

# **PARISH BULLETIN 2007/1**

## **OF THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING COMMUNITY**

### **EUROPEAN PARISH**

34 des Capucins

L-2011 Luxembourg

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Ut unum sint.....

That they may be one.....

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### **SCHEDULE OF MASSES**

Saturday: 19.00 at St. Alphonse, 32 rue des Capucins

Sunday: 11.00 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.

### **BAPTISMS**

On Saturdays at 12.15 and on Sundays at 15.00 in St. Alphonse. Saturdays and Sundays at 15.30 in Hollerich. It is essential to contact me well in advance about baptisms, so that (a) we can meet and prepare for the baptism (b) check out the availability of the church on the day you would like to have the baptism.. Please remember that St. Alphonse or Hollerich (or, for that matter, I myself) may not be available on the day that suits you best.

### **WEDDINGS**

If you are thinking of getting married, please contact me well in advance (6 months or so). There are documents to be got and a matrimonial dossier to be drawn up. If you are getting married outside Luxembourg, the dossier will have to be sent to the diocese in which you are getting married. Many dioceses insist on having the documentation sent to them three months or so in advance of the wedding.

- Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> First Sunday of Lent (C) Lk. 4,1-13**
- March 4<sup>th</sup> Second Sunday of Lent (C) Lk. 9,28b-36**  
**There will be no Mass in Hollerich this Sunday. Instead there will be a community mass for the entire European parish in St. Alphonse at 11.15 a.m.**
- March 11<sup>th</sup> Third Sunday of Lent (C) Lk, 13,1-9**
- March 17<sup>th</sup> St Patrick's Day.** The Saturday evening mass at 19.00 hrs in St. Alphonse will be the mass of St Patrick and will be largely in Irish. Celebrant: Fr. Pat O Connor
- March 18<sup>th</sup> Fourth Sunday of Lent (C) Lk 15, 1-3. 11-32**  
 Celebrant: Fr. Pat O Connor
- March 25<sup>th</sup> Fifth Sunday of Lent (C) John 8,1-11**  
 This will be a ' children's mass', with the Gospel of the previous Sunday (Prodigal Son)

## **HOLY WEEK**

- April 1<sup>st</sup> Palm Sunday,** with reading of the Passion acc. to Luke.  
 The Service begins with the blessing of the palms and procession.  
**There will be no Saturday evening Mass in St. Alphonse on March 31st.**
- April 5<sup>th</sup> Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's supper in Hollerich at 20.00 hrs.**
- April 6<sup>th</sup>: Good Friday: Reading of the Passion, Prayers and Holy Communion in Hollerich at 15.30**
- April 7<sup>th</sup> Easter Vigil Ceremonies in Hollerich at 21.30**
- April 8<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday Mass in Hollerich at 11.00**
- April 15<sup>th</sup> Second Sunday of Easter John 20, 19-31.**  
 Celebrant: Fr. Alexis Pauly

## **2. OUR LENTEN PROJECT : the building of a training centre for young handicapped people in Uganda**

The Parish council of the European Parish, on the suggestion of the missionary committee, has chosen this Lent a project of the de Montfort Fathers which consists in the building of a training centre for young handicapped people. Fr. Jean van Osch, parish priest of the German and Dutch/Flemish community, is

himself a de Montfort father and what follows is his presentation of the project

(with apologies for my limping translation E.B)

The de Montfort Fathers are not, like the White Fathers for example, a missionary order in the strict sense, i.e. a religious congregation which trains missionaries to send them to the Third World. However, after the death of their founder, Louis-Marie Grignon de Montfort, on April 28<sup>th</sup> 1716, the de Montfort fathers became very quickly a missionary congregation - to such an extent that they're known in Germany as the de Montfort Missionaries.

A brief historical note: The French Revolution and the winds of anticlericalism which blew across France in the 19<sup>th</sup> century seem, in the light of history, to have been providential. The de Montfort Fathers were banished or had to go into exile and this extended the influence, both geographical and spiritual, of this French order. Men who had up to now preached retreats in the parishes of Brittany went to care for souls throughout the world. The first phase was in Holland, England and Ireland, then in Canada and the United States, and later in Latin America (Haiti, Peru, Colombia and Brazil), in Asia (Indonesia, India and the Philippines) and Africa (Malawi, Congo, Madagascar, Mozambique, Uganda, Kenya).

### **A missionary spirit**

The original spirituality of the de Montfort Fathers prepared them for this evolution. From their founder they inherited a Marian spirituality which goes far beyond a simple devotion to Mary, but rather sees in her, as Mother of God, a focus of divine life and universal love. *'It is through Mary that Christ came into the world - and it is through her too that he wishes to build his Kingdom'*. De Montfort saw in Christ - the love of God in human form - a 'logic', a Wisdom which consists especially in not backing off from sacrifice (the Cross) and in committing oneself above all to the weak and the poor. That's why he also founded a community of women whose special apostolate was care for the sick and the education of the most abandoned. The official Vatican name of the de Montfort Fathers is 'societas Mariae Monfortana' i.e. the de Montfort congregation of Mary.

### **Why Uganda?**

We (the Montfort Fathers) went to Uganda, among other reasons, because we found there a suitable centre for the formation of native priests and brothers. But the civil war that followed on the fall of the dictator Idi Amin Dada in 1979

was to be very disruptive for the houses of our order. Our house in Mbarara

was caught between rival fronts in the war, our student group was completely split up and we're trying at this moment to re-establish them in Kenya where there is a formation centre for candidates from a number of different countries where we work. Nonetheless we are firmly established in Uganda. In November 2005, the bishop of Mbarara asked us, as a matter of urgency, to set up a centre where handicapped children and young people could learn a trade. We responded by opening the Wisdom Artisan Centre for training young physically handicapped boys and girls. Two de Montfort Fathers, one African, the other Irish, have been entrusted with the building and the running of the centre. Fr. Ednund Jäcke, provincial and missionary procurator of the Order, has the following to say about the **Wisdom Artisan Centre**

‘The centre is situated at Mbarara, in the south-west of Uganda, where poor farmers live and work mainly to support themselves and their families. Most families have six children or more, but in many cases they're not able to afford to send them to school. Schooling is in principle obligatory in Uganda for children up to 15 years of age. It is even, for some years past, free at primary level. In spite of this the cost of school clothing and books etc. is beyond the means of many families. The very poorest cannot often send their children to school at all, as they need them for the daily work or to mind the younger ones. The handicapped are the most disadvantaged. They're on the margins of society and are often rejected by their families. They haven't much to hope for in life.

That why my confreres have founded the formation centre (‘ Wisdom Artisan Centre’) with the help of friends and benefactors. Some have put a building at our disposal, others have given us computers, others bring sewing machines, wheelchairs, cobbler's tools or a piece of ground for growing vegetables. There are at present 15 physically handicapped girls and boys who are learning some manual skill or other with us: sewing, knitting, shoemaking, gardening and the basics of computer science. Of the eight teachers, four are voluntary.

Our current buildings can accommodate 15 young people in training. My confreres would like to welcome some more. In order to do so, we need a larger building in which we could install new workshops and new training rooms.’

R.P. Edmund Jäcke, SMM

The de Montfort Fathers are asking for your help for this new building. They need about 22,000 euros. We're counting on your generosity to help us with this project and we'll keep you informed about how it's going.

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To make your contribution to the parish Lenten project, you can use the

enclosed envelope or send a virement to one of the two accounts of the European Parish, mentioning Careme de Partage 2007/Uganda

CCPL IBAN LU 67 1111 0283 7652 0000

BCEE IBAN LU 16 0019 1000 4800 4000

Many thanks. The Missionary Committee and the Parish Council

### **3. TWO WEEKS OF GUIDED PRAYER DURING LENT**

An Introduction to the Way of St. Ignatius

- \* Have you felt that you need to pray more than you are doing?
- \* Have you felt that you would love to be closer to God?
- \* Have you felt that you never seem to have enough time to pray?
- \* Have you felt that it would be helpful to share your prayer with someone else?

This time of Guided Prayer might be what you need. Key elements in it are

- \* Commit to daily private prayer over a two week period
- \* Come to an initial, middle and final meeting with other participants - see below for dates
- \* Individual prayer guidance

The two Weeks of Guided Prayer is offered as a way of encouraging prayer during Lent. This will be led by Joan Lyon and Steve McCarthy who will act as your guide or companion during this period.

Steve, who is a member of our community has trained as a Spiritual Director in Ignatian Spirituality. Joan is the Assistant Priest in the Anglican Church of Luxembourg and has spent some time following the Ignatian way of prayer. This is a structured approach and focuses on the imaginative use of Bible passages.

Our role as Guide or Companion is to offer support and encouragement during the two weeks (and afterwards if you wish), to help you to come closer to God and to recognise the action of the Holy Spirit in your prayer.

One-to-one meetings can be very helpful and we would like to encourage you to take this step. We will simply ask you to speak about what went on when you

were praying. You can say as little or as much as you like, knowing that what

you say is held in confidence.

We will begin the Two Weeks with an initial meeting on **Thursday 15 March** with a gathering of all participants for introductions and to talk about the guidance which we will offer during the two weeks. Participants will be encouraged to use given Bible passages as a focus for their prayer time.

The middle meeting, on Friday 23 March, offers an opportunity to talk about your experience so far and to encourage you to persevere. Prayer does not always come easily and people will have very different experiences. This meeting will hopefully help to keep you on track.

On Thursday 29 March everyone meets again to reflect upon and celebrate the experience. The meetings will be held at 8.00 p.m. in  
The Vicarage,  
89 rue de Muhlenbach  
L-2168 Luxembourg.

For further information please contact either  
Rev. Joan Lyon 43 95 93 or email: [joan.lyon@anglican.lu](mailto:joan.lyon@anglican.lu) Or Steve McCarthy  
at 35 97 68 or email: [sjmc@pt.lu](mailto:sjmc@pt.lu)

#### **4. IRELAND STAND INTERNATIONAL BAZAAR**

### **TABLE QUIZ**

Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2007

7.30 p.m. (Sharp)

Doors open at 7. p.m.

**CENTRE CULTUREL, HOLLERICH  
(Rue Emile Lavandier)**

Table reservations: Annette Power Tel. 33 98 84  
Gerri Egan Tel. 43 26 36  
Olive Deasy Tel. 33 29 85

**ADMISSION: 12 EURO (INCLUDES 2 DRINKS)**

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The Quiz is played by teams of six. Why not organise a team and reserve a table! In this way you will avoid disappointment and facilitate the smooth

running of the Quiz. Prizes galore!

**5. On a lighter (hopefully not too irreverent ) note**

**IF GOD HAD A VOICE MAIL**

‘ Thank you for calling Heaven.  
For English, press 1  
For Spanish, press 2,  
For any other language, press 3.

Please select one of the following options:

Press 1 for request.  
Press 2 for thanksgiving.  
Press 3 for complaints.  
Press 4 for all others.

‘ I am sorry, all our angels and saints are busy helping other sinners right now. However your prayer is important to us and we will answer it in the order it was received. Please stay on the line.

If you would like to speak to:

God, press 1  
Jesus, press 2  
Holy Spirit, press 3

To find a loved one that has been assigned to Heaven, press 5 then enter his/her Spiritual Security number, followed by the \$ sign.

If you receive a negative response, please hang up and dial area code 666.

For reservations to Heaven, please enter JOHN followed by the numbers 3:16

For answers to nagging questions about dinosaurs, life on other planets, etc. please wait until you arrive in Heaven for the specifics.

Our computers show that you have already been prayed for today. Please hang up and call again tomorrow’

If you are calling after hours and need emergency assistance, please contact your local pastor.

Thank you and have a Heavenly day.'

## **6. LENTEN PENITENTIAL RITE**

There will be a rite of reconciliation in Ss. Peter and Paul's, Hollerich, on Tuesday evening March 13<sup>th</sup> at 8.00 p.m. It seems to be the only date available to us. The service will take the form of readings and prayers and absolution. There will be opportunity for a brief private confession for those who wish to avail of it. All are welcome.

And so may I wish all our parishioners - whether you are staying for Easter or going on holiday - a joyful celebration of the Passion, death and resurrection of the Lord.

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Eamonn Breslin, parish priest