

## PARISH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT BALLYROAN NEWSLETTER

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
**5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

### Safeguarding children in the Dublin Diocese

The Archdiocese of Dublin operates Children First – State Child Protection Guidelines -in conjunction with Church Guidelines. The Child Protection Service in the Diocese has two main objectives: to minimise the possibility of abuse happening, and if it does to maximise the possibility of detection. It is Diocesan policy to report all allegations of child sexual abuse to the civil authorities. Every parish in the Archdiocese of Dublin has a trained child protection representative in place. 2,100 parish volunteers and Diocesan Organisation personnel and volunteers have participated in the Keeping Safe programme as licensed by the VDA (Volunteer Development Agency) and used by the HSE. 7,065 personnel have taken part in the Garda Vetting Process. This includes clergy, parish workers and volunteers. Diocesan agency workers and volunteers and ancillary staff in Catholic schools. (Teachers are vetted by the Teaching Council) All Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Dublin, like every other school in the country, are required to implement the State Child

Protection guidelines. Children First. The Dublin Diocesan Education secretariat has also carried out training for Boards of Management in Dublin Catholic schools to ensure best practice in child protection. This is monitored on an ongoing basis. The Archbishop ensures that no priest is permitted to minister in the Diocese against whom an allegation has been made, who is considered by the Diocesan Child Protection Service, Diocesan Advisory Panel, the HSE or the Gardai to be a risk to children. Priests who are out of ministry as a result of child protection concerns are required to co-operate with a monitoring system operated by the Child Protection Service. The Gardai and the HSE are kept informed of the support systems put in place for priests who are out of ministry and are notified of any changes in their circumstances.

**Mass Times** 8<sup>th</sup> December Monday 7<sup>th</sup> 7pm Vigil Mass, Tuesday 7.30am, 10am and 11am.

Next Sunday the Annual **St Vincent de Paul** collection will replace our share collection.

The students of **Colaiste Eanna** thank Ballyroan parishioners for the generous support to their recent

collection for India Immersion Project, €4,900 was raised.

**St Josephs Young Priest Society** next monthly meeting is on 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in the Presbytery

**Ballyroan Community & Youth Centre Ltd** require four community centre workers part-time (19.5 hours per week)

previous experience working in the community sector is desirable but not essential. Further details and application forms contact [john@ydggroup.ie](mailto:john@ydggroup.ie). Closing date for receipt of Application forms 5pm on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2009.

The children and staff of **Scoil Naomh Padraig** invite you to our Annual Carol service on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 12.30pm in the Church. Some of them will also be joining us for our **Parish Carol Service** on Mon 21<sup>st</sup> of Dec at 7.30pm along with groups from Colaiste Eanna, Sancta Maria and Ballyroan Boys National School and others.

**Christmas Mass Bouquet** cards are available from the Parish all proceeds will go to the homeless on the streets of Dublin

**Fleece Appeal** - Following on from last years really successful Sleeping Bag Appeal this year we are asking you to donate a fleece for an adult homeless person either male or female. We ask that you roll up the fleece, bag it and drop it into the Parish Office. The advantages of a 'fleece' over jumpers etc are that they dry very quickly – Fr. Brendan will distribute them personally over the year.

**Saplings: Educating for Life** : we received a lovely letter from the staff at Saplings thanking us for allowing them to sell some Christmas cards last weekend, as always your generosity was brilliant.

*In Advent we seek the light that the coming of Christ brings, knowing that his gentle love can give hope even to the darkest corners of our lives. As scripture says, Christ is the 'light that darkness could not overpower'. In all that we are facing, in all our brokenness, it is this truth that leads us forward.*