The Traveller

Parish Newsletter

Winter-Spring 2015





WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS



PONTIFICAL COUNCIL MEETING IN ROME



TRAVELLER PRIDE AWARDS



RECENT CHRISTENINGS



WELCOME



Our front cover features the group of young people who reached the summit of Croagh Patrick under the guidance of the Pavee Point Youth Programme, and the group's story is covered inside, on *page 22*. 'Ireland's Holy Mountain', as the summit sign says, certainly has had a special place in the Christian faith and life of our ancestors over many generations from the time of St. Patrick on. It is good to see that tradition living on. As the story tells it, *'the group self-identified the desire to climb the mountain as a sign of respect, and to say a prayer for those they have lost and those currently sick'*. A prayer to St. Laurence O'Toole, featured on the back cover as patron saint of Dublin and of the Parish of the Travelling People, comes to mind:

St. Laurence O'Toole, man of faith, you had the openness to accept a position of leadership in your community at an early age. Bless our young people with a spirit of generosity to offer themselves in the service of the Gospel.

Anyone who has been on pilgrimage to Croagh Patrick knows that reaching the top is a bonus, but however far up one gets it's the encounters and interactions with others, as well as the personal journey, prayer and reflection, that measures the achievement.

Several years ago when we set out on our *Travelling Towards Inclusion* initiative, we referred to that image of Croagh Patrick to communicate the view that the journey is very often at least as important as the destination. The *Embracing Inclusion* programme which was then developed ran during Lent 2014 in Cherry Orchard Parish, and their view of that journey is on *page 12-13*. We are planning to bring the programme to the next local parish to run in Lent 2015.

Looking back on 2014, there were many community events and achievements to congratulate and celebrate, including those covered on *page 15*. On a sad note however, the ongoing effects of the economic crisis and austerity cuts continue to put enormous pressure on Traveller infrastructure and organisations, and on many families and individuals. Figures given in the article on *the Lack of Legal and Affordable Credit, (p. 8),* show that for 2013 one third of social need callers contacting the Parish were in situations of homelessness. If anything this figure would be higher for 2014, and so we very much support the calls of organisations such as Focus Ireland, Peter McVerry Trust, St. Vincent de Paul among others, for the adequate and proper long term *and* immediate short term provision of safe accommodation for those suffering homelessness or the threat of homelessness. Archbishop Diarmuid Martin, commenting on one serious consequence among others, pointed out in his call for a summit on homelessness which has since taken place: *'We have children who are in one room in B&Bs... – it's not the way for children to be brought up."*

Approaching the hope of the Christmas message and the promise of the New Year beginnings, again the example of St. Laurence in provision and care for those most in need comes to mind:

St. Laurence O'Toole, man of faith, you opened your heart and your doors to those who were poor. Increase our awareness of those in need and inspire us to act with justice and charity at all times.

On behalf of all the Parish Staff and Pastoral Council,

With every Blessing for Christmas and the New Year…

Fr. Derek.

Fr. Derek Farrell, P.P.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son."
John 3:16

The Traveller Parish Newsletter assumes that the full permission of anyone featured in a photograph has been secured prior to being submitted. As part of our Parish Child Protection Procedures names are not assigned to individual photos of children. Rare exceptions to this are only at the express request of the parents involved, and then at the discretion of the editorial team. Views expressed in *The Traveller Parish Newsletter* do not necessarily reflect views and policies of the Parish. Some photos submitted to the Newsletter may be used on our website. Thanks to all our contributors. Your views, comments and local news are always welcome at (01) 838 8874 or Email: info@ptrav.ie. Parish Website: www.ptrav.ie


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An Advent Prayer

To you O Lord we bring our lives
Troubled, broken or at ease
A sacrificial offering
For you to use.
Take away our selfishness
And teach us to love as you loved.
Take away our sense of pride
And show us the meaning of humility.
Take away our blindness
And show us the world through your eyes.
Take away our greed
And teach us how to give as you gave.
Show us your ways, Teach us your paths
That we might walk with you more closely
Our hand in your hand, Our feet in your footsteps
From the Baby in a stable
To eternity. Amen.





St. Mary's Cappagh – Grotto Blessing



Photos: John McIlroy

To mark the opening of a Marian Grotto in St. Mary's Cappagh, residents came together for the blessing. The construction and decoration of the Grotto is the work of St. Mary's men and women with the support of neighbouring Avila Park residents and Pavee Point project staff. The Grotto will be developed as a centre of prayer and occasional on site Masses. Well done and congratulations to everyone who contributed to the Grotto in many various and different ways.



Some of the friends and supporters who came along for the St. Francis Hospice Fundraiser at the Parish Office.

Congratulations to all those Recently Married

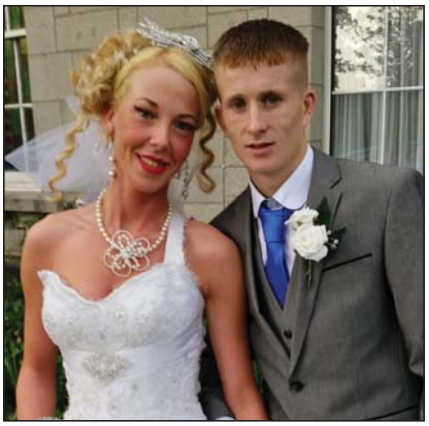
WEDDING PRAYER

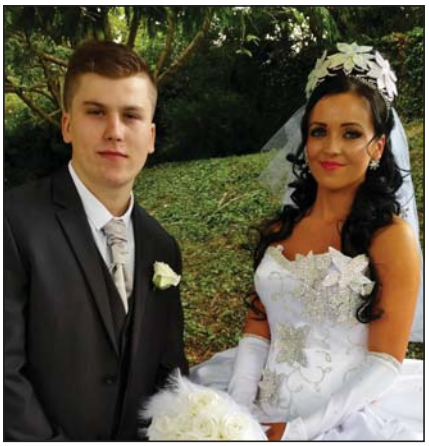
True love speaks in tender tones. And hears with gentle ear,
True love gives with open heart. And true love conquers fear.
True love makes no harsh demands. It neither rules nor binds,
And true love holds with gentle hands. The hearts that it entwines.

Weddings 2014

Month	Names	Location
2nd April	Kieran McDonnell & Rebecca McDonagh	Finglas
3rd April	Michael Collins & Kathleen Collins	Priorswood
9th April	Paddy Collins & Margaret McDonagh	Priorswood
9th April	Michael Collins & Martina Collins	Priorswood
10th April	Luke Doran & Shannon Connors	Shankill
2nd May	Sharon Cawley & Edward Ward	Balgaddy
24th June	Thomas McDonnell & Geraldine Joyce	Dublin
10th July	John Collins & Emma McDonagh	Finglas
15th July	Rebecca McDonagh & Michael McDonagh	Celbridge
31st July	Richie McDonagh & Natasha McDonagh	Dublin
7th August	Ellen Stokes & Bernie O'Donnell	Leixlip
21st August	William Cawley & Celine Lowndes	Swords
25th August	Barbara O'Donnell & Martin O'Donnell	Finglas
29th August	Sabrina Maughan & Tommy McDonagh	Ballymun
29th August	Michael McDonnell & Nellie McDonagh	Priorswood
4th September	Elizabeth Cash & Tom Moorehouse	Inchicore
10th September	Caroline Mongan & Bernie Corcoran	Inchicore
23rd September	Patrick Cawley & Margaret Joyce	Blanchardstown
28th October	Anthony McDonagh & Annmarie Lawrence	Dublin
7th November	Davey Keenan & Natalie McDonagh	Dublin


Caroline Mongan & Bernie Corcoran.


Elizabeth Cash & Tom Moorehouse.


Bernie O'Donnell & Ellen Stokes.


Emma McDonagh & John Collins.


Geraldine Joyce & Thomas McDonnell.


Kathleen Collins & Michael Collins.


Michael McDonnell & Nellie McDonagh.

For advice on and details of pre-Marriage preparation and requirements, please contact the Parish Office at 01-838 8874.

New Requirements for UK Birth Certificates: Apostille Stamp

If you are getting married in Ireland and were born in the UK and have a UK birth certificate, you now need to get an Apostille Stamp on your birth certificate. This is a legal requirement which you will need for the Registrar's Office so that you can register to get married in Ireland.

An Apostille Stamp can be obtained from a number of places in the UK, but there is no over the counter service, it has to be done by post or online. If you have an English birth certificate and it's in very bad condition you will need a new one. If you require a new birth cert you can order this online with an Apostille Stamp on it. To do this online you will need a credit card.

If you have a birth certificate that's in good condition, you can send it with a cover letter and the appropriate fee to:

Legalisation Office,
Foreign & Commonwealth Office,
PO Box 6255, Milton Keynes,
MK101XX, England.

The fee for this services changes regularly, so please check online for the appropriate fee.
(**www.ukofficialservices.co.uk**)

If you need any more information or assistance with this please contact the Parish Office on (01) 838 8874.



Natalie McDonagh & Davy Keenan.



Paddy Collins & Margaret McDonagh and Martina Collins & Michael Collins.



Rebecca McDonagh & Kieran McDonnell.



Sabrina Maughan & Thomas McDonagh.

What you need to do when getting married

If you are planning to enter into Marriage we will be very happy to help you in any way we can here in the Parish. The Church welcomes those planning to marry, but also has a duty of care in the preparation of couples, not just for their special day, but also in the support of the life-long commitment they give to each other in Marriage. It is for this reason of care that the following requirements apply for anyone planning to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage:

- You must be at least 18 years old to be married in the Church.
- You must give at least **three months notice** to the Church.
- If you are first cousins, you need to give the Church at least **six months notice**, and you will need to apply for special Dispensation from the Bishop.
- Before making any wedding arrangements, check with the priest you want to marry you to see if he is free on the date you have chosen.
- Then you can book the church you want to be married in – preferably and if possible your own local parish church.
- For information on our own pre-Marriage Courses, or for any other information or advice, you can contact the Parish Office on 01-838 8874.

The State requirements are separate to the Church, and must also be followed:

- You must give a least three months notice to the Registrar's Office.
- Phone the Registrar's Office in Joyce House to make an appointment to get registered. Contact numbers for Joyce House: 01-863 8220 or 01-863 8200
- When you get your appointment date to register in the Registrar's Office, you will need to attend together, and you will need to bring the following:

  Information on the date, the place, and the priest for your wedding.

  Photographic identification (for example Drivers Licence, or passport).

  €200, your PPS numbers, and names and dates of birth of your two witnesses who will be signing the register.

If you would like to see your wedding featured in our Newsletter please forward photo and details to Geraldine/Pauline at Parish of the Travelling People, 6 New Cabra Road, Phibsborough, Dublin 7, or preferably by email to info@ptrav.ie



International Conference – Italy 2014



The CCIT, or International Catholic Committee for Travellers, was established in 1976 in response to the need for an international debate on the nomadic communities and their human and spiritual welfare. It is an association of 46 members in 14 European countries, offering a forum for sharing experiences, and for establishing new bonds of friendship and co-operation. The CCIT has special relations with the Vatican's Pontifical Council for the Care of Migrants and Travelling People. The annual international meetings normally attract about a hundred people from 20 European countries.

The theme of this year's conference was, 'Knock down the walls of isolation and exclusion: an evangelical challenge with a social dynamic', a theme which as with last year's conference fitted in very well with our ongoing work with the local parish based ***Embracing Inclusion*** *hospitality programme. Here are the thoughts of two of the group from the Parish:*

I was delighted to be asked by the Parish of the Travelling People to attend the CCIT conference in Venice, Italy this year. As it was my first time to attend the CCIT, I didn't know what to expect. We met a lot of interesting people from around Europe while we were at the conference. Most of the people were from Roma and Gypsy communities, and as we got to know each other we









Travellers shared a lot of the same issues when it came to discrimination and exclusion. It was an amazing experience and I am delighted that I had the chance to participate in something like this that is trying to promote positive change for people.

Margaret McDonagh

realized that we had a lot in common when it came to traditions, values, and beliefs.

We did a lot of work in focus groups while we were there, which I found very interesting, as we had the chance to ask questions about the different cultures and find out what were the issues affecting them and what they were trying to do to combat them. As we spoke I realized that we as



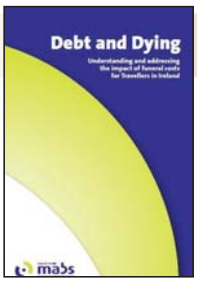


I went to Venice with the Parish of the Travelling People to take part in a three day conference. The conference takes part every year in different locations around Europe. I went as part of a group with other Traveller women, and Fr. Derek from the Parish. My trip to Venice was one of the most beautiful experiences of my life.

We did a lot of worthwhile work at the conference, and we met with a lot of people who work on a pastoral level with Roma and Gypsies all around Europe. We learned a lot over the three days and we also contributed a lot about our experience as Travellers in Ireland. We met some Gypsies from around Europe, and I found that both our cultures had a lot in common.

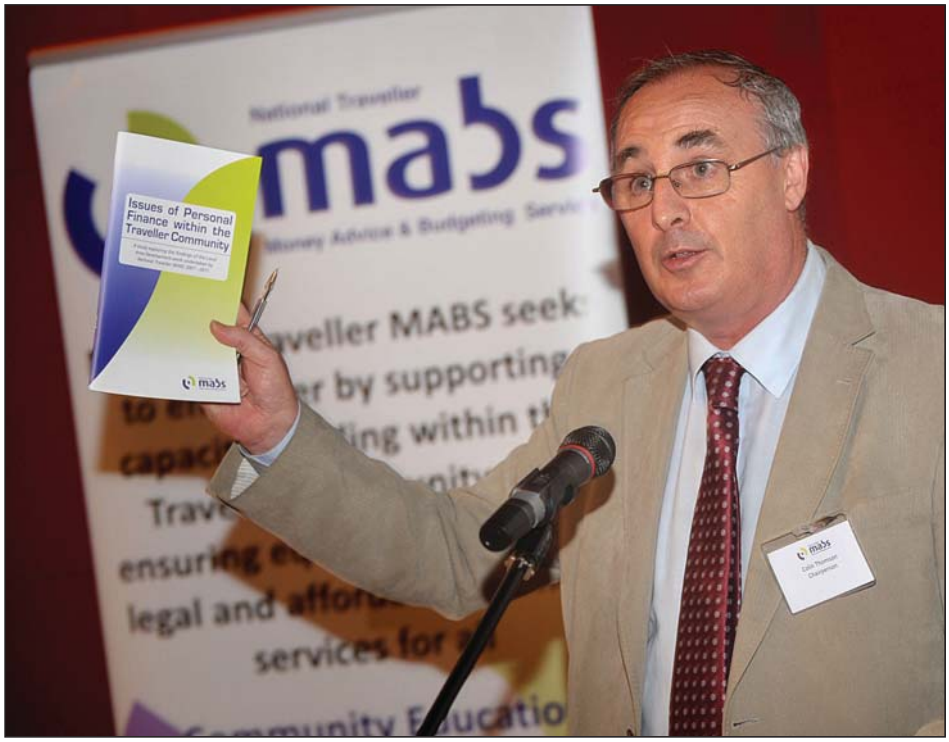
The whole trip was a great experience for me, and we got a little time to see Venice. It's a beautiful city. We visited St Lucy's Church and St Mark's Square in the middle of Venice. I enjoyed everything about the trip, and hopefully would love to return there in the future.

Biddy Connors



Lack of Access to Affordable and Legal Credit

Following on the report on the publication of MABS 'Debt and Dying' in the previous edition of The Traveller Parish Newsletter, we look again at how the issue of the lack of access to affordable and legal credit creates serious difficulties for those often who are most in need.



In 2013, the Parish assisted 110 people in well over 250 interviews with individuals and families throughout the year. The main issues presented to the Parish were Lack of Income (35%), Homelessness (31%), At Risk /Refuge (13%), Accommodation (7%), Social Welfare (6%), Well-being (6%) and Other (2%). The issue of Accommodation drew down most resources (23%), as individuals and families tried to avoid eviction. Others needed a deposit and one month's rent in advance to get out of being homelessness.

'John' was in a hostel. For 6 months, he worked with his keyworker to rent a flat without any success. Instead he was moved on to another hostel. John had several keyworkers in different agencies and he found it more and more difficult to cope. So John fell through the gaps when he lost his hostel bed. He had to call the help line each night to secure a bed and look for a flat... and he did it! He found a landlord who was prepared to rent him a bedsit. All he needed was a deposit (that the Community Welfare in Dublin could return), and a month's rent in advance...

The categories of issues cannot readily contain all the needs. "No income" could arise for many reasons. For example, families cope with events such as weddings and funerals in different ways. Unfortunately, where there is a lack of access to affordable and legal credit, the money lender thrives. Where people have inadequate income, it is a matter of balancing debts; "robbing Peter to pay Paul". It is not easy to cope in the middle of stress, poor health, fear and intimidation, bills, appointments, school books or events for children, and more.

National Traveller MABS is an important partner to the Parish of the Travelling People as we try to respond to the variety of needs. Unfortunately, NTMABS has reported the discontinuation of the Lough Payment Scheme. It had extended the Household Budget Scheme to help MABS clients nationwide pay other creditors.

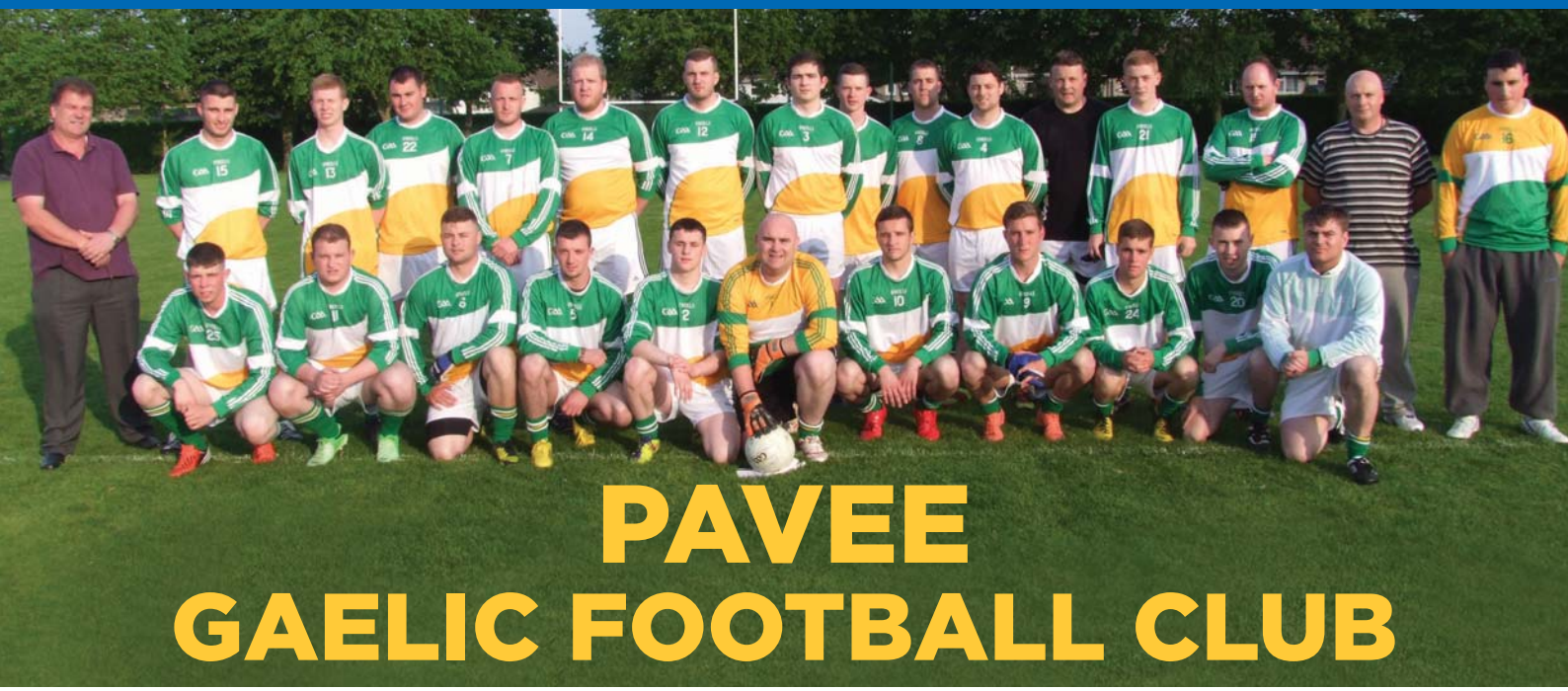
NTMABS reported that currently 25 MABS services are supporting over 400 clients to pay debts via the Lough Payment Scheme. The facility is offered to MABS clients who may have health difficulties, or they may be on such a low income that they struggle to hold on to money long enough to pay bills. Of these, local MABS offices support 2% who are Travellers requiring loans to purchase or upgrade a caravan. In addition, NTMABS supports a further 7% who are Travellers trying to cope with rent arrears, utility bills, funeral costs, family issues and the risk of homelessness. This has been accomplished with the help of sponsors.

The Parish has sponsored 6 cases, but cannot continue until there are suitable and affordable saving, credit and payment options available to the financially marginalised members of our society, as well as more discretion for basic payments to people in need. The Parish supports the view that section 290 of the Social Welfare Consolidation Act 2005 should be amended to allow for the Lough Payment Scheme to continue.

The Household Budget Scheme (HHB) is used to pay local authority rents and utility companies such as Bord Gáis, Electric Ireland, Airtricity and Eircom. The facility is free and is available to anyone who is in receipt of a social welfare payment. Money is deducted at source, and sent by the Department of Social Protection to the elected service provider.

Colin Thomson

More details on the changes to the Lough Payment Scheme can be obtained from National Traveller MABS at 0761 07 2230.



PAVEE GAELIC FOOTBALL CLUB

We would like to thank everyone for your continued support, and especially to thank Ronan Gilchrist from The National Traveller Suicide Prevention Service, Exchange House Ireland, and The Parish of the Travelling People for all their support this year.

We are still currently looking for a home pitch, but we are still also going strong and looking forward to starting a new season in 2015. If you know of anyone who would like to join our team, please contact me.

We look forward to keeping you updated throughout 2015, and on behalf of all the team I would like to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

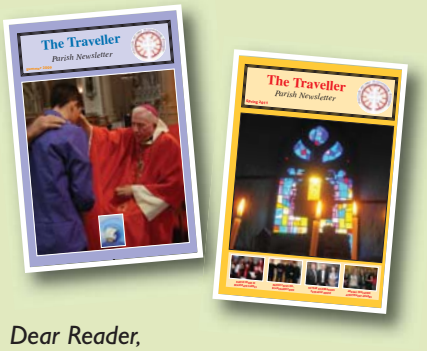
Paddy McDonnell, *Manager*

The cost of running a team is very expensive, such as jerseys, insurance and league fees, so if you would like to sponsor the Pavee Gaelic Team please contact Paddy McDonnell, Manager.

CONTACT: Email: paddymcdonnellwalkinstown@hotmail.com

As part of Traveller Pride Week 2014, the Parish held a Well-Being Day in the recently refurbished Parish Office in St. Laurence House.





Dear Reader,
We always like to get your feedback on ***The Traveller Parish Newsletter***, so…

What do you think?

We thank *all those who have already given us their feedback, your opinions and ideas are very much appreciated and very welcome. You can contact us at:*

Tel: **01 838 8874**
Email: **info@ptrav.ie**
Post: **Parish of the Travelling People, St. Laurence House, 6 New Cabra Road, Phibsborough, Dublin 7.**

RECENT CHRISTENINGS

Welcome, precious little child,
So fresh from God above,
Baptised today in Jesus' name,
Held in His arms of love.
May angels guide your tiny feet
And bring you smiles to wear,
And may our Heavenly Father
Always keep you in His care.

Birth Certificates Notice

For the purpose of recording your child's Baptism, and in keeping with Church guidelines, please be aware that you may be asked to present your child's Birth Certificate before or at time of the Christening.



Bridget & Tommy Stokes and baby Simon Christopher, Ballymun.



Demi Lee Green McDonagh with mother Annie and sister Julie Marie, Inchicore.



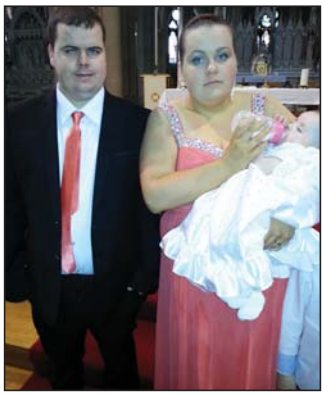
Gerry & Nell Marie McDonagh and baby Kayla Josephine, Tallaght.



Jason & Aoife Maughan and baby Jessica Marie, Dublin.



John & Annmarie and baby Patrick Collins, Finglas.



John Paul & Mary Lisa Maughan and baby Leona Frances, Dublin.



Leanne & Martin Anthony McDonagh & baby Martin Anthony, Finglas



Marie & Martin Anthony and baby Martin Anthony McDonnell, Swords.



Martin & Ann Lawrence and baby Anthony Stephen, Ballymun.



Martin & Geraldine McDonagh & baby Maxine Celine, Clondalkin.

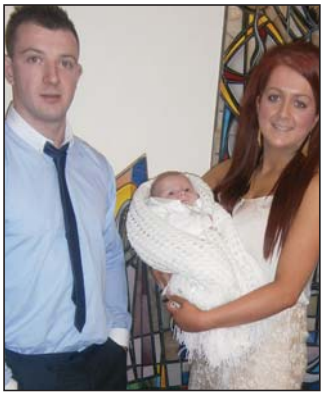
If you would like to see your Christening in our Newsletter, please send a photograph and details to the Parish Office, 6 New Cabra Road, Phibsborough, Dublin 7, or preferably by email to info@ptrav.ie


Mary & John Mongan and baby Alisha, Tallaght.


Mary & Pat McDonagh and baby Michael, Ballymun.


Michael & Catherine Sweeney and baby Tommy Lee, Inchicore.


Michael & Kathleen McDonnell and baby Joe & Family.


Mikey & Leanne McDonnell and baby Mikey, Finglas.


Pat & Margaret Mongan and baby David Christopher, Tallaght.


Pat & Mary Stokes and baby Noreen Alisha, Clondalkin.

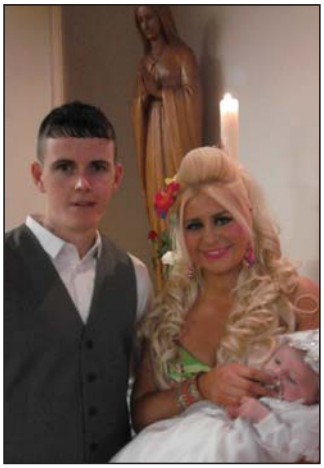

Patrick & Cathy and baby Patrick Collins, Finglas.


Patrick & Kelly Nevin and baby Abigail, Swords.


Richard & Una McCann and baby Lauranna.

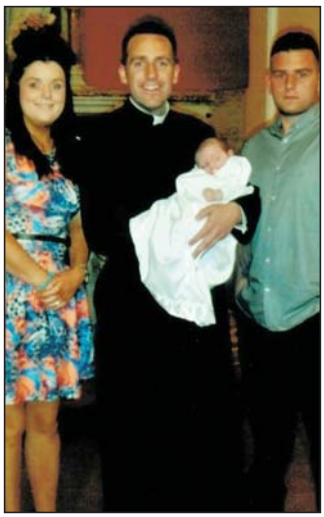

Roseann & Michael James Keenan and baby Shania, Finglas.


Sheila & Arthur Collins and baby Anna with Fr. Paddy Kelly, Finglas.


Thomas & Fiona Stokes and baby Sophia, Finglas.


Thomas & Kelly Ann and baby Samantha Maguire, Dublin.


Tom & Julieanne Stokes and baby Jolene Philomena, Ballymun.


Winnie & Paddy McDonnell and baby Emily.

Embracing Inclusion in Cherry Orchard

A Way to Intercultural Dialogue in Parish Life



Just over a year ago at our conference in All Hallow's College, Archbishop Diarmuid Martin launched the ***Embracing Inclusion*** *local parish hospitality programme. Having piloted the programme with two groups in Divine Mercy Parish, Lucan South, it was clear that it had the potential to work well in other parishes. As we set out to bring the* ***Embracing Inclusion*** *programme to other interested parishes, the question was where to start?*

The answer that emerged was Cherry Orchard Parish. We for our part would like to again thank the parish staff and parishioners there for inviting us in, for hosting the programme, for the warm welcome and hospitality, for the enthusiastic response and for the helpful feedback captured in this evaluation overview from Cherry Orchard.



Embracing Inclusion **is a programme that we first undertook here in Cherry Orchard parish during Lent 2014. The purpose was to promote understanding between Travellers and settled people. For five Tuesday nights about 40 people met and shared experiences. We quickly realised that we all share similar life experiences – raising families, coping with bereavement, etc. We explored topics such as how we cope with difference and explored how prejudice affects us all. We had a very interesting session about Traveller culture and faith. Hospitality was an important part of each gathering, and the 'cuppa' was enjoyed by all at the end each evening.**

Some evaluation comments from the participants:

Many wrote of their enjoyment of the programme:

I enjoyed the weeks that I came, very interested. Learned things about the Travellers that I didn't know before I came... The ladies I met are very nice. Enjoyed the small group...

Thoroughly enjoyed the course... I didn't know what to expect before it started. It was really lovely meeting everyone and getting to know about their lifestyles.

Enjoyed every night, have a better understanding of the Traveller People. Every night was something different.

I enjoyed every week of Embracing Inclusion.

Some spoke of new friendships formed:

I really enjoyed my experiences with all the group. I have learned a lot and I hope I helped people understand the Travellers more, and it is something I would like to continue in the future.

I thought it was very good for the time I was there. It's a great chance to meet together and chat.

Really enjoyed it... Made plenty of new friends and I believe that both groups, settled and Travellers alike, have a much better understanding of each other.

Very interesting insight into Travellers way of life and beliefs... New friendships made.

Others highlighted the thought-provoking content:

I thought the Embracing Inclusion programme was very well thought out and developed. It was very high quality and excellently presented each night. Everyone was very relaxed in their presentation. Thanks to everybody involved. I enjoyed it all.

Very interesting & thought-provoking... It was good to hear about the experiences and life of being a Traveller directly from members of the community.

The major thing that I took from the programme is, not to judge people too quickly. I liked that people really enjoyed themselves at the meetings and were willing to share their personal stories with the rest of us, even the very sad and negative ones.

It was a valuable experience, direct insight into another culture and I definitely learned something new.









Parish of the Travelling People

Parish Focus on...

CHERRY ORCHARD PARISH – A 25 Year Story





From the beginning, partnership has proved to be the hallmark of the approach to ministry, pastoral work and church life in Cherry Orchard. The parish is led by a parish team and a pastoral council working together for the good of the area.

The parish team currently consists of Redemptorist priests and Dominican sisters. Fr. Sean Duggan is the parish priest.

The pastoral council includes a very active team of local lay leaders, priests and religious sisters and the chairman is Mr Pat Kelly. These members are dedicated and committed and are responsible for several of the initiatives highlighted in the website. We work with many partners, including civil and secular organisations, community centres, equine centres, local politicians, the local city council, education personnel and care workers, social workers and health workers as well as youth workers and diverse community development workers. It is our experience that there are very many excellent people who are deeply committed to achieving the important outcome of community gain.



The partnership approach continues to flourish in Cherry Orchard. The Jesuits continue to live in Cherry Orchard and support pastoral needs, while the Christian brothers live in Croftwood Grove, one of the estates in the parish and at the same time operate a cherished education programme based at Elmdale Crescent. The Daughters of Charity, while no longer living in the area, continue to support important pastoral initiatives.





Photo: Melina Prasse/The Irish Catholic

Archbishop Diarmuid Martin with Fr Pat Reynolds, PP, Fr Richard Delahunty, and some of the parish altar servers at the 25th Anniversary celebration.

However, our mission is much broader than the events that happen within our church building. We are committed to journeying with the people of Cherry Orchard, listening to their stories and needs, networking with others, so that together we can build a community and parish where all can flourish and live lives of peace, security, happiness and hope.

We are people of faith. Our parish shows many signs of faith. We are filled with hope. Our website shares some of our dreams and plans. We invite you to rejoice in our successes and achievements and to think about helping us to achieve our interesting plans and goals.

Yours in Christ,
The Cherry Orchard Parish Pastoral Council

Website: www.cherryorchardparish.com

The Parish of the Travelling People's chapel-of ease is on the site of St. Oliver's Park/Bridgeview, which is located within Cherry Orchard Parish.





The Parish of the Travelling People covers the whole of the Dublin Diocese from Balbriggin to Arklow & out to Athy. In this feature page we aim to focus on different parts of the Traveller community around the Dublin Diocese in each edition. If you would like to have you area featured, contact the Parish Office on Tel: (01) 838 8874.



National Educational Achievement Awards 2014

The Exchange House National Educational Achievement Award is presented to Travellers who have recently completed the Junior Certificate, Leaving Certificate, GCSE, A-Level examinations or Third Level Courses, in recognition of the hard work and commitment shown by the recipients in reaching their goals. This Award is a celebration of the success of the recipients providing a chance to congratulate people on a job well done. The Award highlights role models for other Travellers who may be considering formal education and is proactive in promoting the value of formal education.

If you would like to nominate someone for next year's awards call the Exchange House Education Service on +353 1 872 1094.

TRAVELLER PRIDE AWARDS 2014

On June 11th 2014 David Essex honoured Travellers at the fifth Traveller Pride Awards, which recognise the achievements and contributions Travellers make to their own community and to Irish society, and who included a senior county soccer captain, aPhD student, an emerging actor and script writer and a World Health Organisation award winning health initiative, in the Pillar Room, Rotunda Hospital, Dublin.

Irish singer and musician **Christy Moore,** broadcaster **Michael O'Muircheartaigh** and **Norah Casey** RTE and Newstalk presenter were among those who presented awards and celebrated with winners from Meath, Dublin, Clare, Kerry, and Galway in categories of *Education, Arts / Culture, Music, Enterprise, Youth, Sport, Community and the Overall* Traveller Pride.

The Traveller Pride Awards is the lead event for **Traveller Pride Week programme** held annually as a "Traveller focused" space for hosting National and regional events, which reflect on issues related to Traveller's lives. These events co-ordinated in a dedicated, positive and unguarded setting provide a huge sense of pride among the Traveller community who are all too frequently not positively discriminated for in other settings.



The Irish Traveller Movement is the **co-ordinator** of the Traveller Pride Awards which are jointly supported by seven Traveller organisations; *Pavee Point,* the *National Traveller Women's Forum*, *Minceirs Whiden*, *Involve*, the *Parish of the Travelling People* and *National Traveller MABS.*



PERSON OF THE YEAR

Fr Paddy Kelly has been chosen by the Limerick GAA Supporters Club in Dublin as their "LIMERICK MAN OF THE YEAR 2014". The award is in recognition of Fr Paddy's contribution to the GAA and for his work with the Traveller Community in Dublin over more than three decades. The award was presented at a function in the Red Cow Hotel, Dublin, on the 21st March.



PARISH **NEWS**

2014 Parish Pilgrimage to St. Winifred's Well, and PPC in Glendalough

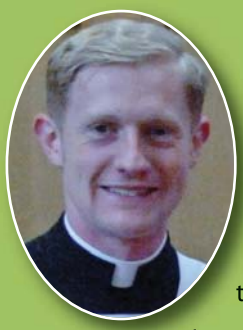








HELLO FROM JOHN



As a student priest, I am able to choose a parish placement for each summer I am in training. When I asked to be placed with the Parish of the Travelling People this summer, I wanted to stand in solidarity with a group who are often forgotten and marginalised in Irish society. I soon discovered that, despite this, Travellers have a great sense of who they are and the family they come from. This is what gives them their strength to stand up for their rights.

I was delighted to hear and read about the *Embracing Inclusion* programme that the parish is rolling out across Dublin. Inclusion here is not the same as becoming the same as everyone else, but being accepted and loved for who you are, whether Traveller or settled person. The spirit and energy behind the programme and the results seen are fantastic, and I hope and pray that this great work will continue in the future.

Spending three weeks working with the Parish of the Travelling People is something I will never forget. It was truly an honour to help in whatever way I could with visiting St Oliver's Park, updating the parish Facebook page, putting the finishing touches to the oratory in the parish office and assisting Fr Derek with baptisms. I really enjoyed getting to know all the parish team and meeting Travellers. It was a great learning experience and something that fed and nourished my faith. I am from the countryside and meeting with Travellers opened my eyes to the wonderful sense of pride in their identity and culture. Travellers are warm, open, friendly people who accepted me for who I am. So, then, how could someone not accept a Traveller for who they are? This is the question I leave with. How could someone not accept a Traveller for who they are?

But I do know one thing as I return to Maynooth. I know that the power of God's Holy Spirit and the power of Christ continue to shine through Travellers in our society today.

John Hanley

The Child Protection Policy Statement of the Parish of the Travelling People

The Archdiocese of Dublin and The Parish of the Travelling People value and encourage the participation of children and young people in Parish liturgies and Diocesan activities in order to enhance their spiritual, physical, intellectual and social development.

We recognise the dignity and rights of all children, and are committed to ensuring their protection from all forms of abuse.

This is a commitment binding on all priests and on those who work in the Dublin Diocesan offices, agencies, and parishes. It extends to all the many and varied ways that children share in the life of the Church in the Diocese.

Each child/young person is a gift of God and has a right to dignity of life and bodily integrity, which must be respected, nurtured and protected.

The Parish
Child Protection Representative is
Mr. Colin Thomson:
087 913 7888.

The Diocesan
Designated Person is
Mr. Andrew Fagan:
01-836 0314.

The Diocesan
Deputy Designated Person is
Ms. Julie McCullough:
01-836 0314.

If you wish to talk to a HSE duty social worker about the safety and/or protection of children or young people:
Local Duty Social Worker HSE: **(01) 882 5000** (Office hours).

Outside of HSE hours, or in the case of an emergency, please contact **(01) 666 8600**, or your local Garda Station.

For access to counselling and support, please contact:
TOWARDS HEALING: **1800 33 1234** (Monday & Wednesday 11am to 8pm and Friday 11am to 4pm)
The SAMARITANS: **116 123** (anytime).

THE WELFARE OF THE CHILD IS ALWAYS PARAMOUNT

Pontifical Council Meeting in Rome



Over the years the Parish of the Travelling People has been part of the *Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Travelling People* meetings which normally take place in Rome. In June this year the Pontifical Council met to discuss the 50th Anniversary of a significant visit and a Mass which took place on a campsite in September 1965 with the then Pope Paul VI and the nomadic people who were on their international pilgrimage at the time. In his homily at that Mass, Pope Paul included these words: *'Here (in the Church) you are welcomed, here you are awaited, greeted, celebrated… In the Church you are not on the margins, but in some ways, you are at the centre, you are at the heart. You are in the heart of the Church...'* Those words, and that visit marked an important stage in the development of the pastoral care of the Church for and with nomadic people, and revealed perhaps in a new way to them the particular care of the Church, within which there must be no inequalities with regard to race, nation or social status.



Through several presentations and discussion sessions, the meeting explored various aspects and the lasting significance of the 1965 event, and how the 50th anniversary of it could best be commemorated and celebrated in ways relative and relevant to today's situation and needs. Various proposals and suggestions were made for the anniversary of Pope Paul VI's visit to the Pomezia campsite. When the finalised plans for the September 2015 anniversary are confirmed we will publish them through our parish website and social media, and in our next edition of the *Newsletter*.



The work of this Pontifical Council is wide and varied, often addressing international issues and situations such as one of those recently highlighted by the pope. Pope Francis has strongly denounced many times the trafficking of human beings, defining it as "a crime against humanity" and calling on all to fight against it and to look after the victims. Each year, around 2.5 million people are victims of trafficking and slavery: 60% are women and children. They often suffer abuse and unspeakable violence.





Responding to the Holy Father's plea, the Pontifical Council will join in promoting *an "International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking".* The First International Day will be celebrated in all dioceses and parishes in the world, in groups and schools on ***8th February 2015***, the Feast Day of Josephine Bakhita, a Sudanese slave, freed, who became a Canossian nun, and was declared a Saint in 2000.

Among the participants from across Europe and North and South America were Archbishop Diarmuid Martin, and Fr. Cherian Thalakulam *(pictured above),* Parish Priest in Murphyville, USA where many Irish Travellers have lived for generations.



Fundraiser for St. Francis Hospice

The Parish of the Travelling People held a Coffee Morning in aid of St. Francis Hospice, Raheny. We raised over €300 on the day. A big 'Thank you' to all who attended, and also to all those who donated prizes to our raffle.



Traveller Counselling Service Fundraising



Thomas McCann and Patrick Nevin with *(from left to right)*, Helen Donoghue, Beatrice Hughes, Cairenn Bryson, Pauline Eaton, and Marie Anne Maughan, the women who took part in this year's Women's Mini Marathon to raise much needed funds for the ***Travelling Counselling Service***.

SAMARITANS – *You Talk, We Listen*

Samaritans provides confidential non-judgemental emotional support, 24 hours a day for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those which could lead to suicide.

To contact Samaritans:

Tel: 116 123

Whatever you're going through, whether it's big or small, don't bottle it up. Samaritans are here for you if you're worried about something, feel upset or confused, or just want to talk to someone.

TRAVELLER COUNSELLING SERVICE

If you feel that you need to talk to someone in confidence about issues or difficulties you might be having.

Contact Traveller Counselling Service on

086-308 1476

www.console.ie

Console – Living with Suicide

www.1Life.ie – Suicide Prevention Helpline

NATIONAL FREE PHONE HELPLINE

1800 201 890

Console provides a National Free Phone Helpline, 7 Days a Week, 24 Hours a Day.

Cyber and Text Bullying – *support information*

Social networks are a part of life for many, and can be used for good or bad. Cyberbullying, one such bad use, can involve unwanted text messages, phone video recordings or web posts being used to threaten, abuse or harm someone. It's like physical or verbal bullying, but it uses technology instead. If you ever experience this form of bullying, it's vital you don't suffer in silence, and that you take action and address the problem.

What to do if you're being bullied by text or online:

- Don't reply to the messages.
- Save the evidence (photo/email/video/web post, etc) as proof.
- Tell a trusted adult, such as a close relative, a family friend, a teacher, health professional or a youth worker.
- Contact a free confidential support service such as Samaritans – telephone 1850 609090.
- Report the bullying to the Gardaí.
- Report the bullying to the technology providers such as the mobile phone company, web host or website owner.

May these few words of sympathy help ease the grief you bear,
and may it comfort you to know, that others really care.

Recently Deceased

January 2014		
5th	Bridie Ward	Coolock
12th	Jonny McCann	Finglas
13th	Baby Jimmy Sweeney	Inchicore
15th	John Ward	Priorswood
February		
10th	Billy Cawley	Tallaght
10th	Baby Johnny Murphy	Bray
March		
3rd	Michael Maughan	Clondalkin
6th	Thomas Murphy	Bray
15th	Stephen (Dougie) Moran	Clondalkin
April		
	Edward Maughan	Dublin
23rd	Eileen Cash	Inchicore
27th	Gary Doonan	Balbriggan & Bray
June		
7th	Mylie Connors	Naas
11th	Bernie McDonagh	Coolock & Kingscourt
12th	Mandy Joyce	Finglas
July		
4th	Maggie Joyce	Kilbarrack
7th	Martin Green	Dublin
	Christopher McDonagh	Tallaght
August		
19th	Andy Connors	Dublin
September		
30th	Kathleen (Kate) McDonagh	Deansrath

If we have missed out on any Recently Deceased, or First Year Anniversaries
please forward them to us and we will add them in our next issue. Also if you would like to send us a photo of your loved one and a poem, we will try to include it in our First Year Anniversary section.

We pray for all those recently deceased.
May they rest in peace.
Amen



God our refuge and strength, close at hand in our distress; meet us in our sorrow and lift our eyes to the peace and light of your constant care.

Help us so to hear your word of grace that our fear will be dispelled by your love, our loneliness eased by your presence and our hope renewed by your promises in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

First Year Anniversary 2014

January		
4th	Christopher McDonagh	Brookfeild
4th	Mary Cash	Labre Park
8th	(Baby) Margaret Rihanna Sweeney	Bluebell
25th	John McDonagh	Rathfarnham
February		
1st	Tom Stokes	Finglas
14th	Martin Ward	Tallaght
22nd	Maisie Doyle	Ballyfermot
March		
13th	Michael O'Donnell	Balgaddy
28th	Barney McDonagh	Inchicore
April		
1st	Baby Katlyn Lawrence	Donabate
May		
27th	William 'Billy Boy' O'Brien	Kilshane Cross
29th	Baby Francis McDonagh	Ballymun
June		
18th	Ann McDonagh	Churchtown
July		
6th	Baby Marie Rita Stokes	Lucan
9th	Mary Ward	Clondalkin Village
August		
7th	Martin (Moustache) McDonagh	Coolock
14th	Willie Maughan	James Street
25th	Keith Ward	Coolock
October		
2nd	John Joyce	Coolock
7th	Baby Marie Cash	Tallaght
17th	John Griffin	Tallaght
29th	Kieran Reilly	Lusk & Finglas
30th	Bernadette Cash	Blanchardstown
November		
16th	Margaret Wall	Walkinstown
30th	Barney (Bockan) Joyce	Rathfeigh, Ashbourne
December		
22nd	Mary (Loney) Ward	Dunsink Lane
28th	Molly Joyce (Aged 5½ years)	Lissenhall, Swords



YOUTH ZONE

Destination: Croagh Patrick



In July, the Youth Programme in Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre brought a group of young men to climb Ireland's most holy mountain Croagh Patrick, County Mayo. The group self-identified the desire to climb the mountain as a sign of respect, and to say a prayer for those who they have lost and whom are currently sick. The residential trip while being a religious experience for the group, also allowed the group to work as part of a team to support one another along the journey as well as to achieve smaller group work activities.

Practical skills were learned and developed in the form of preparing and erecting tents. Furthermore, interpersonal skills in the form of listening, communicating were necessary. The group as a whole also were provided the opportunity to express problem solving and decision making skills throughout the trip.

There was also an informative educational aspect to the trip as many of the group increased their knowledge and understanding of the mountain and St. Patrick. The travel time to and from the mountain was used in part to learn more about the history of the mountain and the religious links that live on today.



This was a valuable and rewarding experience for the group, and it is an aim of the youth programme in Pavee Point to provide similar future learning opportunities for young people. These are one step closer due to the kind support of the Parish of the Travelling People.

Paddy Collins

Traveller Pride Award



T3's Sandra, Pamela and Mary Jessica Corcoran, winners of the Traveller Pride Award for their music, have been singing together for about three years now. The girls have appeared on RTÉ and have made a CD which is on YouTube under ***'T3 American Honey'***. The girls also won first place in the social inclusion competition which was run by South Dublin County Council in 2012. They hope to continue singing together for many years to come.

YOUTH ZONE

CONFIRMATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION DAY – 2014









A Prayer for You

I shall pass through this world but once.
Any goodness, therefore,
That I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any human being,
Let me do it now
Let me not defer or neglect it for I shall not pass this way again.

















Saint Laurence O'Toole, born in Castledermot, County Kildare in 1128, is the patron saint of the Parish of the Travelling People, and also is the principal patron saint of the Archdiocese of Dublin. This icon of St Laurence presents us with elements of St Laurence's life that speak to us of how the mystery of Christ was at work in him, leading him to be a person of faith, of prayer and of peace.

Even looking at an icon in silence can be the beginnings of prayer. St Laurence looks at us square-on, as a person of faith facing the world with courage, in the strength given by God. The prayer of Psalm17 is apt for him: "I love you Lord, my strength, my rock, my fortress my saviour. My God is the rock where I take refuge; my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold."

PRAYER TO ST. LAURENCE O'TOOLE

St. Laurence O'Toole, man of peace, you were in the middle of family and political conflict from your earliest days. Give the gift of peace and hope to all who experience the trauma of division in families, in communities and among nations. Give us the gift of tirelessness as we try to live as instruments of Christ's peace, love and tolerance.

The Icon of St Laurence was commissioned in 2012 for the Year of Faith, and written by Mihai Cucu. *© Archdiocese of Dublin.*

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