Our Priests!

Father David  Father Enda  Father Denis

Illustration by Chloe Brennan, 6th Class, St. Laurence's N.S.
Welcome

Welcome to our Centenary magazine. As you flick through these pages you will be struck by the great vitality of our parish, 100 years and going strong!

Our centenary committee has drawn up a year of celebrations for us; I hope many of the events will be of interest to you and your family. A sincere ‘thank you’ to the committee members for their time, energy and inspiration over a six month period.

100 years, so many people, so many events, such joy, such sadness; Baptisms, First Communions, Weddings, Funerals, linked to our two churches. When I think of our parish today I think of US. We are a community with a common vision. Jesus Christ is the one who fascinates and draws us together. Jesus had a dream; we try in our own imperfect way to try to put that dream into reality.

A century on from January 1908, I see hundreds of people active in our parish in all sorts of ways. Look at the many activities we are engaged in on page 50. There are so many others who support parish endeavours through their presence and financially. We are all in this together. This is our life, it is not a rehearsal, and we want to get it right. Of recent times, we have put great emphasis, and rightly so, on sharing with those less well off, through the Two Coats and Breaking Stones initiatives. We will continue on that road. Also, we will continue to press for more and more Adult Faith Formation, and have a good strong involvement of young people in every aspect of parish life.

I love our parish community where Mary, Kate and Jane, Tom, Dick and Harry come together. We are far from perfect, very far, yet we are drawn by One who is. Without Him what would life be like? At the wedding in Cana his Mother said to the waiters “Do what He tells you.” Sound advice for us too.

Enjoy our magazine! Thanks to those who have worked so hard to put it in our hands, our wonderful Communications Group, all contributors and those who have delivered it to your door!

Fr Enda Lloyd P.P.

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Did you know that until January 1908, Greystones was attached to the Bray Parish and that just 17 years earlier (1891), out of a population of 500 people in Greystones, only 4 were Catholic?

The Greystones census figures in the 1800’s show the expansion from 20 houses and 93 inhabitants in 1850 through to 55 houses and 238 people in 1861; 84 houses and 355 people in 1871 and up to 500 inhabitants in 1891.

Can you just imagine it? There were few roads and no trains until 1856. Then the harbour was developed in 1888 to foster fishing in the rich fishing grounds around it. The La Touche Hotel – called the Grand Hotel – was built in 1890.

Who could have guessed that these little beginnings, in the 1800’s, would lead to our throbbing, thriving parish and town of today.

As we celebrate the centenary year of our parish and to put its development in context we should look at the establishment of the Catholic churches in Greystones and set them against the origins and development of the town itself.

The name ‘Graystones’, derived from the colour of the rocks in the area, is to be found on a map of County Wicklow in 1760. In 1827, the Rev. G.N.Wright, Professor of Antiquities at the Royal Hibernian Academy, described Greystones as “a little wild headland”. Samuel French says that in earlier times the fishermen lived in dwellings “scattered as far apart as Windgate and Delgany, Killincarrig and Blacklion”. The first inhabitants lived in some cottages opposite St. Crispin’s Church, the ruins of which can be seen in a field in The Grove. The area was known as the Barony of Rathdown which extended northwards as far as the modern Merrion Gates. There is no clear evidence that any semblance of a village existed at Greystones until well into the 19th Century. People in the area earned their living by fishing and farming.

Greystones was also the location of one of the many coastguard stations dotted along the east coast. The first coastguard station was established in 1821 at Blacklion. The coastguards were in occupation at Kenmare Terrace until 1922 when the station was closed. The Irish Coastguard Service now occupies the building on the seaward side of the Garda Station. In 1846 the Parliamentary Gazetteer says that “inhabitants of the
village itself are only a coastguard party and the families of five or six fishermen."

A report from 1856 notes, that the land in the immediate vicinity is all owned by two families of the Burnaby and La Touche Estates. The railway line at that time was built along the boundary of these two estates.

Prior to the establishment of a Catholic Church in Greystones there are various references to the provision of Mass services. Eva O'Cathaoir, The Old Bray Society in “Holy Redeemer Church 1792 - 1992: A Bray Parish”, refers to The Carmelite Convent, which had been established in Delgany in the late 1840’s, “to provide breakfast for poor children attending their schools.” (The nuns’ chapel was attended by local people, as Sunday Mass was not said regularly till 1872). A report in The Wicklow People dated the 10th July 1909 stated: “For a considerable time the people of Greystones were accustomed to attending Mass in the convent chapel at Delgany, until the erection of St. Kilian’s Church at Blacklion.” The inconvenience of being obliged to go even to Blacklion was felt. Christopher Brien, “In the Lands of Brien” writes, “In 1895 for the first time a Catholic priest took up residence in the district.” Up to then the priest had to travel on horseback over the Gap of Windgates from Bray to say Mass each Sunday.

Seamas O’Saothrai, in his paper “Places of Worship in Greystones” wrote that a site for a church was bequeathed in 1857 by Thomas Phelan at Blacklion. It was Thomas Phelan’s wish that a church be built upon the site. Canon Walter Lee, P.P. of Bray and Greystones, undertook to have Thomas Phelan’s wish granted and in 1866 St. Kilian’s Church in Blacklion was built “for people in outlying areas working on the farms”. A statue of St. Kilian, by Herr Arnold Fussengang, an eminent Bavarian Artist, was placed above the high altar. The statue was commissioned at Canon Lee’s sole expense. When Canon Fennelly was P.P. the statue was moved to the outside north wall of the church.

In 1894, Mr. Patrick J. Boland J.P., who was staying with his family at Killincarrig House, offered to erect a church in Greystones, at his own expense, provided the site was obtained by his uncle, Bishop Donnelly, who was then Parish Priest of Bray and Greystones. In 1895 a site of one acre was obtained from Mr. La Touche, for the church at a rent of £25 per year. This was for an iron pre-fab chapel, dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary, which cost £405 to erect – including a bell. In 1901 this church was extended to cater for the growing congregation. This chapel was built on the site of the current Church of the Holy Rosary. In 1903, a violent wind storm wreaked havoc all over the country. The pre-fab church was destroyed. A temporary wooden chapel was quickly provided by Mr. P. Kinlan, J.P., Greystones. Bishop Donnelly was determined to take steps to erect a more permanent church. The contract was awarded to Mr. Kinlan. The first sod was turned in 1903 and by Lent of 1904 the church was ready for use, but, the permanent portion of the building was incomplete. A copy of an old postcard below, clearly shows the newly erected church of Our Lady of the Rosary with a temporary wooden structure.
Bishop Donnelly was transferred from Bray and the task of completing the work, including arranging for its funding, fell to Fr. Michael Flood. Fr. Flood was transferred to Greystones from a curacy in St. Paul’s Arran Quay. The nave, including the tower at the front entrance, was completed. The tower was adorned with a spire of copper. Sometime (I guess in the late 1940’s) the copper spire was removed from the tower. I have got varying reasons for its removal including water seepage, the danger of it’s toppling over and the insurance costs, even in those days, of retaining it. The bell weighed nearly a ton and was designed so that the tongue could be made to strike a new part of the bell as required.

The new church of the Romanesque style, became the most prominent building in Greystones. The Church of the Holy Rosary was officially re-opened on July 11th 1909. The sacred music was provided by the choir of St. Mary’s Church, Haddington Road, Dublin. A member of that choir was Dick Clarke. His son Dan, now in his 91st year and who was also a member of Haddington Road choir from the age of twelve, has been a long time resident of Greystones.

In 1908 Greystones was constituted an independent parish by His Grace the Archbishop and the Parish of Holy Rosary and Blacklion was established.

We should all be very proud of the distinguished works of art in Holy Rosary, the beautiful stained glass windows. In the nave towards the back of the church are two, depicting the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary, The Annunciation on the left and Crowning of Our Lady of Heaven on the right. These windows were made in Harry Clarke Studios, Dublin and are the work of Harry’s younger son David Clarke (1920 – 2005). David lived in Greystones for a few years in the 1950’s. Born in Dublin in 1889, Harry Clarke was perhaps Ireland’s greatest stained glass artist. He died at the age of 41 in 1931.

Evie Hone, born in Roebuck Grove, (1894 – 1955) was a stained glass artist of world renown. Two of her windows, situated over the two side altars, adorn the church. The subject of the window on the left is The Good Shepherd and on the right Our Lady of the Rosary. You will see galley ships in the latter window depicting the Battle of Lepanto 1571. The Pontiff of the day, St. Pope Pius V, called for all Europe to pray the Rosary for victory in what was the last battle at sea between “oared” ships.

The Catholic community in Greystones, together with its ecumenical brethren, has developed dramatically from its origins but the churches have changed little and are testament to the foresight and sheer hard work of their founders.

So it is up to all of us now to put just as much effort into our parish and ever growing community to enrich our future and the next 100 years.

Pat O’Neill

If you have any information – particularly documented, but also remembered – relating to, but not included in the above, and would be willing to share it, please contact me through the parish office.

I wish to acknowledge, with thanks, the kind and willing help I got from the following; Eric Archer, Robert Butler - Ballywaltrim Library, Frank Clarke, Joe Hayes, Fr. John O’Connell, P.P. Bray, Seamas O’Saothraí, Derek Paine.
Abba, Our Father says;
Bring me everything
Leave nothing out
The good with the bad
Your strength, your weakness
Your heights and your depths
Your mistakes and your achievements
Your hopes and your dreams
Every thread of your web
Every empty space
Every glint that shines on your greatness
Every kind act, every neglect
Every fear, every pulse of courage
Your hesitations, your impulses
Your compulsions and addictions
Your sleeplessness, your tiredness
Your energy, your determination
Your sin and distress
Your remorse and regret
Everything said
Everything unspoken
Everything mended
Everything broken
Bring your illness, bring your health
Bring your poverty, bring your wealth
Bring your meditation, your candles light
Bring each fall and your soul’s dark night
Bring your joy and your mourning
Bring your voice raised and calming
Bring the songs you’ve sung
Bring your promises undone
Bring your sadness and your tears
Bring your laughter and your prayers
Bring everything ugly, everything bleak
Bring the words you dare not speak
Come to me in Spirit and Truth
Whether aged and tired or in gentle youth
Bring me your all don’t try to sift
For my child I have for you your Father’s gift
To exchange for all that you bring to me
I give you my love forgiveness and unity

By Paul T. Dillon

Paul recently won an award for his poem “Going Home” which was one of seven hundred entries in the international Clough Poetry Competition. Of these, twenty received awards.
The Three Wheelbarrows

**Barrows of Energy**

The first wheelbarrow is my father’s, long ago at home in the garden. On Saturdays, he would cut the grass, trim the hedges, and plant the vegetables. My brother and I were very small but we wanted to be doing what the father was doing and of course we were too small and were only getting in the way of the work! However, do you know what he sometimes did? He tied two strings to the handles of the wheelbarrow and I held on to one and my brother held on to the other and we were delighted! Needless to say, it was all his power and energy but he involved us. We were taking part in the work, we were involved and we were delighted!

Of course, it was many years before I saw this as a powerful image of our great Creator God, who involves us in the work of creation, who shares his creative energies with us. All the power is coming from him but he involves us; he graciously shares his creative energies with us. There are certainly times when we experience this energy in our bones, this drive to create, to give life in some way, to be fruitful in some way. Life needs to flow outwards and we are never more alive than when we are being creative. It can be as simple as making a cake or making music or as deep as trying to make sense of life for oneself and for others, or it can be the great privilege and power of procreation.

St. Thomas Aquinas says that in any making or creating, we are participating in the creative energy of God and it is one of the times that we are most like God. He quotes the words of Jesus that we must let our light shine. Thomas understands the fears we all have that make us want to hide away, but despite that, he calls sinful those who are closed, who hide their light for whatever reason, who bury their talent. God is in the human heart, he insisted, and God’s presence tends to spread from heart to heart as fire spreads over a field of stubble. We most resemble God when we are busy setting fire to one another’s hearts.

**Barrows of Bricks**

However, we are not always aware of this; we are not always on fire like this. We so easily forget how blessed and gifted we are by our great creator God. We so easily lose heart and hope, and like the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, we need to hear again the reason for the hope that is in us. We need to get our hearts right. We need to be fired again by a word of hope: “Were not our hearts burning within us as he explained the scriptures to us?” There is a lovely story about a stranger leaving a medieval town where he comes across hundreds of men wheeling barrows full of bricks. “What are you doing?” he asks one man who is looking down and depressed. “What do you think I’m doing?” scowls the man, “What does it look like I’m doing? I’m wheeling a barrow of heavy bloody bricks!” Then he asks another man, who seems a little brighter, “And what are you doing, my good man?” “I have a wife and children,” he says, “I’m trying to put food on the table.” Then to a third, who is looking very bright and whistling as he wheels his barrow of bricks, he says “And what are you doing?” And he cheerily replies, “What am I doing? - I’m building a Cathedral!” That is what they
were all doing! But only some were enthused and motivated by what they were involved in, a project that could take a whole lifetime and many lifetimes to complete!

Building a cathedral was an enormous task that could be done only in cooperation with many other people over many lifetimes. That too describes the work of building parish community and outreach in Greystones or any parish – an enormous task that can only be done in cooperation with many people over many years. As I write, I have been among you just a few short weeks, but already I sense a great enthusiasm, commitment and involvement by many people in the many groups and ministries in the parish. I experience a real joy and sparkle in you as you talk about the parish and your involvement in it. You too are whistling as you wheel your barrows; your hearts are burning within you!

**Barrows of Sunshine**

Of course I know you do not always feel like that. No one does. There are highs and lows, good days and bad days in every life. I know a lady who once had a real conversion experience during a Mission of Hope in Mount Argus. And she joyfully recalled something her father had said to her long ago when she was a little girl: “When you grow up,” he said, “you’ll wheel barrows of sunshine into dark places!” And filled with new heart and hope, she set out to do just that, to let her light shine, to use her gifts. There are dark places in every heart; there are dark places in every family, in every work situation, in every parish! People need our barrow of sunshine and we need theirs! Maybe these words of Mandela at his inauguration as President will inspire you to recognize your own gifts and delight in playing your part in this parish:

> “Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate, Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that frightens us. We ask ourselves, ‘Who am I to be gifted and talented?’ Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking So that other people won’t feel insecure about you. We were born to make manifest the glory that is within us. It is not just in some of us, it is in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, We unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, Our presence automatically liberates others.”

**Fr. Ignatius Waters, C.P.**

(If it is an extraordinary coincidence – if anything is coincidence – that a few years ago, Margaret Conlon wrote to me in South Africa asking me to write something for this magazine and I produced nothing! In Margaret’s memory and in reparation for my failure then, I share these few reflections with you.)
About Scouting in Greystones
1st Wicklow 2nd Dublin
Scouting Ireland

In 1908, Major General Robert Baden-Powell founded the Scouts Association in England. In Ireland, two Dublin priests, Fr. Tom Farrell and Fr. Ernest Farrell were aware of the pressing need for an organisation for boys of the Catholic faith. Following study, their attention was drawn to scouting as practiced abroad.

In 1925, Fr. Ernest Farrell working here in Greystones went into action as founder and chaplain of a boy’s organisation carrying out hiking, drill and other activities of a scouting nature.

So, in fact here in our Greystones parish, the first Catholic Boy Scouting Group was being set up. In Dublin, the brother of Fr. Ernest, Fr. Tom, was watching the experiment of his brother with interest and decided to set up a troop in Fairview, Dublin, to be called the 1st Dublin. The Greystones Troop was then designed as the 1st Wicklow 2nd Dublin (St. Kilian’s) to show their foundation as the Joint First Catholic Boy Scouts of Ireland along with Fairview; to this day the current scout troop still retains this title.

Along with its very important status as being the first CBSI troop in Ireland, Greystones parish also supplied the First Chief Scout of the CBSI, Mr. John O’Neill, a well known resident of the town.

There has continuously been a very active troop working with the young people of the town since the foundation of the Greystones Scout, apart from a short period in the 1960s. A number of years ago, the troop decided to open their gates to girls and this has added to our membership. Currently the troop is made up of two Beaver colonies, two Cub packs, two Scout troops and a Venture Scout Troop combining a total of over 200 young people.

Another major milestone for the Greystones troop was the agreement by Wicklow County Council to sell the old Tennis Club premises on Trafalgar Road as a permanent den. Since the troop obtained the use of these premises considerable improvements have been carried out in order to offer better facilities to our group and to other voluntary groups who use it.

Considerable thanks and appreciation must be given to the many leaders both past and present who have given of their time so freely in assisting the Greystones troop since the foundation in 1925.

In 2004, the scouting troops of the CBSI and SAI combined to become one organisation, now known as Scouting Ireland.

If you require any further information, please contact the current Unit Leader Joan Jones at 01 2875678.
The Pioneer Total Abstinence Association is celebrating its 90th year in 2008. The Association started in Greystones Parish in September 1918, which makes it one of the oldest organisations in the Parish. The Association held many meetings as well as organising Masses, social events and pilgrimages to Knock and continues to do these activities today.

Based on the teachings of Jesus, the Association focuses on prayer and sacrifice, along with practical acts of charity, as a most effective means of helping addicts escape from their slavery to alcohol and drugs. There are many ways of dealing with these problems but our conviction and belief lies in the Power and Grace of God, assisted by our efforts, to help people with addictions to transform their lives. ‘Promoting sobriety for a better society.’

What does it mean to be a Pioneer? As Pioneers we observe the following:

- Abstain from all alcoholic drink.
- Wear the Pioneer emblem.
- Recite the Pioneer prayer twice daily.

“Keep the pledge, wear the pin and say the prayer”

The Association publish a monthly magazine which is on sale in the parish.

As this is our 90th year, we hope to have a Mass and social event on 28th September 2008.

Mary Fitzpatrick

Redford Cemetery has been the final resting place of members of the Greystones and surrounding communities for well over 60 years. For those who are not familiar with its setting it is located at the North end of Greystones on the main road to Bray. It comprises of two distinct parts. The older more traditional section is the first walled section as you walk in from the main road. The joining lower larger walled section nestled in the heart of Redford housing estate was only opened about 15 years ago.
The RCAC was founded in 2003 by concerned local members of the community to try to reverse the effects of time and neglect on the area and also to inject some much needed restoration to the area, bringing back a level of pride in a place so many spend so much time in both individually and communally. The role is particularly challenging. The two distinct areas in the cemetery require totally different styles of upkeep. The older part requires very much hands-on maintenance with localised overgrowth being the main problem. The lower cemetery has larger green sections which require the use of larger machinery to maintain the uniform look, which was the master plan the council intended for this area.

The RCAC raises funds during collections at various Masses and, also, through the sponsorship of seats in the cemetery. From the proceeds of these efforts, along with the much appreciated help and guidance from the local council, we are able to maintain the cemetery in a safe and aesthetically pleasing manner. As most will have noticed since our inception, Calvary as well as the surrounding area has been totally restored. There is also great care and continuous attention taken to maintain the flowers and plants surrounding the area. This is also the case outside the front of the cemetery and this is down totally to dedicated members of the local community who give up so much of their time to give this area the sense of dignity it deserves. There has been a slow but steady improvement in the area, including the upgrade of many of the paths, as well as the addition of taps and bins in numerous locations along the main road down to Calvary.

It would be impossible to maintain the cemetery in the fashion we have become accustomed to if it were not for all of the volunteers who spend endless hours ensuring we all have a place we can be proud of. As with all voluntary schemes we would appreciate any help people would like to give.

Mary de Lacy Staunton
The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul has been active in Greystones since 1930. Our community in 1930 was very different to the Greystones of 2007. The work of the Society in 1930 was quite different too. Seed potatoes to grow food and logs for heating were commonly distributed then as well as food parcels and small sums of money.

Throughout the last century, the Society has helped people cope with ever-changing needs. Unemployment, high interest rates, and an inability by many to make ends meet saw an increasing need for financial help, for fuel bills to be paid, for food to be provided year round, not just at Christmas.

Some of the work of the Society has remained unchanged. We still provide food for needy families, fuel for people who otherwise would go cold in winter, fix leaky roofs, help to furnish homes, give financial advice, listen to and talk to people. Many things have changed too. There is now very little demand for seed potatoes!

Nowadays, one of the biggest requests to the Society is for help with education. Thanks to the generosity of the community, many young children now attend after school support groups. The hope is to build their confidence so that they can successfully continue in later stages of the educational system. Examples of other forms of support include obtaining a computer for a needy family so that their child could attend university, purchasing small pieces of equipment so that people can become self sufficient in “at-home” businesses. Many people attend courses in computing and other disciplines so that skills are acquired leading to subsequent employment and improved living standards.

However, one thing has remained constant. The people who receive assistance in one form or another from the Society are extremely grateful, often writing to the Society to express gratitude and verbally passing on their appreciation. Some have said they feel privileged to live in a community where people still care, where people still share a little of what they have with those who have less. Let us all hope that, as Greystones and our parish looks forward to the next 100 years, this sense of Christianity continues to flourish.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul can be contacted through the Parish Office at 01-2874025.

Michael McCabe
President of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul
The Legion of Mary
Holy Rosary Praesidium
Greystones

This Praesidium started in Greystones in the early forties. Monsignor Curran encouraged its founding and arranged for the members to meet in the Supper Room of Kilian’s Hall, enough volunteers were found and the Legion in Greystones was on its way. Many notable locals will be remembered for the works undertaken by them at this time. There was also a junior praesidium formed. They distributed Catholic papers to the community with the help of senior members.

The Legion thrived in the fifties under the guidance of their spiritual director, Fr. Des McCarthy, the local curate. They were a vital part of the community through the sixties, seventies, eighties and into the nineties when membership dropped off. By the late nineties it was being held together by a handful of dedicated stalwarts. Eventually even these members had to drop out due to a combination of ill health and old age. Greystones had no Legion of Mary and sadly this was the situation for a few years until the Bray curia decided to do a recruiting drive and thankfully seven people responded to the call and so the Praesidium in Greystones was revived.

Monsignor Wallace gave us every help and agreed to be our spiritual director, he allocated specific work for us to undertake and he gave us a room in his house to hold our weekly meetings. We owe a debt of gratitude to him for his part in reviving the Legion in Greystones.

We carry on the work started more than sixty years ago and will always be grateful to the parishioners who gave so much time and effort to spreading the love of Jesus and Mary through their Legion work.

Our hopes for the future are to recruit new members, to restart a junior praesidium and to work closely with our priests by always being available to help out with any parish project when requested.

We meet every Monday excluding bank holidays at 7.30 p.m. in Kilian House Family Centre. The meeting lasts one hour. We start with the rosary and a reading from the handbook we then go on to the business of the day. We do work reports and allocate work for the coming week; we then say the Catena (Magnificate) and have a short homily. We have any other business and our concluding prayers.

We welcome any enquiries re joining as a full member or as an auxiliary (praying) member and would especially welcome any former member whose help would be invaluable.

Rita Bishop
To quote Archbishop Diarmuid Martin “Parish Pastoral Councils should enable priests and people to work together to build up a dynamic Christian community that is characterised by faith, mission, worship and service.” Within our parish, we have identified four areas of concern, Youth, Faith Formation, Liturgy and Outreach.

While various projects have been ongoing in 2006-07, we continue to identify the role, responsibility and authority of the council. Such issues are sensitive, as they require greater involvement of parishioners in church activities and a willingness of the Church authority to delegate increasing responsibility to the PPC and the parishioners.

Over the past year, we completed our “Child Protection Policy” document and have appointed our Child Liaison Officers. Members of the PPC have met with the various parish groups to help identify group needs and possible ways that the PPC can assist. Work is underway on our “Planning for the Future” document, in which we are developing the process for the appointment and support of Parish Workers, which is vital as the number of our priests is declining. Recently, we have met with the Kilquade PPC, where we are aiming to identify areas of joint need, so to avoid duplication of effort and to maximise the utilisation of available resources.

The PPC has been renewed and revitalised over the past six months. Several members of the inaugural council have retired and have been replaced by new people who bring new ideas. The response to our call for new members through our recruitment drive was inspiring. Retiring members are Fr. David Halpin, Louise Hurley, Mary Kelly, Anne McGovern, Ellis O’Driscoll, Marion O’Shea, Sadie O’Shea, Ger Roe and Austin Prior. We, the PPC, sincerely thank each of these people for their contributions over the past few years.
In August I travelled to the Philippines, alleged to be one of the most corrupt countries in the world, or at least the most corrupt country I have experienced. We visited there last January also. We decided that the only way to make a difference there was to bring people from our community over, to open their eyes to what is going on. In preparation the group went through different interviews and training exercises before we set off in August.

Many people did not know what to expect. I think it is fair to say now, that whatever they were expecting was a minor vision of what they actually saw.

We set off from Dublin on the 13th of August 5 a.m. from the Holy Rosary parish car park. We had a long stop over in Abu Dhabi, where we had great fun and provided the perfect opportunity for members of the group to bond and to get to know each other.

Arriving into the Philippines the group went silent. They had been expecting bad conditions but what they saw was worse than they had imagined. The gasps from the bus indicated just how shocked people were at the sight of four and five year old children running around the lanes of traffic looking for any bit of money drivers and passengers would give them. Tears welled up in many of the group members’ eyes as I pointed out shacks, and told them that these shacks, made out of plastic sheeting and some mettle, could be housing a family of up to eight people. For the next three hours eyes were glued to the windows as we drove through ‘the definition of extreme poverty.’ We then arrived in the city of Olongapo.

Arriving at the PREDA Centre we were met by Fr. Shay Cullen and some of the social workers who had just arrived back from a jail visit and some of the boys who were on guard duty. Fr. Shay Cullen is the founder of the People’s Recovery Empowerment Development Assistance (PREDA) Foundation. We were all so tired, we decided it was a good idea to go straight to bed, seeing as we had just been informed that breakfast would be ready for 7 a.m. the next morning.

Over the next few days we caught up on some well needed sleep...NOT!!! We were straight into it. Over the next two weeks we did more than you can imagine.

We visited some of the local sex bars, from which many girls had been rescued by PREDA, to see if we could find any minors. This was a truly horrifying experience. It was sub human how grotty these brothels were and as soon as you walked in you felt so disgusting and dirty.

We went on a jail visit to Manila. It was called a “youth welcoming centre” but in reality it was a jail for minors. Many of the group broke down while we were inside because this was the reality for so many children. One of the group members asked, ‘but where do they go to sleep, will we get to see their sleeping arrangements?’ She was answered with,
‘this is where these kids eat, sleep, play, learn and wash.’ You must understand that we were told this while standing in a room with 30 boys. I cannot be too sure on the room’s exact measurements but I think it was 14 x 14. There were puddles on the floor, holes in the ceilings and there was one hose for the boys to wash.

We attended a mango tree planting session with some indigenous people. This was a great experience but a lot of us were eaten alive by the mosquito’s and the spiders the size of your palm. It was a great experience as we got to meet some of the indigenous people and they showed us their tribal dances and songs, while we did a bit of the auld ‘aon, do, tri’s’ with the Walls of Limerick, which was a sight for sore eyes.

There were a lot more great experiences over there, too many to mention. We visited the Fair Trade producers. It was amazing to visit their basic factories. We did a tour of Subic Bay, the American naval base that boosted the sex industry. It is now a free trade zone because of PREDA campaigning. We helped with the street feeding programme, but because we were there during a typhoon it was very difficult to get the kids to come out.

The activity that some of us enjoyed most was the integration with the children in the PREDA Centre. We got to play with the children and experienced the children’s kind warm heartedness. It was amazing to see what a difference PREDA has made to so many peoples’ lives.

We also visited the new centre in Castillejos, the one we all raised over €158,000 for, through ‘The Breaking Stones project’. It was truly amazing to see it being built. We were at the official opening of it and it was so warming to hear what a difference our small community has made. It will give so many more kids a chance at a real childhood and the vocational centre will help them to develop skills that will enable them to become independent. Truly inspiring.

Through all of our work we managed to slot in some leisure activities, such as a trek through the rainforest, swimming with dolphins and whales, visiting the zoo, shopping, etc.

It was an AMAZING experience all in all. I hope in the future there will be more trips so that more people can get involved with this amazing foundation.

Seoin Talbot
Prayerful Reflection

In the fast moving pace of life today, we can often lose sight of the journey we are on. Taking time out to reflect re-energises the soul. Below are some prayerful reflections from Fr. Denis Quinn for when you take that moment out.

Go Peacefully
Go peacefully amid the noise and the haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible, without surrendering what you believe in, be on good terms with all persons.

Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time. And be careful not to be taken in, for the world is full of trickery; but let this not blind you to what good there is: many persons strive for high ideals, and everywhere life is full of heroism.

Above all, be at peace with God. And whatever your labours and aspirations in the noisy confusion of life, keep peace with your soul. For in spite of all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world.

Remembering
Everybody loves to be remembered. But if we want to be remembered we have a duty also to remember.

Memory is a powerful thing. Wrongly used, it can bring death rather than life. Rightly used, it is a form of immortality. It keeps the past alive. Those we remember never die. They continue to walk and talk with us. Their influence is still felt among us. There is nothing stronger or more helpful than a good remembrance.

Journey of Life
For each of us life is like a journey. Birth is the beginning of this journey. And death is not the end but the destination. It is a journey that takes us from youth to age, from innocence to awareness, from ignorance to knowledge, from foolishness to wisdom, from weakness to strength and often back again, from offence to forgiveness, from loneliness to friendship, from pain to compassion, from fear to faith, from defeat to victory and from victory to defeat, until, looking backward or ahead, we see that victory does not lie at some high point along the way, but in having made the journey, stage by stage.

Stranger at Our Side
All through life’s day our risen Lord walks with us. Often, however, he is a stranger to us, for he never forces himself upon us. Before the day’s end we will ask many questions, experience many failures, disappointments and heartaches. And then, suddenly, whether we are young, middle aged, or old, we will find that the shadows are lengthening and the night is fast approaching.

In that moment we pray that, like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, our eyes will be opened, and that we will recognise him – the stranger who walked at our side – as our risen Lord.

And he will not vanish from our sight. Instead he will guide us through the dark valley of death to the safety of the Father's house.

Fr. Denis Quinn
Growing up in Greystones as I did and still living here is a great privilege. I remember my school days with great joy, yes, from infants – the aroma of hot gruel (porridge) in the tiny delicate china cup, scrambled eggs in St. Kilian’s Hall for our first Holy Communion breakfast, the confidence gleaned from the Nuns of the Holy Faith when on Confirmation Day you hoped the Archbishop would ask you a question which you knew you could answer correctly.

“Suas, suas, aon, dó, trí”, - Irish dancing classes with George Leonard. Little did I think that I too would teach this very fine art one day! Broken biscuits, chocolate covered marshmallows, sweet cigarettes, pink sticky spinning tops, special mixture (hard boiled sweets) all could be bought in McKenzie’s shop (now Mooney’s) after school.

We attended the 8.45 a.m. Mass before going to school. Miss Murray, Fr. Fennelly’s housekeeper would lead us in prayer and hymns. Some of the hymns were Fr. Fennelly’s own composition and are still used today.

Coming home from school we would pass “The Bonne Bouche” (now Vino Pasta) and peer in the large window where we could see Mrs. Stephenson, in her black dress and snow white starched afternoon apron and dainty cap, serving the customers. In later years, as a young teenager during holiday time I worked at weekends in that very place and then renamed “The Copper Kettle”. The restaurant was a very busy spot where grills, afternoon teas and a mouth-watering trolley of homemade cakes were available to choose from. The silver tea and coffee pots, sugar and milk jugs always gleamed. Miss Taylor was a very fair employer and taught us the finer art of customer care, responsibility and punctuality. Misty water-coloured memories of the way we were …..

In 1954, when the Statue of the Blessed Virgin was erected in the church grounds to commemorate Marian Year, we buried many Miraculous Medals in the foundation. The Monday night Miraculous
Medal devotions were a must with my Mother. I remember sitting on the black carrier of her bicycle, arms round her waist, snuggling up behind her trying to avoid the cold east wind. I did rebel – to no avail!

Benediction was an awesome experience. The priest with his long sweeping “overcoat”, the five pronged brass candlestick holders all lighting, the coughing and spluttering when the thurible was lit and the altar boy swinging it for dear life making a fog of smoke.

I recall on one occasion the thurible “flew” across to the Sacred Heart Altar (now Baptistery) right out of the hands of the altar boy – wow, there was some din!! The expression on the face of the priest was something else as his eyes widely followed the thurible, then back to the altar boy. I remember saying the never-ending Litany, “BLESS ME GOD” instead of Blessed be God, the beautiful Latin hymns – memories…. was it really so simple then?

As a teenager I learnt how to make the model lovely dresses in the “Supper Room” of St. Kilian’s Hall under the attentive eye of Peggy Fallon, attended the local hop, joined The Pioneers and was enrolled in the Children of Mary Group.

Sport was a huge part of our home life with my Dad and brothers, Eddie and Willie. So, it was no great surprise that I, too, took and still do take a very active interest in all sport. I was keen camogie player but as there was no local team I had to go further a field.

Life is very different today – so many changes. I’ve grown-up (debatable at times) and I miss lots of different things, especially Mrs. Pennycook’s famous chips, John Clarke’s 4d ice cream wafer, the feel of the warm egg retrieved from under our hen “Polly”, the taste of the new seasons honeycomb extracted from our beehive by my Dad.

Memories …. all possible with the friendship of my school friends.

My Memories...

by Frank Clarke

For many of us, the memory of the red and white striped pole on Greystones Main Street reminds us of the institution that was Frank Clarke’s Barbers Shop, an indelible feature of our town’s recent history. Today, Frank Clarke, master barber and veteran parishioner shares some of the memories of his 93 years, while chatting to Frank Coleman and Pat Clarke.

I can remember my first day at school; the long walk from Killincarrig, via the Castle Field, Pig’s Hollow and Whitshed Road, down to St Brigid’s Convent; knocking on the enormous doors and being greeted by a Sister Finbar.
I later moved to the now demolished boy’s school, which was situated on Lower Kindlestown Road between Applewood Heights and Webb Cottage. The nuns taught there too, making the journey from the convent every day on foot, except when it was raining when a Mr. Doyle brought them in his horse-drawn phaeton.

I was at school at CBS Dun Laoghaire during the Eucharistic Congress of 1932. The Papal Legate, Cardinal Lauri arrived by boat from Holyhead on Monday, 20th June 1932 and all the CBS boys were lined up to greet him. I remember the cheering, the handshakes and the blessings as the procession made its way to the Pro Cathedral in Dublin. Ireland never looked better with the streets decorated with flowers and bunting in the yellow and white papal colours. We were lucky enough to act as marshalls for the closing ceremony in the Phoenix Park. One of the highlights for me was the rendition of Panis Angelicus by Ireland’s international tenor, Papal Count John McCormack.

As a family, we had another blessing by the arrival of Fr. James Clarke, a Holy Ghost Missionary, on holiday from his ministry in far-away Philadelphia.

My memories of Holy Rosary church are firstly as an altar boy cycling to First Mass at 8 a.m. I recall the wonderful May Processions, down Trafalgar Road to the harbour and around the sea front and back to Holy Rosary Church, with hymns sung and the Rosary said along the way. Then there were the First Holy Communion children with the girls in white dresses and veils.

At one point, the original spire was considered dangerous and was removed by Lendrums local builders. It was to be replaced but was considered too expensive and was left as it appears today.

In Fr. Murnann’s time, there was a beautiful female church choir. They won the Feis Ceoil in Dublin, two years in succession.

Men and women attended Retreats separately and in the 50’s and 60’s, special Mass buses ran from Windgates and Killincarrig to Holy Rosary Church for all Masses. The church was always full, with rows of bikes parked outside, where the car park opposite the church is now. In those days, there was no Saturday Vigil Mass or Sunday evening Mass.

“An angel appeared to a man one day and said: “If you were offered a gift from God, what would you choose?”

“Memory”, replied the man.

“Well done”, said the angel, “I will reward you. The world will be your orbit” ……
**Down Memory Lane**

*with Mrs. Ita Walsh (Mooney)*

Another veteran parishioner, shares some of her memories, while chatting to Frank Coleman.

Sister Finbar was a Saint. She prepared the Holy Communion class. I fondly remember the May processions, with the 1st Holy Communion children in their white veils and dresses and the children of Mary in their blue habits. I still remember her special prayers and say them.

Sister Mary Anthony was the teacher for 1st, 2nd and 3rd class she was also the music teacher and choir mistress.

The senior choir was made up from the 5th and 6th classes. Practice was on Wednesday evening at 8 p.m. There was a sung Mass at 11 a.m. on Sunday. In May and October the choir sang at Benediction every evening and on other special holydays.

Fr. Murnane was a curate in Greystones about this time he was a lovely singer who trained with Count John McCormack. Fr. Murnane was the better singer according to Sister Mary Anthony!

The Choir sang at the Eucharistic congress in 1932, went by train to Dublin and paraded to the Phoenix Park. We also travelled to Knock and were part of the first broadcast by Radio Eireann from Knock. At that time it was a long days journey leaving Greystones by special bus at 5 a.m. for Mass in Dominic St. Church at 6 a.m. From there to Broadstone station for the train to Knock and arriving back in Greystones very late.

The choir entered a competition every year - the feis ceoil, I think - and won the cup three years running and occasionally in subsequent years.

These are choir members that I remember apologies to anyone I have forgotten:

**Greystones**
Cora and Kathleen Martin,
Clare Kelly, Kitty Kinsella.

**Killencarrig**
Bridie and Bella McKenna, Eileen and Josephine Clarke (Frank’s sisters), Maureen Mooney, Annie and Eileen O’Leary.

**Blacklion**
Mary and Birdie Kinsella,
Rose Hackman, Lily Lawless.

**Windgates**
Susie and Pansy Manweiler, Annie Kelly,
Kitty Stapleton, Elisabeth and Margaret Quinn,
Nancy Hoey, Hannah McDonald (who also played the organ).

An amusing memory, if one can say that, was of Canon Lawless who had three dogs who howled every time the church bells rang …..

I recall as very special day out with Sister Anthony. Her brother, who was a surgeon, lived in a big house in Howth. We went by train and played in the garden and picked strawberries.
Memories from the Past
by Katherine Magee (nee Rogan)

One of my earliest memories is my first day of school in St. David’s. Back then St. David’s was in a beautiful house located where the present St. David’s school stands, it had a lovely garden and a pond full of gold fish! What a joy for a child! As there were few cars back then the children of Greystones walked to school. I remember I was collected that day by an older school girl called Ann Haslam, now Ann Byrne.

Seven of us made our first Holy Communion together. On that morning the Holy Faith nuns gave us breakfast in the convent. There were no big gifts or envelopes of money in those days. One of the gifts I received that morning was a bouquet of Lily of the Valley, given to me by Mrs. Haslam as I came out of the church. I then walked up through The Burnaby Estate to visit my aunt, Dr. Catherine Finnegan. On my way I was stopped by the gardener at Mrs. Williams’ house, he told me to “wait there”, then he ran out to the gate and handed me a bouquet of lilac! It was those simple gestures that made me feel so special on that special day!

My mother in law, Mrs. Magee, was a member of the Church of Ireland. She attended St. Patrick’s Church on Church Lane. When she died her family had to ask for permission from the parish priest to attend her funeral. She was buried in Redford Cemetery at the Grove and her husband was buried in the Catholic cemetery, also in Redford. Things have changed now which is much welcomed.

The parish priest, Fr. Fennelly, introduced the liturgy in English for the first time in the fifties, way ahead of the Institutional church. He produced the missalette himself. It was strange to us as we were used to the Latin rite of Mass. Another change was getting rid of the gate in the church which separated the front from the back. This was another good change.

Now for something of Greystones itself:
As there was little foreign travel in those days, the summer was a time when many families travelled to Greystones and rented houses. This was a great addition to our small community and we all looked forward to it. Days were spent on the pier where we played our gramophones, brought our lunch boxes and had regular swimming races. The pier was “the” meeting place in the summer time. Young mothers brought their little children to play in the dock which had clean sea water and golden sand – it was very safe for them. The dock was the little walled in beach on the left as you go down onto the pier. There were also the men’s and ladies changing rooms built when I was a teenager, these were on the right as you walk down onto the pier. Swimming races were held from the pier to the men’s bathing place (near the south beach). On the south beach there were wooden changing boxes and families rented these during the season. Also on the promenade of the south beach there was a café where you could get cups of tea or ice cream run by a Mrs. Evans.
At the train station there were horse drawn carriages to bring people home. One man I remember was Jarvey Evans who had a shiny black coach. He wore a black coat with velvet collar. The horses had a drinking trough outside the Red Cross depot (now the Irish Permanent). That trough is now in Burnaby Park. The goods yard for the station was where the Burnaby car park is now.

Our milk was delivered by a horse drawn cart with two churns and brought to our house in a jug by a man we called Parkey. There were so many fields. Where Hillside and Heathervue are now there were just fields, owned by Mr. Evans. Opposite La Touche Hotel was a field and fields at Mountain View, Manor Avenue, Burnaby Park, Oaklands, Applewood Heights. There was a great air of freedom and safety for children.

Greystones had seven hotels at the time - the Trenarren, Sea Patrick, Mrs O’Gorman’s, Lewis Hotel, The Grand Hotel, The Burnaby Hotel and The Woodlands Hotel. These are all gone now and we no longer have any hotels in Greystones.

There have been many changes in Greystones over the years, some good, some not so good – but sure that is how it will always be.

Living Through Change In Greystones
by Catherine Coveney

When approached to pen these couple of paragraphs, memories of my fifty years living in, and evolving with Greystones, flooded my mind. The late fifties and sixties are the times of which I have the clearest memories - the carefree childhood and teenage years in my case. Many changes have taken place over the years, which are well documented, but a walk down the seafront with, on a good day, a view of Wales silhouetted on the horizon, the sea breeze and the chance to meet and greet neighbours and friends, has remained the same.

When collecting my newspaper in Eugene’s this morning I thought of the time when the Royal Bank was here with Mr. Ritchie in charge - the newsagent was Mr. O’Farrell in the Kiosk at the station ... the AIB - then a hub of activity as McFarland’s Grocery Store.

Continue up Church Road - Fallon’s, Scott’s, Scuffil’s, Paddy’s, Fenelon’s, Fox’s, Frank Clarke’s, The Talk of the Town. Up to Miss Coates Drapery - more recently Bel’s Drapery and now a restaurant. Great memories of hours spent in the Tennis Club opposite the La Touche Hotel, Fr. Fennelly’s Parish Week based in St. Kilian’s Hall - when we all sang the ditty “Greystones lobster, served with wine ... to the tune of Frère Jacques (words on request)! At Christmas - walking the roads carol singing under the baton of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Beare, with the grand finale at the La Touche Hotel on St. Stephen’s Day where the Manager, Mr. David Fitzgerald, made a great fuss of everyone.

Within the education sector, there have been huge changes, not least due to the growth in the population. If my memory serves me correctly, I was one of nine girls who sat the Leaving Certificate in St. David’s in 1969. The boys had to travel outside the area for second level education until St. David’s became co-ed in the early 1970’s. The Christian Brothers, who founded St. Kevin’s as a boys’ primary school in the 1940’s, made a decision to leave Greystones in the mid-1980’s, as part of a general re-organisation of their Community. In the primary sector now, all schools educate boys and girls together. Boards of Management, which include parent and community representation, now manage all of our schools. Another very positive change is that resources are now available in all schools for the education of children with special needs so that no child needs to travel outside the area for primary or secondary education. Outside the formal school setting, the staff of Greystones Library, which was always a wonderful library, now actively encourages schoolchildren to visit and use
its facilities – they also host varied programmes for children and adults throughout the year.

The extension of the DART service to Greystones was a milestone – instead of looking across at Howth, we can now get into the train and travel there! Commuting has become easier and as a consequence many more families have moved here. Greystones was always a wonderful environment for rearing a family and that is something that has not changed.

To conclude, on mentioning to a younger member of our community that I was gathering my thoughts together for this piece, the comment was “why don’t you just Google it?” ........ that’s a change.

The Changing Face of Greystones

by Anne Dempsey

Shortly after moving to Greystones, I came into my front garden on the morning of my birthday to find my small daughter and her new best friend standing on the twin pillars of our gate calling to passers by. “Mrs. Dempsey’s 32” (new best friend). “My Mammy’s 32”, (daughter). So much for maintaining a dignified and ageless front in my new adopted location.

In the thirty-plus years since, our small cul-de-sac of 10 homes has changed completely. Back then we were mainly young married couples, with 23 children between us, ranging in age from new borns to teens. They played in safety on the road or round the corner in a large grassy green. Today, the green is a weedy wasteland, and the road a bit of a race track, so it’s lucky that we have only one young family with one small baby. Though adult children still come and go. Our homes still have swings, climbing frames and paddling pools for when beloved grandchildren visit.

During the decades in which our children grew and had children of their own, Greystones has changed utterly. Thirty years ago, as you drove from Bray by night and looked down on the then village, you saw shining water, and a narrow band of glimmering lights, representing a thin slice of habitation to the right of the harbour. Today, as you drive from twilight onwards to the now town of Greystones, the band of light has spread from the shining water right across your horizon, from east to west, picking up the street lights denoting hundreds of homes on dozens of new estates. I used to think at least they can’t build on the sea. Alas, I may have been too naive.

In those early days, there was sandy beach in what is now a derelict part of the harbour. It was used mainly by families and was full of buckets, spades, parents, and paddling/shrieking/sandcastle-building children. Back then, the Christian Brothers school was a small building, needing no caretaker, open to be walked through and round to a rear lane which emerged through a gate on to Church Lane. The La Touche Hotel was in its prime. My aunt stayed there shortly after we moved here. On her first day, she ordered tea in the lounge, and when offered sugar, said she did not take sugar in her tea. For the rest of her stay, not one member of staff ever offered her sugar. Either they had worked this out by osmosis, or training standards were such that guest needs and preferences were noted and communicated below stairs.
Greystones Main Street was a poorer place in those days. There were vacant shops and rundown establishments. There was no Super Value, no Eugene’s, no restaurants for evening dining, no post office, no book shop and The Burnaby decor resembled a formal sitting room. On the other hand, there was Bel’s drapers, selling everything from knitting wool to night wear, tights to embroidery threads. There were two butcher’s shops, there was the The Copper Kettle, provider of estimable teas, there was The Shopping Basket, (where the teens stood around after Sunday mass, scuffing their toe caps). There was La Touche toy shop where you could spend hours spending pocket money, or saving up for big buys like a Ladybird book or a Lego addition set.

My children duly became teenagers, roamed the fields in safety. One fell in love. The other showed dubious entrepreneurial spirit by attempting to make beer in the rafters of the Scout Den, then housed temporarily in the Sailing Club. (The frequent clumping up and down stairs to check the booty was a give-away they hadn’t considered).

Liz Caffrey came to live in Greystones when she was six and she is now married here with children of her own. “I went to Silver Stream and its grounds which are tiny looked enormous to me then. I remember Sister Brenda, Sister Camilla, Sister Austin and Sister Thecla who taught us music, and wrapped our knuckles if we made a mistake.

“We walked to school on our own at seven, something you could not think of now because of the traffic. Angela Wynne taught me to swim and I remember her saying that one day we would have a pool of our own. All these years later, it is finally going to happen.

“We had swimming races in the cove, or we swam at the Men’s which had a diving board and a raft to swim out to. We spent a lot of time in friends’ houses and in the tennis club then opposite the La Touche hotel. Our summers were contained within Greystones, you had all you wanted here.”

She remembers the shops very well. “Fallons, where Hammerhead now is, selling sweets and newspapers. They used to deliver the paper to Lady Burnaby who had a standing order. Paddy’s opposite had every kind of comic. Fenelon’s butchers, the vegetable shop, The Copper Kettle used to be Mrs Cox’s. It was big treat to go to the Copper Kettle, sit in the window, having Coke and meringues. Stanley Stores was where Fentons Fires now is, it had a wooden floor and the bell pinged when you went in. You could buy sweets for a penny in a brown paper bag. When Joe Sweeney’s opened at the harbour, he would take old money after decimalisation, and there was a supermarket called The Rendezvous, I always thought the name was very glamorous, and it was there before Martin O’Donoghue’s supermarket. (now the Irish Permanent Building Society offices).

Liz met her husband-to-be in The Stables, a night club run by long-established Woodlands Hotel, set in gardens near where the DART park-and-ride car park is now. “Greystones is much bigger now, of course, but I think there is still great camaraderie for children, and it is still a safe place. Many people my age who moved away have now moved back with their own children so there are very strong local connections. I am not sure if my kids get as much fun out of things that cost nothing as we did. We were happy in a pal’s house eating banana and peanut sambos. These days, mine tell me they’re off to The Happy Pear for a smoothie and panini. Times have changed!”
Parish of Holy Rosary and St. Kilian’s Centenary Magazine 2008

Parish Photo Album & Scrapbook

May Procession 1960s. Courtesy: Betty Lee

Girls from St. Brigid’s Confirmation Class 1979. Courtesy: Sadie O’Shea

St. Kevin’s CBS, Greystones, Class of 1945. Courtesy: Sadie O’Shea

Boys from St. Brigid’s N.S. First Communion Class 1991. Courtesy: Nuala Lowen


Church of the Most Holy Rosary Greystones, Church of St. Kilian, Blacklion Order of Services and other information. Year Book 1959-60. Courtesy: Sadie O’Shea

Cover of the Church of the Most Holy Rosary Greystones, Year Book 1959-60. Courtesy: Sadie O’Shea

Fr. John Fennelly. Courtesy: Sadie O’Shea
V. Rev. John Fennelly & Church Choir May 1965, celebrating his Golden Jubilee. Courtesy: Pauline Chambers

Parish trip to Lourdes, early 1980s. Courtesy: Frank Coleman


Souvenir of 1963 Pattern 6th - 13th October. Programme of events. Courtesy: Sadie O'Shea

Souvenir of 1963 Pattern 6th - 13th October. Community Songs. Courtesy: Sadie O'Shea

Wedding of Katherine and Sean Magee 1957, Holy Rosary Church Greystones. Courtesy: Katherine Magee

Old school Blacklion circa 1934. Courtesy: Ethel Jacobsen

‘High Caul Cap’ Winning Team for Irish Dancing, 6th Class St. Brigid’s N.S. 1978. Courtesy: Sadie O’Shea
Parish of Holy Rosary and St. Kilian's Centenary Magazine 2008

Church choir late 1930s. Courtesy: Winnie Doyle

Sr. Marella, Fr. Clancy, Sr. Imelda. c 1940. Courtesy: Nuala Dillon


First parish group trip to Wurzburg, Germany, July 1989. Courtesy: Sadie O’Shea

First Communion Class c. 1940. Courtesy: Nuala Dillon


First Communion Class 1949. Courtesy: Betty Lee
**Priests Down the Years**

**PARISH OF HOLY ROSARY & ST. KILIAN**

**1908 -2008**

**PARISH PRIESTS**

James Carroll  
Michael Flood  
Patrick Flavin  
Charles Lawless  
Michael Curran  
Cornelius Skehan  
John Fennelly  
Patrick O’Sullivan  
Patrick Kinsella  
Bernard Brady  
Patrick Wallace  
Enda Lloyd

**1908 - 2008**

**CURATES**

John Fennelly  
Francis Sheridan  
James Sexton  
Joseph O’Toole  
Paul Rafter  
Fred Jones  
Paul Rafter  
Ernest Farrell  
John Marnane  
William Murphy  
John Twomey  
Joseph Newth

From 1944, we were fortunate to have two curates serving alongside a parish priest. Below are those whom served as curates together or whose time overlapped here.

Eugene McGinty  
Carbury Healy  
James Strahan  
Desmond McCarthy  
Bernard Lee  
Michael McGowan  
Joseph Kelly  
James Fingleton  
Sean O’Toole  
Gerard Ellis (RIP)  
Declan Moriarty  
Mark Hayden  
David Halpin  
Alfonso Palos

Stephen Clancy  
Ernest Monks  
Cornelius Lee  
Denis Courtney  
Michael Reilly  
John Callery  
John Flynn (RIP)  
Philip D. O’Sullivan (RIP)  
John Wilson  
James Nolan  
John McDonagh  
Denis Quinn  
Paul Tyrrell  
Ignatius Waters

Helen Chambers and Fr. Fennelly, P.P., May 1964.  
Courtesy: Pauline Chambers

Courtesy: Pauline Chambers

Fr. McCarthy and Fr. Courtney, Curates in Holy Rosary - 1950’s.  
Courtesy: Peggy Fallon

Fr. Denis Quinn  
Courtesy: Sadie O’Shea

Fr. John McDonagh  
Courtesy: Sadie O’Shea
First Parish Entries

First entry for Baptism recorded from January 1908
16th February 1908   Joseph Thomas Farrell   Parents: Peter & Mary

First entry for Marriage from January 1908
19th February 1908   Thomas Bolger & Catherine Darcy

First Confirmation held in the Parish of Holy Rosary at Holy Rosary Church
was on 3rd August 1909, Most Rev. Dr. Nicholas Donnelly.

There was only one Confirmation held in St. Kilian’s Church.
That was on 9th June 1942, Most Rev. Dr. Charles McQuaid.
The sponsors being - Jeremiah O’Sullivan and Helen Darcy.

Communion and Confirmation Certificate October 1909. Courtesy: Ethel Jacobsen
Since its beginning the story of the GAA in Greystones has been one of struggle for survival. On many occasions it hovered on the periphery of extinction but buíochas le Dia people have always been at hand to fan to flame the dying embers.

Available records indicate that Gaelic games first appeared in Greystones in a structured form around the beginning of the 20th century when a team known as the Wolfe Tones was formed in the parish. It played its games in Carr’s bog - now the site of St. Patrick’s School - and seems to have remained in existence until about 1917. It is not clear whether the name just segued into that of the United Gaels when players from Kilcoole were accepted into its ranks or whether the name change represented a new beginning. United Gaels had its ‘headquarters’ in Carr’s field (now Fiodh na n-Úll (Applewood Hts.).) After reaching the senior championship semi-final in 1921 the United Gaels faded out of the picture.

There was resurgence in GAA activities later in the twenties thanks to the efforts of Wexford man Jimmy Kennedy, later a T.D. He was instrumental in the formation of a team, the Cherry Pickers, which was based in Killincarrig. The Cherry Pickers played their games in O’Connor’s field in Lower Kindlestown.

The next revival of Gaelic games took place in the thirties and again a Wexford man, Jimmy Donohoe, an employee of the Dublin S.E Railway and a founder member of the Enniscorthy Starlights, was involved. The Greystones Gaels were formed and had the logo G on their geansaí with Jimmy Donohoe in the Chair and schoolboy Frank Clarke as Rúnaí. Jimmy was an able negotiator and eventually succeeded in obtaining a lease on 4 acres of land from the Burnaby Estate. This land has since passed into the Club’s hands. The payment of £40 to secure the lease was obtained by way of a loan from the Royal Bank through the good offices of the manager T.U. Cashell who was in a benevolent mood after winning the Captain’s Prize in Greystones the previous day.

Members of the GAA in those early days were mainly drawn from the ranks of society most plagued by emigration that often decimated clubs. Such a fate befell Greystones Gaels and they were forced to amalgamate with Kilcoole in the late thirties.

Is olc an gaoth nach séideann maitheas éigin. The war brought the army to Bray and Greystones and provided a ready pool of Gaelic players. This led to a renaissance of the GAA in the area and Greystones benefited.

The fifties were traumatic times for the club. Money was scarce and the club had difficulty paying the rent of £12 (4 weeks’ wages) and a number of times it nearly lost the lease on the field. On one occasion John & Tom Swan, Mick Frawley and John Barry had to pay the rent out of their own pockets.

Until the levelling of the field in 2007, one could observe a groove running its length at the side adjacent to the road. This was the remains of a furrow from an attempt by the Burnaby Estate, in the middle of the 1970s, to plough the field and thereby take control of it. The Club obtained an injunction preventing any further ploughing and initiated proceedings to secure a sporting lease on the property. An order to this effect was made in the High
Court in 1978. The legal fees which were considerable were raised through the agency by way of a door to door collection.

In the seventies, the Club was again at a low ebb and often found it difficult to field a team and the future was looking bleak. However, GAA affairs took a turn for the better in 1977 with the establishment of a separate juvenile club by a group of impecunious teenagers the eldest of whom was a mere 18 years. The first committee comprised Peter, Joe and Paddy Byrne, Gus Gorman and Damien Kelly. The Club was named Éire Óg after a club in Clare, the county of the mother of the Byrnes.

A major step forward was taken in 1984 - the centenary year of the GAA - when Greystones and Éire Óg clubs amalgamated to form Éire Óg Greystones.

In October 1991 dressing rooms, built largely through voluntary effort, were officially opened and in the mid-nineties basic floodlighting was installed. Later in the nineties the adjacent field was purchased and was developed to championship standard.

In April 2005, work on a new clubhouse which would incorporate the old dressing rooms and which was estimated to cost in the region of 1 million euro was begun and Phase 1 was completed in late Spring of 2006, just in time for the 2006 Féile. Its facilities are made available for community use.

Two major extensions took place in the Club’s activities in the nineties. A ladies football section was established in 1997 and juvenile hurling was introduced before the dawn of the millennium. These raised the profile of the Club within the community and attracted into its ranks members who might previously have had no interest in Éire Óg Greystones.

Could those men of the early days have envisaged the thriving club that Éire Óg Greystones now is? Go mba fada buan é!

Con Ó Súilleabháin

Information: www.greystonesgaa.com

Magazine Draw

To help cover the cost of this special edition high quality publication, we are requesting a donation from each household. However, you may notice the absence of adverts in this Centenary magazine, (a conscious decision), so your support is especially welcomed.

To be eligible for this draw, return your donation in the envelope enclosed to the parish office or in one of the Sunday Mass Collections on or before Sunday 20th January 2008.

The prize draw will be held at the prize giving evening in the New Year. Details will be published in the Information Sheet. Everyone is welcome to attend.

If you’re not in, you can’t win!

Good luck!
A Centenary Start

500g cod, diced, skin off
3 sticks celery
1 punnet cherry tomatoes, halved
3 spring onions
90g grated cheese
250g crème fraîche
Pepper
Splash of oil

Method
• Fry fish on both sides.
• Add vegetables.
• Add crème fraîche and pepper.
• Bring to the boil.
• Place in individual dishes.
• Sprinkle with cheese and brown under the grill.

A ‘Souper’ Soup - Mixed Vegetable

Carrot
Onion
Celery
1 tablespoon peas
½ oz (15g) fat
1½ oz (45g) flour
2 pints (1¼ litres) light stock/water
Bouquet garni
½ pint (300 ml) milk
Salt & pepper
½ tablespoon finely chopped parsley

Method
• Prepare the vegetables and cut into inch dice (½ pint of diced mixed vegetables required).
• Melt the fat in the saucepan, add the vegetables, cover and cook gently for 3 minutes.
• Add the cold stock, bouquet garni and salt, bring to the boil and simmer until the vegetables are tender (about 1½ hours).
• Remove the bouquet garni, add the flour, which has been blended with the cold milk.
• Bring to the boil and boil for 5 minutes.
• Correct seasoning, sprinkle liberally with parsley and serve.
Now for a Roasting...
Roast Stuffed Goose with Sage and Onion Stuffing

10 – 12 lb young goose with giblets

For Sage and Onion Stuffing:
½ lb Butter
½ lb Onions
1 lb Breadcrumbs
Bunch of Fresh Sage

Sauté chopped onions in butter.
Add chopped sage and breadcrumbs. Season.

Method
Preheat oven to gas mark 7, 425 degrees F, 220 degrees C.
Begin by placing stuffing into neck end and body cavity of the goose.
Smear the breast with fat, cover with greaseproof paper.
Place bird on a rack in roasting tin in centre of oven. Cook for 30 minutes.
Reduce temperature to gas mark 4, 350 degrees F, 180 degrees C. Cook for 3 hours approx.
When goose is cooked, remove to a serving dish. Allow to rest for 20 minutes.
Serve with apple sauce and giblet gravy, potatoes of your choice and a vegetable dish.

Sweet Sensations...
Pears in Red Wine

Serves 6

6 fresh firm pears
2 or 3 glasses red wine
1 pint (600 ml) water
1 stick of cinnamon
6 oz (180g) sugar
1 tablespoon arrowroot

Method
Put water and sugar into a saucepan, just wide enough to hold the pears standing side by side, and bring to boil. Add the wine and cinnamon stick.
Peel the pears, leaving the stalks on. Stand the pears in the saucepan making sure there is enough liquid to cover them. Add more wine if needed. Cover and simmer until pears are soft, approx 30 minutes. The liquid will reduce.
Remove the pears to a serving dish.
Mix the arrowroot with a little cold water, and add to the wine syrup and boil to thicken it. Pour the wine sauce over the pears and allow it to cool.
Baked Strawberry Alaska

Serves 5 - 6

A 5 x 7-inch (13 x 18 cm) piece of sponge cake
2 tablespoons of orange juice
½ lb (225g) strawberries
3 large egg whites
6 oz (175g) caster sugar
1 pint (568 ml) block ice cream

Method
- Preheat the oven to 220 C / 425 F / Gas 7.
- Put the sponge on to an ovenproof plate and soak with the orange juice.
- Prepare the strawberries, then slice and arrange on the sponge.
- Whisk the egg whites until very stiff; add in half of sugar and re-whisk the whites until very stiff, and then carefully fold in the rest of the sugar.
- Put the block of ice cream on to the fruit and then cover the whole pudding with the meringue, making sure that the ice cream is completely covered with meringue. Immediately put the Baked Alaska into the hot oven for 3 - 5 minutes until golden.

Other fruit, either tinned or fresh may be used. If using tinned fruit the juice can be substituted for the orange juice.

Lemon Cheesecake

Ginger biscuits
Lemon jelly
Tub cottage cheese
500 ml cream
3oz caster sugar
Knob of margarine
Soft fruit for decoration
One loose bottomed container

Method
- Melt jelly in ½ cup of boiling water. Stir to dissolve. Set aside and allow to cool.
- Place biscuits in a bag and beat with a rolling pin to make crumbs. Set aside.
- Beat cottage cheese with sugar.
- Beat cream separately.
- Add cooled melted jelly to cheese mix, add whipped cream and whip 3 together.
- Melt the margarine, add biscuit crumbs to the margarine and mix.
- Put crumb mix in the container, spread and press down gently.
- Pour jelly cheese and cream mixture into the container. Place in fridge for a few hours to set.
- Decorate with fruit of choice (mandarins, oranges, raspberries etc.)

And Finally...
Tea/Coffee of your choice – let the visitors make it – you have done enough for now!

Celebrate and Enjoy!

Life to most of us is a challenge. We try and try again, all to no purpose. Just remember you never fail if you never stop trying.
Millennium Dawn Remembered

From East to West around the World

Arcs of rainbow light unfurled,
Festive fire lit the skies

Like shooting stars to herald in the start -
Of the Millennium.

Then every hill became a Tara,
As church bells rang for one and many

With news of Joyous Hope renewed

From Jerusalem - to Rome - to Canterbury.

The Sun rose o'er a silent sea
Plato's 'other world' rekindled
As golden fingers grew and glowed
Gone now the fear of yesteryear.

The dark of night was thus dispelled
And dawn with day so softly mingled,

An Ethereal light enfolded all
An amber path bedecked the wave.

And all was washed anew that day
As Sunlight touched the stones of grey.

by Carmel Stokes, composed September 2007 for the Centenary Magazine
As I see it, “Parish” is all about service. Service is to make all those who live in an area feel at home, and to help us in our daily living. We belong to each other. It is good to know that we are not alone. The driving force of all that goes on in a parish is commitment to Jesus Christ who is The Way, The Truth, and The Life.

Our parish is special in that we look outwards a lot; towards S. America, towards Asia and Africa. We have supported children abroad in our Breaking Stones campaign. I sincerely hope that our parish will be well known over the years for its total commitment to the welfare of children everywhere.

In 2108 what will Greystones be like? What will Holy Rosary and St. Kilian’s parish be like then? I am tempted to go into flights of fancy, but instead, I will stay with the ‘Signposts’.

As the number of priests gets less and less I can see that our parish will very likely be linked with Kilquade and a few neighbouring parishes and the combined parishes will become a single pastoral unit. I will call that grouping a “CLUSTER”. Very likely a small number of priests will serve the cluster.

It appears to me that the Pastoral Council will become more and more important. Each parish of the cluster would retain its Pastoral Council, but The cluster would need an overseeing Council. In my last term in Chile I worked in a huge parish with well over 100,000 people. We had ten churches, ten communities, ten pastoral councils. We needed an overseeing Council to ensure that each of the ten smaller communities was doing well. I can still picture each church and community centre, all very different. I remember with affection all those hardworking councils and their chairpersons, six women and four men. Thanks to them and their colleagues there was great “Service” in every community our huge area.

There will be an increasing need for ‘Teamwork’. At present many parishes have Baptismal Teams and Funeral Teams. So in the future this approach could be expanded. I can easily envisage “Designated Ministers” being chosen and prepared to celebrate the sacraments of Baptism and Marriage. I don’t find this unusual as I have already had experience of such a system in South America. We had great numbers of children for Baptism and many couples for Marriage, but very few priests. Our teams did the preparation; the ceremonies were celebrated by a priest or the deacon or by wonderful ministers like my very dear friend Don Fernando Martinez. All was done with due care and solemnity. Here, in the future, ministers could be designated by the bishop. The persons chosen would be people of good standing in the parish community, respected, well trained, of both sexes.

Without any doubt I foresee the need to have some ‘fulltime’ professional pastoral workers in our cluster of parishes. They would be well prepared in Religious Education, Liturgy, School and Youth Ministry. They would also need the skills to work with all those who keep the parish going voluntarily. I have had the good fortune to
work with many fulltime “Pastoral Workers”, like Tila Tanumi and Sisters Joan O'Donovan and Ita McIlwain. I see pastoral workers (of both sexes) as being vitally necessary within the next 5-10 years, all over our diocese. They will be professional people, paid accordingly.

It is most likely that there will be permanent deacons in the Church of the future. Bishops, priests and deacons are grades of The Sacrament of Orders. The diaconate has a long history but for many years we have not had deacons in Ireland.

Deacons are normally married men, and the full consent of his wife is vitally important. Both husband and wife undergo the training. In Chile in my time, the training was five years long! The result is a highly trained team of deacons and their wives who are offering their services to the diocese. The advantages are obvious. In Puente Alto, I worked closely with Deacon Enrique Brandt and his wife Verena. Their special care was The Sacrament of Marriage. They prepared couples, did all the paperwork required, were in fact friends and confidants to the young couples and were always available as Marriage Counsellors. I should add that they did much more besides!

From the above you can see that in my view the cluster will have few priests but a very powerful well prepared group working alongside the priests. The cluster will be well able to have strong programmes of Religious Education or Faith Formation for children and teenagers, for parents and all adults.

Will our parish schools continue to thrive? I hope so. I will avoid the flights of fancy and stick with the signposts! Today, priests of the parish visit our schools as chaplains; tomorrow I think our cluster will have lay school chaplains. In Sacramental preparation, I foresee much more input from the parish/cluster community, especially from parents.

Sunday will always be “The Lord’s Day”. Just as we do today, so in the future all those committed will assemble to worship and to support each other. Undoubtedly there will be less Sunday Masses. In the absence of Mass on a particular Sunday in a certain part of the cluster the Pastoral Councils will ensure that the community is well served. There may well be “Liturgy of the Word”, or another kind of Liturgy. Time will tell!

I expect that in an environment that may be quite indifferent to the Faith, there will be small groups where people will meet to pray, to discuss, to belong together, perhaps every week or every month. A great hope of mine is that we can start to develop these small groupings around our estates and localities beginning now. Happily we already have some prayer groups in existence. As a returned missionary I see these ‘Basic Christian Communities’ as being of very great importance. If I had one wish as Parish Priest it would be to have a great flowering of such groups.

In this new century I expect that we will work ever closer with other faith communities, with people who share such a lot of our core beliefs. We have the height of respect for other traditions, and very good relationships with them. We like to work and pray together as the occasion arises. I can foresee those links growing stronger by the decade. Think of the changes that have come about in the last 100 years!

What effects will increased prosperity, ecological questions, multi-racial housing estates, medical/scientific advances etc. all have on Holy Rosary and St. Kilian’s parish of the future? Today we build for tomorrow. Our message is surely a message of Hope. Come what may; be it good, bad or indifferent, we will always be people with a vision. It will be our business to make that vision a reality no matter what the date is. Jesus’ vision is simple yet profound. His “Good News” reminds us that the God of all things is in fact close to each one of us. In Jesus we are brothers and sisters; the planet and the universe is our home, for a short time…..

No matter how our parish looks in the future “Service” will be at its heart!

The date is not so important!

Fr. Enda Lloyd P.P.
My worst experience of Mass was a number of years ago when I was visiting a friend down the country. We were running a little late and the church was completely packed by the time we got there. We managed just to squeeze inside the back door. To see the altar was out of the question for the man whose back I was pressed up against was considerably taller than me. The public address system was weak and the priest did not really know how to use it. The homily was one of the poorest I have ever heard. The Bishops of the country had released a pastoral letter that week. I am sure the pastoral letter was very good but the priest proceeded to pick random sentences from it and commented on them in a monotone voice. It was so disjointed and rambling.

After about twenty minutes I felt I was losing the will to live! ‘What am I doing here?’ I questioned. ‘More to the point’, I began to wonder, ‘what were all the other people doing here in this packed church? Do they come back week after week to hear a similar lacklustre monotone dull presentation?’ I found it incredible that there were so many people there. Admittedly the priest may just have been having an off day - that is allowed, everyone can have an off day and I know I have. However, I got the impression that rather than an off day, this was what the people were subjected to every week.

I came away so dejected from that Sunday celebration, although to use the word celebration does not seem appropriate. At this stage I had already spent two years in the seminary. I was training to become a priest. I hoped that I would never even in my worst moments say Mass in as poor a fashion as what I had just witnessed. Looking back, I see that this was a very helpful experience, for it forced me look at the question ‘What was Mass supposed to be?’ At that stage I did not have a worked out answer but all I did know was that it was supposed to be a whole lot more than what I had just experienced.

So why do we bother going to Mass at all? There are various reasons. One reason is I simply want to, even more than want to, I NEED TO. I need to because it is there that I get fed spiritually. I am fed by the Word of God. I am fed by the most amazing and mysterious gift of Jesus himself, the Body and Blood of Christ. I need this for it keeps me connected to the Lord. To hear His word in the scriptures gives me inspiration. To receive Holy Communion is, if we really believe it, the most amazing thing that can be imagined. Often I receive without really thinking of the tremendous gift it is, but occasionally when I think of the awesomeness of it I am bowled over - the God who created all that there is, gives Himself to feed me, it is so extraordinary.
Another reason I go to Mass is that I believe it is a good thing to do. It is good to give some time to God. It is good simply to check in. Even just to rest, quieten down and just be. To rest on the seventh day, just as God did after the hard work of creating the world is appropriate. To take a break from the business of the rest of life, to listen and to be with God makes total sense.

John Donne said ‘No man is an island’. In more politically correct times he would have said ‘no person is an island’. As human beings we are social creatures. We all need each other. It is very good to pray to God on my own, Jesus strongly advises this. However, as well as personal prayer we need to pray as a community. In the Catholic Christian tradition we normally do that by coming together to celebrate Mass. So I go to Mass to be with and pray with my fellow Christians. In the communal experience we all can experience the sense of solidarity that comes from being united in mind and heart.

I go to Mass also because Jesus asked me to. At the Last Supper, He said ‘Do this in memory of me’. From the beginning the early Church understood this command to mean that on a Sunday, the day of Resurrection, the community would gather together for the Breaking of Bread. Jesus asked us to do it, so why not?

I started off speaking of a negative experience I had at Mass. I would not want to give the impression that I think a priest’s role is to be an entertainer. I certainly do not believe that. We all like to be entertained, that is why concerts, football matches, the cinema even television are so popular. With all of these we are entertained. However, to be entertained is passive. We do not have to put any of our self into it. We just sit back and are entertained. If that is what we are expecting when we go to Mass we are missing the point. Mass is not about being entertained.

Mass is something that you have to put yourself into. It calls you to give of yourself. You are there not just to receive but to give. You give praise and honour to God. Mass is supposed to be a celebration of the mystery of the death and resurrection of Christ. It is supposed to be joyful and uplifting, for it celebrates the most wonderful thing imaginable, the love that God has for us. If the music, the homily, the various ministers are well prepared and dignified we may be entertained, but that is a happy by-product. I believe all should be well prepared so that an atmosphere conducive to worship and prayer is created.

Mass above all is an encounter between me and God in the company of the worshiping community. Do I always have this at the fore of my mind whenever I go to Mass? No. Often something much more mundane is preoccupying me, but that is beside the point, for in my heart I know I am encountering Christ. Every once in a while this forcefully strikes me and that is a tremendous source of real joy.

For all these reasons, going to Mass makes sense for me.

Fr. David Halpin
Parish is not an easy word to define, and when my fellow classmates and I discussed it we came up with words like Mass, priests, people, church, community and activities. We all felt it was much more than the sum of these words and as we talked we realised that our parish is very active and alive in the 21st century. It is difficult to include all the elements we feel make up our parish in the 21st century so what follows is our attempt to give you a sense of it. You cannot attempt to understand parish without immediately thinking of community. Our parish is a very kind, generous, thoughtful and very hard working community. We look out for one another and get involved in helping others. This spirit of community makes everyone feel welcome in our parish. It can be seen with a friendly smile and ‘hello’ at Sunday Mass, it can be the encouragement of Fr. Enda to become involved in the church activities such as the choir, ministry of the Word and Eucharist, to helping out at the parish centre with the activities such as meals on wheels and the parish council. All age groups are catered for and as a teenager, I do not feel excluded or ‘caught between a rock and a hard place’ i.e. too old for some things or too young for others. I am encouraged and motivated to become involved in my parish and make it my own. The parish centre offers a lot to my age group with hip hop classes, yoga and karate. It is a fabulous recently built centre and it allows for the practical application of parish where it is a place for young people to meet and participate in activities you are interested in. The parish centre offers activities to all age groups, not just teenagers, and it is a great way for people to get out of the house and meet up with others.

Our parish has a great outreach programme where over the years we have been involved in many fundraising events. I feel we will see much more of this in the 21st century as we become even more aware of the myriad problems throughout the world. In the words of Jesus, ‘whatever you do to the least of my brethren, you do to me’ always come to mind whenever I fundraise. Fr. David’s recent ‘Breaking Stones’ fundraising event last May in aid of Fr. Cullen’s work in the Philippines had a huge impact on my friends and I. Fr. David came to our school and showed us a DVD of what he saw in the Philippines. It was heart wrenching to see how awful the lives of children and teenagers were. We decided immediately to get involved. The 24 hour hard labour where we had our half hour slot was a novel way of giving us a glimmer of how the other half lives. I feel this fundraiser was one of the finest examples of our parish working together.

Our parish is obviously centred on the church and Mass is one way we can meet our friends and say a prayer or two. I go to Mass regularly and I enjoy it but not all my classmates would. So my parish in the 21st century will have to look at how to get young people to Mass. It is not the only defining feature of parish but an important one. The church does reach out to us in school as we have our opening year school mass, reconciliation and the graduation Mass in the Holy Rosary church. All of these services go really well and show another aspect of the parish. I know too the primary schools have very close links with the church as well through sacraments such as communion and confirmation. I think my parish in the 21st century is evolving. If we look back over the latter half of the 20th century we can see how much the idea of the church has changed and how the concept of the parish has become alive and I know that this will continue much more in the 21st century. I feel that lay people too will take an even more prominent role in the future as well and as we grow we get to shape our parish too, to meet our needs and be an example of Jesus to the world.

A collective composition by 4.22 Transition Year - St. David’s Secondary School.
My name is Sarah Fitzpatrick and I work for the Niall Mellon Township Trust. The Niall Mellon township trust aims to help the deeply impoverished in South Africa to achieve the basic human right of a decent place to live. Last year, my dad (Sean Fitzpatrick) asked me if I would like to accompany him down to South Africa to work as a volunteer in one of the townships located in Cape Town. Although I was a little apprehensive, I decided to go with him.

The township I went to work in was called Mfuleni. It is located 40km from Cape Town, in the suburb of Blue Downs close to the township of Khayelitsha. The meaning of Mfuleni in Xhosa is “by the river”. Mfuleni is a predominately black township and roughly 25,000 people live in this township.

On November 17th 2006, I flew down to South Africa with my dad and 350 other volunteers who were partaking in the trip. I remember feeling quite anxious as most of the other volunteers had a trade whereas I was a student who had never done a day’s work on a building site in my life! By the end of the week I felt like a changed person. It is quite hard to put into words what a week building houses for families who have nothing can do for a person. I don’t think I have cried as much and laughed as much all in the same week. Not only did I get the opportunity to give back to those who are less fortunate then myself but I also got to meet people from all walks of life.

1350 volunteers will take part in the Niall Mellon Township Trust building blitz this November and are apart of Irelands largest ever volunteer trip overseas. We are going to be working in a township called Freedom Park. Freedom Park is situated in Tafelsig, on the south-eastern edge of Mitchell’s Plain, a township that was created during the Apartheid. Approximately 50,000 people live in this township.

I feel so proud, humble and privileged to be apart of one of the most amazing weeks of my life. It is one memory that will never leave me.

For more information: www.irishtownship.com

Images above are from the townships.

Sarah Fitzpatrick
At this moment in the unfolding story of the universe, we seek to live in a spirit of awareness of the interconnectedness of all God’s creation. In our lives and ministries we seek to care for the earth and advocate respectful use and sharing of the world’s resources.

The Holy Faith Sisters have lived and worked in the surrounding areas for over one hundred years, mostly in the field of education. Luisne Spirituality Centre, which is a new venture under the auspices of the Sisters of the Holy Faith, was begun two years ago, in an effort to put into practice the aspirations of the above Chapter statement. Since its beginnings the Centre has had 650 attendees at courses, coming from the surrounding north county Wicklow and south county Dublin areas.

The word Luisne, as John O’Donoghue points out in his book, Divine Beauty, is an old Irish word for ‘the first blush of light before the dawn breaks’. This seemed a fitting title for a centre which seeks to awaken in all the dawn of a new and responsible awareness of one’s true self, creation, the God of creation, and the deep and sacred interconnectedness which exists between these.

All who come remark on the beauty and tranquility they experience here, and if you have ever been on the grounds, you will be struck by the magnificent land and seascapes which people enjoy. Kilcoole is the setting par excellence for a spirituality centre, especially one that focuses on creation spirituality, that is, a spirituality which embraces the theoretical and practical implications of the worldview presented to us by modern science. This involves a huge paradigm shift, as we now possess knowledge of our universe undreamt of by preceding generations. The present worldview evokes such wonder and awe that it inspires a contemplative response and evokes a need to constantly deepen one’s profound awareness. It also, for instance, radicalises our concepts of heaven (as up there) and hell (as down there) and deepens our understanding of God as omnipresent.

Luisne Spirituality Centre welcomes people of all faiths – and none (in keeping with a more inclusive global view) - and is primarily a centre for those who are searching for meaning, for God, for wholeness/healing, for a way to live life more gently in our natural world, mindful of one’s ecological footprint and one’s responsibility to successive generations of both human and other-than-human life forms.

Programmes offered at Luisne focus on the sacredness of all things, and seek to nourish the body-mind spirit, leading to a sense of oneness within oneself and with all things. Programmes include:

**BODY:**
- T’ai Chi Chih, Dance Meditation, Vegetarian Cooking.

**MIND:**
- Poetry Appreciation, Music Appreciation, Art Appreciation, Greek Classics, Creative Writing.

**SPIRIT:**
CREATION AWARENESS:
Spring Equinox and Harvest Festivals, Cosmology, Astronomy, Dawn Chorus, Organic Gardening, Guided Nature Walk, Earth Day Celebration, Creating a Mosaic

SELF DEVELOPMENT:
Art as Healing, What Motivates You and Others (Enneagram), Abundant Living and Creativity Workshops, Dreams, Lifetimes (genealogy for beginners), Crafts Course, Drawing, Art of Living Well.

Most of our programmes are held in the local girls school, St Brigid’s, at evenings or weekends. It is indeed a bright and beautifully situated school, but obviously the advantages of having ‘a place of our own’ would be huge and would provide a welcoming and peaceful escape from a world where today so many experience noise, busyness and stress!

Establishing a proper facility at our site in Kilcoole is perhaps the only opportunity the Holy Faith Sisters have to make a statement regarding the preservation of the natural environment and its beauty. It is also a way forward to a faith development of the future. Hopefully the centre will come to be a reality and will serve the surrounding areas throughout the next century. Some of us share this dream for Kilcoole, and our hope is that ‘gently taking each other by the hand we [will] step out to traverse our dreamscape’.

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As the breath of light awakens colour, 
May the dawn anoint (y)our eyes with wonder. 
J. O’Donoghue, Divine Beauty, p 249

Sr. Miriam Lucas, Kilcoole
Phone: 01 2874229   Website: www.luisne.ie

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Be our strength in hours of weakness, 
In our wanderings be our Guide, 
Through endeavour, failure, danger, 
Father, be Thou at our side.

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illustration by Nikola Maher,
6th Class, St. Brigid’s N.S.
There is something special about the footprint of one hundred years that draws us towards reflection and remembrance, celebration and hope for the future. And there is another perspective for this centenary celebration in our parish as it takes place when our toe is just in the door of the new millennium celebrated within the Church worldwide as The Great Jubilee Year. In a way therefore we have two reflective benchmarks, one very recent, the beginning of the new millennium and the other more distant, the foundation of our beautiful church here one hundred years ago.

The Justice Group, established just a few short years ago, is in many ways our faith based response to the challenges of the present era and the challenges are many. From the outset let it be said that our belief, our faith in the presence and direction of the Holy Spirit in our work is paramount and our source of hope, optimism and commitment. Our faith calls us to act, to be responsible trusting in God that the work he has begun in us he will bring to its good conclusion.

On a global level the changes that have occurred and the speed with which they have come about in the last century are almost incomprehensible. A map of the world in 1907 looks very different to a map of the world today and the story behind each re-drawn border is one of human struggle and desperate conflict. However, re-drawn borders do not always bring the peace and prosperity that so many people hope and pray for.

Peace is not the absence of war; it is a condition of stability, justice and equity. A condition in which the real potential of people is encouraged and helped to grow, develop and thrive in a culture which stands on a bedrock of respect for the rights of the individual and embraces diversity with its many creative expressions of belief and faith. It is a condition in which governments are true and just servants of the people of their nations.

It is saddening to know that the situation in many parts of our world today is nothing short of catastrophic as men, women and children suffer and struggle in a seemingly endless cycle of war, poverty, disease, social isolation, sex slavery and repression. And all of this in an age unlike any other before it with our capacity to communicate with one another instantaneously, to know what is happening elsewhere as it takes place and to see it, to have the resources necessary to help bring an end to the chief causes of conflict and social dysfunction.

The wealthy countries are far from unscathed. Everywhere it seems there are endemic problems of drug addiction, violent crime, a growing gap between the rich and the poor, disturbing levels of suicide amongst young people, an increasing sense that we have lost contact with a system of values...
that brings out the good and allows us to make seriously considered decisions about the kind of society we want for ourselves and our children.

It was against this backdrop, just a few short years ago that we established in our parish the Justice Group because we know that the world and its people, thank God, have a lot more to offer. It is not a cold, indifferent place driven exclusively by indifference, self interest and greed and will never be allowed to be so as long as ordinary people care for others and are willing to act for others in need with the same determination as they might summon to help someone in their own family whom they love. Here we meet The Greatest Commandment of them all. When a lawyer asked Jesus; “Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, ‘What is written in the law? What do you read there?’ He replied, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself’. ‘You have answered right,’ said Jesus ‘do this and life will be yours.’

When further questioned by the lawyer as to who his neighbour is, Jesus told the story we all know so well of the Good Samaritan. No one ever said being a good Christian was easy, but at least it is perfectly clear what it is we are required to do. Love is not neutral, passive or indifferent. It is active, alive and in motion. Our faith calls us to action and around the world there is plenty of evidence of love in action.

There is no doubt whatsoever but that the will of the people from all around the world was instrumental in the creation of the Millennium Development Goals (see Fig. 1) and in generating the pressure on the powerful G7 and G8 nation leader summits to wipe out the crippling indebtedness of so many poor countries. These impoverished countries were caught up in a spiral of national bankruptcy and affective slavery to the financial empires of wealthy countries, corporations and individuals. The developing world was until very recently spending €10 on debt repayment for every 75c it received in aid.

Our Government is on track for delivering on our commitment to contributing 0.7% GDP on overseas aid by 2012 – three years ahead of schedule. That is a great achievement. The commitment also places Ireland among the most generous donors in the world. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development recently ranked Ireland as the sixth most generous per capita aid donor. We must encourage our government to keep this up, this is what we want, and this is one vital way for us to express our culture and our value system.

The Irish Missionary Union, representing some eighty mission organizations currently has over two thousands missionaries in the field on mission. Their work is crucial and we must let them know that we recognize the good they do. Let us support and encourage them in every way.

And the work of our Non Governmental Organizations of which there are about forty, is integral to the well being of hundreds of thousands of people. Let us back them up in every way possible.
Our very own Justice Group has come a long way in a short time. We have formally established Greystones as a Justice Parish, we have created the Two Coats programme, and we now have nine programmes fully operational in the Philippines, Guatemala, Chile, Nepal, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa and Ireland. Between our Planned Giving Contribution and the Breaking Stones Fundraiser we have contributed almost a quarter of a million Euro to these nine projects, an absolutely incredible achievement and one of which we can all be very, very proud. (See detail summary of our programmes in Fig. 2).

In this parish, when the stones were being broken for the children in the Philippines, we were there, when the art exhibition for the children in Nepal took place, we were there, when we were asked to increase our subscriptions to the planned giving programme so we could get to the position of allocating 50% to those in need of our support, we were there, when help was needed to run campaigns, attend meetings, give of ourselves and our time, we were there. And because we were there the lives of thousands, literally thousands of people have been raised up. We have replaced hopelessness with hope, indifference with care. We have, like the Good Samaritan, stopped to take care of our neighbour. This is also the world we live in. From the perspective of faith, this is evidence of the Holy Spirit at work in the world through us, and with us, ordinary people that are willing to act.

Through our work for Justice and in the cause of true Christian love the kind and generous people of this parish have put their shoulder to the wheel and pushed with all their might to make of this world a better place. Let’s keep this rolling.

Finally, our deepest thanks are expressed to the priests of our parish, Fr. Enda, Fr. Denis and Fr. David who has now moved on to his new parish, for their leadership, presence and support for all that we have achieved and hope to achieve in the future.

These are the things we bring into the new millennium, this is one of the footprints we have made in the passing century; footprints that will keep on walking into the next century, God willing.

---

**Fig. 2  GREYSTONES PARISH LIVES UP TO ITS PROMISE**

**Greystones Justice Parish Project Summaries**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ghana</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funding towards the <strong>purchase of a truck</strong> for single mothers project in Ghana.</td>
<td>Truck purchased and delivered</td>
<td>€5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;With this truck we can significantly increase our production capacity and improve the livelihoods of hundreds of women and children.&quot; Susan Hennessy, Ghana.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kenya</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provision of <strong>funding for education</strong> for girls; providing tuition, accommodation, books, and food.</td>
<td>Education programme underway</td>
<td>€5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;This education programme will change not just the lives of these young girls to-day but of future generations.&quot; Fr. Sean McGovern.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Provided water pump**

For land fertilisation programme for the people of Wenje, Kenya.

"This water pump is life saving as it makes possible the fertilisation of land for growing and even selling some produce. In many respects the pump is the difference between famine and survival." Fr. Sean McGovern.

Pump in position and fully operational

€10,000
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Guatemala Project 1: Kanj’o</strong></th>
<th><strong>Status</strong></th>
<th><strong>Amount</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education programme for street children.</td>
<td>Programme being implemented with between 25 and 50 children.</td>
<td>€5,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Guatemala Project 2: Santiago</strong></th>
<th><strong>Status</strong></th>
<th><strong>Amount</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education programme for street children, support for teaching facilities.</td>
<td>Programme being implemented with the emphasis on education.</td>
<td>€5,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Guatemala</strong> Project 1: Centenary Magazine 2008</th>
<th><strong>Status</strong></th>
<th><strong>Amount</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala Project 1: Kanj’o</td>
<td>Programme being implemented with between 25 and 50 children.</td>
<td>€5,000</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Guatemala</strong> Project 2: Santiago</th>
<th><strong>Status</strong></th>
<th><strong>Amount</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Programme being implemented with the emphasis on education.</td>
<td>€5,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>South Africa</strong></th>
<th><strong>Status</strong></th>
<th><strong>Amount</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Built a small structure in the St Charles Lwanga Centre to provide privacy for counselling people with HIV/AIDS.</td>
<td>This structure is now built and the counselling programmes are underway.</td>
<td>€4,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Chile</strong></th>
<th><strong>Status</strong></th>
<th><strong>Amount</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Three programmes in Alto Hospicio</td>
<td>€20,500 (‘05/’06) This fund provided in 2005-06 continues to be drawn down in the implementation of the three programmes.</td>
<td>€20,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Ireland</strong></th>
<th><strong>Status</strong></th>
<th><strong>Amount</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funding counselling programme for recovering drug addicts with the Peter McVerry Trust.</td>
<td>Part-time councillor funded and programme initiated.</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Greystones Justice Parish Project Summaries</strong></th>
<th><strong>Status</strong></th>
<th><strong>Amount</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ireland Funding counselling programme for recovering drug addicts with the Peter McVerry Trust.</td>
<td>Part-time councillor funded and programme initiated.</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Chile</strong> Three programmes in Alto Hospicio</th>
<th><strong>Status</strong></th>
<th><strong>Amount</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teacher training</td>
<td>€20,500</td>
<td>€20,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comedor – feeding 250 children at weekends</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catechesis programme</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>South Africa</strong></th>
<th><strong>Status</strong></th>
<th><strong>Amount</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>This structure is now built and the counselling programmes are underway.</td>
<td>€4,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pakistan
Education programme for girls post earthquake in Poonch.

“With this crib fund we supported a skills development teaching programme for 50 young girls and have given them an improved chance in life.” Fr. David Halpin.

Philippines
(1) Initial Two Coats funding towards building a new facility for children.

Fundraising
(2) St David’s school children donated €2,000 to Fr. David for Fr. Cullen.

“This vital solidarity and financial support from the people of Greystones allows us to continue with our work for the neglected, abused and marginalised children of the Philippines.” Fr. Shay Cullen.

Nepal
Funded education for 90 children, school books and a teacher in Pokhara, Nepal. This project is the first school in this region.

Nepal Fundraiser: Colour of Summer Art exhibition held in June raised just over €5,000 to fund Nepal education development programme.

“With this money we have been able to start the first ever teaching and schooling programme for children in the remotest regions where resources and facilities are minimal and people are desperately poor. This has brought light where before there appeared to be none.” Fr. Anthony Fernandez, Nepal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Greystones Justice Parish Project Summaries</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nepal</strong></td>
<td>Teacher employed, schools project has begun on three sites for ninety children, boys and girls.</td>
<td>€5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funded education for 90 children, school books and a teacher in Pokhara, Nepal. This project is the first school in this region.</td>
<td>Building of new facility underway.</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Philippines</strong></td>
<td><strong>Project Completed.</strong></td>
<td><strong>€1,800 (2005)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1) Initial Two Coats funding towards building a new facility for children.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nepal Fundraiser:</strong> Colour of Summer Art exhibition held in June raised just over €5,000 to fund Nepal education development programme.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“With this money we have been able to start the first ever teaching and schooling programme for children in the remotest regions where resources and facilities are minimal and people are desperately poor. This has brought light where before there appeared to be none.” Fr. Anthony Fernandez, Nepal.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pakistan</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education programme for girls post earthquake in Poonch.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There is no doubt but that all of this is an amazing achievement and a wonderful testament to the kindness and generosity of so many people in our parish. After our last Planned Giving promotion campaign in the summer of 2006 we increased our contributions from a little over 23% of registered Catholics in Greystones Parish to nearly 30%.

While that is absolutely wonderful it is none-the-less imperative that as many people as possible participate in the planned giving programme. Even a very small amount makes a big difference to our capacity to provide all of the services our parishioners want and need and to allow us continue with the Two Coats programmes that are now up and running.

Our Parish is growing at an exponential rate and that creates new challenges for all of us in this new centenary. As a Justice Parish we have a very particular focus – on not just meeting our needs but reaching out to others whose need is often desperate. We hope to be in a position to generate 50% in excess of our needs for running the parish by 2009 and thus are in a position to contribute half to our Two Coats projects.

Planned Giving Contact:
If you wish to participate in the Planned Giving Programme please make contact with Sadie in the parish office at : 01 2874025

Justice Group Contact:
Finally, if you are interested in the work of the Justice Group, we are currently looking for new members to help us with the great work that is now underway. For information please contact: Paul T. Dillon, Operations Director, Justice Group, 01 2873244; paultdillon@eircom.net

Paul T. Dillon, Operations Director, Justice Group
Parish of Holy Rosary and St. Kilian's Centenary Magazine 2008

Parish of Holy Rosary and St. Kilian Greystones

Financial Accounts for the year ended 30th June 2007

RECEIPTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount (€)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Offering (tax refund plus result of new campaign)</td>
<td>232,952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shrines / Bookstalls</td>
<td>19,788</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>47,759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Interest</td>
<td>4,395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Classic (2006)</td>
<td>5,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilian House</td>
<td>4,227</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Revenue** 314,592

PAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount (€)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Offering to Justice Group</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries &amp; Honoraria</td>
<td>35,492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>11,958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairs</td>
<td>25,987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parish House</td>
<td>26,275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heat &amp; Light</td>
<td>9,524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools</td>
<td>8,567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilian House</td>
<td>7,426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altar Supplies</td>
<td>4,676</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missalettes, Flowers, Church Cleaning</td>
<td>2,946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone, Post, Stationery</td>
<td>6,402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Interest / Charges</td>
<td>1,712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pastoral</td>
<td>15,748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>5,776</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Payments** 222,927

Surplus (€47,000 of this are once off donations) 91,665

Parish Groups

- Altar Services
- Baptism Preparation Team
- Bethany Bereavement Support Group
- Caírdé
- Church Care
- Church Counters and Collectors
- Communication for the Housebound
- Communications Group
- Eucharist Ministers
- Family Mass Group
- Finance Group
- Folk Group
- Greystones & District Active Retirement Association
- Greystones Summer Project
- Holy Rosary Choir
- Information Sheet
- Irish Choir
- Justice Group
- Kilian House Family Centre
- Legion of Mary
- Liturgy Group
- Parish Welcome Group
- Pioneers
- Prayer Group
- Rainbows
- R.C.I.A
- Readers
- Redford Cemetery Action Committee
- Solstice Gospel Choir
- Spiritual Reading Group
- St. Joseph's Young Priests' Society
- St. Kilian’s Choir
- St. Vincent de Paul
- Sunday Club
- Youth Ways
- 1st Wicklow 2nd Dublin Scout Group

All groups can be contacted through the parish office at 01-2874025.
During a retreat in a small country village a missionary priest was giving a heated sermon on Heaven and Hell. As he shouted “everyone in this parish is going to die”, a voice was heard laughing from the back of the church. The missionary was getting angry and shouted out once more “everyone in this parish is going to die!” The sound of laughing became hysterical and the missionary shouted down “What’s so funny?” and the man, still laughing, said “I’m not from this parish!”

A little boy was asked in religion class to draw a picture of Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus on their flight into Egypt. He produced a picture of an airplane with four figures.

“What do these figures represent?” asked his teacher.

“Well, those three are Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus” he replied.

“And who is the forth?”

“That is Pontius the Pilot.”

A group of children were sitting in rows of chairs in the kitchen.

We are playing churches one of them explained when mum came in. In that case, mum remarked the children in the second row have no business to be whispering and giggling. “Oh, that’s OK mum, they’re the choir.”

Who is Jesus’ favourite athlete?
Adam – because he came first in the human race.
We all know Eve came second and Lazarus came fourth - but who came third?

A modern kid was saying his prayers before going to bed. His mother heard him finish the Lord’s prayer with the words: “And deliver us from email. Amen.”

Dear Jesus,
You should be proud of me so far today. I have not gossiped or lost my temper or stolen anything; I have not been greedy, nasty or selfish. Now, in a few minutes I am going to get out of bed and after that I am probably going to need all the help you can send me. Amen.

Sudoku Puzzle
Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row, column and 3 x 3 must contain one of each digit. Source: www.websudoku.com

One Liners....
What’s the best job for a spider? A website builder.
What do you do if you see a spaceman? You park in it man!
What holds up the sun? Sun beams.
I wish somebody would cross a chicken with an octopus. That way on Sundays everyone could have a leg.
It is amazing to think that the Communications Group is in existence for almost five years now. The group was formed by Fr. David Halpin as part of the Power to Change Programme that was held in the parish at the time.

When we came together initially, we wrote a mission statement which still applies today:

“*Our aim is to spread and exchange information throughout our parish community so that everyone may become involved and feel part of a caring parish family.*”

During those five years, we have looked at ways and means of facilitating the coming together of parishioners and the sharing of parish information and news with the wider community.

One of our great pleasures was hosting events with the children and parents at the magazine prize giving evenings. Seeing the delight on the faces of the children and the justly proud parents and family members, made all our efforts worthwhile. We have also tried to reach out to everyone through our parish magazine, parish website (www.greystonesparish.com), social evening and fund raising ventures throughout the years. We also enjoyed these parish get-togethers and thank you sincerely for your support.

Over the years many people and businesses have supported us in different ways in our efforts to produce the parish magazine. Special acknowledgement to the students and teachers in the parish schools, who have always risen to the occasion, by producing wonderful artwork and articles. We are deeply indebted to everyone who has contributed items and the individuals who helped to produce and distribute the magazine. They have done this with so much enthusiasm, grace and willingness, it was very gratifying. We especially thank people for photos, memorabilia, articles, time and effort in producing this special 2008 Centenary Edition.

We appreciate your feedback and encouragement in relation to our endeavours and we look forward to your ideas, suggestions and participation in future projects. Enjoy the read and of course the celebrations during Our Parish Centenary Year!

As always, we can be contacted through the parish office or at the following email address: communicationsgroup@greystonesparish.com

---

**And Finally...**

Sophie Burke of St. Laurence’s N.S. overall prize winner 2007.

---

**The Communications Group:**
Frank Coleman, Maureen Cullen, Chris Harding, Mary Huggard, Nuala Lowen, Mary McNulty and Elaine O’Brien.

Special thanks to, John Darcy of JD Design, Delgany, (www.jddesign.ie) for his talent in design, to Shay & Dee McGann of Logos Press, Greystones for their printing skills and to Pino Carafa, Greystones, for his photography included in the Centenary photo collage (on the front cover) which was designed by John Darcy.

---

**Over the years the following sponsors have supported this publication, we ask your support of them in return:**
Barry’s Dry Cleaners • Brereton Carpets
Carlton Millrace Hotel • Druid’s Glen Golf Resort
Eve Home Accessories • Glen of the Downs Golf Club
gohop.ie • Heatons • Helen’s Florist
Hungry Monk Restaurant • Imagine Photography
Megazyme International Ltd • Permanent TSB
Púróga Childcare • Storm Recruitment • Super Valu
Village Bookshop • Vino Pasta Restaurant

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**Gifts/ donations were made by:**
Monica Peters • Nora Wickham Optician • O’Brien’s Script Restaurant • Superquinn • The Happy Pear

Also, thank you to the many individuals who made personal donations throughout the years. Our deep appreciation and thank you to one and all.