewell to Fr. Gerard Tanham

On Friday 24th September 2010, there was a farewell Mass for Fr. Gerard Tanham. After the Mass, there was a presentation and reception, to express sincere appreciation to Fr. Gerard Tanham for all his hard work and true dedication.

Our Welcome to Fr. Peter Briscoe

September 2010, Fr. Peter Briscoe was Appointed Administrator of Malahide, Yellow Walls, Portmarnock and Kinsealy Parishes. We welcome Fr. Peter Briscoe to the four Parishes.

The New Parish Centre Update

Conservation work has now been completed on the Church and Tender documents have been provided to a selection of Contractors. We propose that the building work will commence in the Autumn.

Pastoral Councils Working Together

The four pastoral councils from Yellow Walls, Malahide, Portmarnock and Kinsealy are meeting together. The aim is to identify activities that we could co-ordinate between the four parishes in order to ensure we are utilizing energy, resources and ideas to the maximum. It is important that we have sharing of "talent" among the four Parishes.

Malahide A Caring Community

A day of hope took place last year with local doctors, pharmacists, churches, schools and community leaders. To create awareness that Malahide is a caring community. There is a brochure available throughout the village "Looking after your Mental Health". It provides tips for looking after yourself and also contact details for support groups.

Justice & Peace Group

Malahide became a Fair Trade Parish last year and this year we hope that our schools will become Fair Trade Schools. We wrote to the P.S.N.I chief constable and the family of Constable Ronan Kerr to express our sympathy as a Justice and Peace Group on his callous murder. In May on the occasion of the visit of Sangeeta and Promila from Kiran Village in India to our parish over €8,000.00 was collected to support the Kiran village project. We are awaiting a response from the Pakistani Ambassador to Ireland to our request for a meeting to discuss the case of Asia Bibi, a Christian, who has been sentenced to death for allegedly blaspheming the name of Muhammed. We are actively seeking funding to build a playground for the New Life Centre in Darndale parish.

MYYAM

MYYAM – Malahide & Yellow Walls Young Adult Ministry Group. This group has brought together many young adults. They actively participate in the Masses. They organise, Reflection, Taize and social evenings. 12 Members of MYYAM, will attend World Youth Day in Madrid in August 2011.

Pope John Paul II Awards

Catholic Youth Care – Archbishop Diarmuid Martin launched the Pope John Paul II Awards for young people aged 16 to 18 years old in November 2010. The award was created to commemorate the late Pope John Paul II who was so committed to young people and who had such belief and confidence in them. There are four Awards, the Bronzes, Silver, Gold and the Papal Cross. To achieve the Award, the young person will have to give a commitment of one hour a week Parish involvement and one hour a week Social Awareness. The brochure is available on the Internet. Malahide Parish with Pobalscoil Íosa is currently involved in this initiative. There are 8 students involved who will travel to Kiran Village in India in 2011.

Groups Active within the Parish

(Administration/Community/Liturgy/Worship/Prayer/Service/Caring)

During the year, the Council met with various Groups that are active in the parish. Currently, there are 54 Groups within the parish. We meet with the Groups, to increase awareness, to have open dialogue and to assist where necessary. The Council will meet with the various Groups on a yearly basis or at the request of a specific Group at any point in time.

Child Protection.

Child Protection Policy and practice was reviewed and 'spot checks' were performed by the Child Protection representatives during the year.

Care & Repair Group.

It was the second year for the 'Care and Repair Group', which consist of parishioners who undertake small household and gardening jobs and offer support to the elderly. The Group has plenty of resources in order to accommodate all requests.

If you have any comments/suggestions/feedback, please provide to any Council Member or to the Parish Office. We also encourage you to get involved by offering some of your time to existing or new activities, please contact any Council Member or the Parish Office.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Charlie Farrell (Chairperson), Daphne Greene (Secretary), Jean Houghton, John Lynch, Pauline Lynch, Regina MacCarrick, Joe McDonnell, Jo Morris, Sr. Margaret Moynihan, Joan Reynolds, Bob Rooney, Fr. Peter Briscoe, Fr. Paul Thornton, Oliver Whelan, Dan Lucey and Noelle O'Donoghue-McCaul.

PARISH GROUPS

SERVICE/CARING: Hospitality; Voluntary Helpers; Care & Repair; St. Vincent De Paul Society; Justice & Peace; Meals On Wheels; Rainbows; Gardening; Church Carers; Child Protection Representative; Youth Club.

LITURGY/PRAAYER/MINISTRY/APOSTOLIC

Altar Servers; Banner Group; Baptism Team; Bethany Bereavement; Do This In Memory Team; Eucharistic; Readers of the Word; Family Mass; liturgy Group; St. Sylvester's Choir; Juve Music; Children's Choir; St. Joseph's Music; Sacristans; Inter-Church Group; Malahide and Yellow Walls Young Adults; Christian Meditation; Lectio Divina; Emmaus Group; Eucharistic Adoration; Marian Movement; Legion of Mary; Parenting Prayer; Pilgrimages; St. Padre Pio; Women's World Day of Prayer; St. Joseph's Young Priests.

ADMINISTRATION

Parish Pastoral Council; Parish Office; Parish Staff, Finance Committee; Parish Pastoral Centre Project Group; Fund-Raising Group; Christmas Fair Group; Church Collectors; Money Managers; Newsletter Team and Web Team.

CONTACTS

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