

Parish of the Holy Redeemer, Dundalk.

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6th January 2009

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Priests of the Parish: Fr. Padriag Keenan & Fr. Patrick Rushe.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to create a vibrant parish for the enrichment of all. Learning and communicating with each other and, energised by the Spirit of Pentecost, we will work to build a spiritual community and witness to Jesus Christ.

The Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Saviour of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (magi) from the East, together with his baptism in the Jordan and the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee. In the magi, representative of the neighbouring pagan religions, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations, who welcomes the good news of salvation through the Incarnation.' (CCC, 528).

Reflection

Star of Bethlehem

Gordon Wilson's daughter was killed by a bomb in Enniskillen on Remembrance Day 1987. Instead of calling for revenge, he forgave her killers and began a campaign for peace and reconciliation. He said: 'I am a very ordinary sort of man. I have few personal ambitions and no political aspirations. I just want to live and let live. Life has been kind to me in the main, and I have tried to live by the Good Book. I do not profess to be a good man, but I aim to be.'

I would like to leave the world a better place than I found it, but I have no exaggerated ideas of my ability to do so.

I have hitched my wagon to a star, A star of hope, the Star of Bethlehem.'

Church Collection today in support of the sick & retired Priests of the Archdiocese of Armagh.

Christmas Crib: You are invited to spend some time in prayer at the Christmas Crib.

May our time give us peace and joy, feeling very close to God and to one another.

Pastoral Areas.

Fr. Keenan: Woodland Park, Woodview Terrace, Oakland Park, Barton Park, Marian Park, Townspark, Ardee Road, St. Ronan's Terrace, Mounthamilton, (Ardee Road), Knockbridge Road, Ballybarrack, Patrick Tierney Terrace, Brickfield Close. Ard Easmuinn, Mount Avenue.

Fr. Rushe: Ashling Park, Farndreg Estate, New Farndreg, Castleross, Carrick Road, Mounthamilton Close, Willow Grove, Railway Terrace, Demesne Terrace, Rockfield Gardens, Cedarwood Park, Beechmount Drive. Lis Na Dara.

18th—25th January: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

What are we praying for? The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is an expression of the ecumenical movement – a worldwide movement among Christians to heal the divisions within the Church; to promote dialogues among churches and Christian communities; and to encourage Christians everywhere to better understand and reflect the implications of "one Lord, one faith, one baptism." Each year from January 18 – 25, Christians are encouraged to pray together as a sign of the unity that is already theirs in Christ and that that unity will become complete.

'Pope's Intentions for January 2009.

General: That the family may become more and more a place of training in charity, personal growth and transmission of the faith.

Mission: That the different Christian confessions, aware of the need for a new evangelisation in this period of profound transformation, may be committed to announcing the Good News and moving towards the full unity of all Christians in order to offer a more credible testimony of the Gospel.

CHRISTMAS DUES 2008

The Dues is a source of income for Archbishop Sean Brady & the Priests of the Parish. The **Priests Dues** are collected during the year.

We thank you for your generosity in the past and your continued support.

We wish to inform you that the Christmas Priests Dues will be collected during the coming weeks.

We are grateful to all the Dues Collectors for their work and the support of the Parishioners.

Armagh Diocesan Youth Council & Habitat for Humanity NI. Are you aged 18—35? Do you want to help a family in Ethiopia to get the house they've always wanted?

We are looking for 16 young people in the Diocese who will "build houses, build hope, build communities" in a partnership project with the Armagh Diocesan Youth Council and Habitat for Humanity NI. The build will take place mid July-mid August. Actual dates to be confirmed.

For more information contact: Pierce/Kate on 04837525592.

All notices for inclusion in the Parish Bulletin should be typed or written and submitted to the Holy Redeemer Parochial Hse by 6.00pm of Tuesday each week.