

**PARISH BULLETIN 2011/2
OF THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING COMMUNITY**

EUROPEAN PARISH

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Ut unum sint.....
That they may be one...

SCHEDULE OF MASSES:

Saturday: 19.00 hours at St. Alphonse, 32 rue des Capucins
Sunday: 11.0 a.m at Ss. Peter and Paul, Hollerich

CONFESSIONS:

Every Saturday evening from 17.30 to 18.00 in St. Alphonse. Also any time at 34 rue des Capucins, by appointment with me (tel. 47 00 39)

BAPTISMS:

On Saturdays at 11.30 a.m. In St. Alphonse (also, by way of exception, on Sunday afternoons at 15.00 either in St. Alphonse or in Hollerich). There are quite a number of baptisms in our predominately young community. As a result it is often difficult to arrange separate pre-baptism preparation meetings with the parents. For the past year or two we have begun to take groups of parents together to prepare for the baptism. These sessions, conducted by Mrs. Cheryl Kouba and myself, last about an hour or so and are obligatory for parents (and if possible at least one godparent) of the children to be baptized. It is vital that we have good advance notice (several months) of upcoming baptisms. It will not always be possible to have the baptism on the day that would suit you best, so do let us know well in advance. Don't make your arrangements first (about visitors coming from overseas etc.) and present us with a date that may turn out to be impossible. Please check first with me (Fr. Breslin).

In view of the frequently loose connection of parents/godparents with the church community, we will soon have to move towards a more lengthy and intensive period of preparation for baptism.

MARRIAGES

If you are planning to get married, please contact me well in advance (6 months or so). There are documents to be got I.e a **recent** baptismal and confirmation certificate and a **letter of freedom to marry**. These can be obtained from the parish

where you were baptized. By 'recent' is meant a fresh document which the parish priest of the church in which you were baptized will draw up, date and sign. It is important, when asking for these certificates, that you mention that it is 'with a view to getting married'. The parish priest will then know exactly what is needed.

When you have these documents we proceed to filling out the matrimonial dossier. If you are getting married outside Luxembourg, the dossier will have to be sent to the diocese in which the marriage takes place. Many dioceses insist on receiving these documents three months in advance of the wedding ceremony.

1. LITURGICAL CALENDAR FOR THE SUMMER MONTHS

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|-----------------|
| July 3 rd : | 14 th Sunday of the Year (A) | Matt. 11, 25-30 |
| July 10 th : | 15 th Sunday of the Year (A) | Matt. 13, 1-9 |
| July 17 th : | 16 th Sunday of the Year (A) | Matt. 13, 24-30 |
| July 24 th : | 17 th Sunday of the Year (A) | Matt. 13, 44-52 |
| July 31 st : | 18 th Sunday of the Year (A) | Matt. 14, 13-21 |
| August 7 th : | 19 th Sunday of Year (A) | Matt. 14, 23-33 |
| August 14 th : | 20 th Sunday of Year A) | Matt. 15, 21-28 |

August 15th Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Luke 1, 39-56

August 21st 21st Sunday of the Year (A) Matt. 16, 13-20

August 28th 22nd Sunday of the Year (A) Matt. 16, 21-27

September 4th 23rd Sunday of the Year (A), Matt. 18, 15-20

September 11th : 24th Sunday of the Year (A) Matt. 18, 21-35

September 18th: 25th Sunday of the Year (A) Matt. 20, 1-16a

September 25th 26th Sunday of the Year (A) Matt. 21, 28-32

NB THERE WILL BE NO SATURDAY EVENING MASS DURING THE PERIOD FROM JULY 23rd TO AUGUST 27th. THE SATURDAY EVENING MASS WILL BEGIN AGAIN ON SEPTEMBER 3rd.

2 SUMMER ARRANGEMENTS

I will be leaving for a holiday in Ireland (preceded by a few days in Germany) in the week of July 18th. As usual, **Fr. Brendan McConvery** will be coming to take my place from Sunday 24th July to the last Sunday of August. Fr. Brendan, who has been coming for many years, is a Redemptorist, a native of Belfast and a well-known Scripture scholar and Dean of the Faculty of Theology in Maynooth College, Ireland. We were colleagues for many years. I know you will make him feel at home.

3. CONFIRMATION

This year we had 22 young people for Confirmation and the ceremony was held on Sunday May 8th, 2011 in Ss. Peter and Paul, Hollerich. I am extremely grateful to

Archbishop Fernand Franck for his gracious presence at our confirmation ceremonies over the years. This year will have been his last, as we are expecting the appointment of a new Archbishop in the next while. My thanks also to the young people who took the preparation seriously, and to all those who worked hard at the preparation of the candidates over many months, Steve McCarthy, Cheryl Kouba, Marthese Lufi, Monique Oswald and Peter Calnan. The young people confirmed in our parish this year were: Caruana Samira, Emmelina Cecchini, Lucy Clarke, Shannon Conway, Cillian Costigan, Davan Drangsfeldt, Rhys Dunn, Nicholas Evans, Calum Heffernan, Conor Hollywood, Orla Hollywood, Andrew Izzo Clarke, Nadia Lup, Barry McCarthy, Andrew Murphy, Daniel Murphy, Ashling O'Biren, Liam O'Sullivan, Sara Sacco, Bridget Schilling, Siobhán Wall and Gabriel Zelman.

Our thanks also to the families who hosted evenings at their house, the Zasmans, the McCarthys and the Costigans; also to Helen Clark who, as usual, worked with the young people to prepare the music for the Confirmation Day, to John Sweeney and Colin Buckland and our organist Clare Donegan. Also to Sandra Vella who designed the booklet cover and to Marthese Lufi who typed and printed the booklet.

4. THE SPIRITUAL EXERCISES OF ST. IGNATIUS

Steve McCarthy writes: “The Spiritual Exercises consist in a programme of prayer and meditation with the aim of heightening and deepening our relationship with Christ and joy in our creator God, who is in love with each one of us. Although the programme is rather formally set out, the experience is always unique and personal, and frequently becomes a life-changing event. The Exercises are particularly appropriate when our lives seem to have become rather meaningless and empty, or when we feel ourselves at a turning point.

Traditionally they are 'given' over the course of a thirty day silent retreat. But they can also be followed as a scheme of regular prayer in 'daily life' over a, typically, eight month period.

During the last few years I have directed several people from the anglophone community in Luxembourg in the Exercises in 'daily life'. I would be happy to do so again during the coming school year, starting in the autumn, for anyone who is interested and prepared to 'take the risk', and to make the necessary commitment of time.

If you want to find out more, or think you might be interested, please contact me either on 621 31 91 10 or by email: sjmc@pt.lu. All contact and discussion is confidential”. Steve McCarthy.

5. FIRST COMMUNION 2011

On Pentecost Sunday, June 12th, 27 children of our community made their First Holy Communion. The ceremony was beautiful and great credit is due to Marina Calnan who, under very difficult circumstances, undertook the preparation of the children

every Sunday after Mass. Many, many thanks, Marina. The children were Amelie Boatwright, Alexandra Gordon, William Gordon, Ana Maria Rubaek, Daniel Dooley, Sofia Foti, Corey McMahon, William Shaw, Lucy Burrows-Pym, Elisa Martini, Nolwenn Ghislain, Zachary O'Neill, Conor Kinsella, Darwin Nolan, Rocco Cecchini, Cara O'Sullivan, Ryan Johansson, Niamh de Burca, Federico Galizia, Elliot Baxeaminis, Mara Rushe-Trindade, Kiran Jayawardana, Valentina Pira-Classmann, Gabriel Dunne, Senan Costigan, Eric Mosquera and Emanuele Maggazzino.

Many thanks to Nicolas Boatwright, treasurer, Laura Gentile who organized the flowers and Adrienne Dunne who bought the cremant. Serving the refreshments were Julie Whelan, Liam Egan, anne Fitzpatrick and Marcella McCarthy. Our musicians, Colin, Helen, John and Clare did a wonderful job in bringing joy and sweetness to the First communion ceremony. Thanks to one and all.

'OPEN-AIR' MASS AND PICNIC' JUNE 19th

Unfortunately the weather didn't allow us to have the mass in the open. However, thanks to Helen Clark, we had an alternative venue, the creche at Moutfort. With a huge investment of organisation from Robert Foley (ably seconded by Nicholas Boatwright and Cheryl Kouba among others), we managed to get those who turned up at the Chapel in Trintange back to Moutfort and had mass indoors, followed by a splendid picnic. We had upwards of 100 parishioners who seem to enjoy themselves immensely. Thanks again to Robert Foley who did a great deal of preparatory work, organised lifts for those who had no cars and, in general, saw that everything worked out perfectly. Thanks also to those who provided the excellent food and to Helen and John for the music. Maybe next year we'll think of holding the open-air mass in May, or at some time when there is a longer spell of really good weather.

And so we bring this brief bulletin to an end. It only remains for me to wish all our parishioners a very happy and enjoyable summer vacation. Sadly, we're saying goodbye to a few couples who are leaving Luxembourg to take up work elsewhere: Daniele and Imma Sacco, Marco and Nadia Pomicino and, I'm sure, others of whom I'm not aware. To all of them we wish every happiness in the next phase of their lives.

God bless you all.

Eamonn Breslin, parish priest

