New Year 2004

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Kilbrittain Parish Bulletin

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Our Hopes

The beginning of the year is a time in which look forward in hope. The year gone will have been good for some and not for others. The good memory that we will all share is of the good weather we enjoyed throughout the year.

Kilbrittain has been in deep sadness so early this year and at the end of last year with so many particularly sad deaths. People have been very generous in their sympathy their help and their prayers. We must not forget but must continue to be conscious of those who have been bereaved not just now but over time. It is often said that time is a great healer but friendship and solidarity over that time is also very important. We all have memories of people who have been good to us. It is difficult to find hope in the midst of sadness yet the great symbol of hope for Christians is the symbol of the cross. From death to Life.

Our wish must be that the New Year will bring real peace, to our parish, to our own country, and to others in the world who do not know peace. Peace is the message of Christmas, yet that message is not just for a day or for a season but for all time. Our prayers and our lives are a contribution to that peace.

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St. Joseph's Young Priests Society

The Society held their A. G. M. in the Community Hall on Wednesday January, 28th The Mass was celebrated by Fr. Cian O Sullivan who was ordained last June in Bandon. He is now Curate in Mahon. The money collected over the year from all our members amounted to \in 2450.00. This has been sent to head quarters and there it is used to help educate our men to become priests. This is a very generous sum from a parish the size of Kilbrittain. Thank you for your support and we will be calling to you again during 2004.

Catechetical Sunday

Sunday 8th February is a day to remind us of how we have come to learn about our Faith, to celebrate that faith and to strengthen our commitment to the Faith.

"Faith Alive" is the theme for that day.

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Spring Stations

Friday 19th March: Philip and Leone Ward, Farnagark. 8.00 p.m.
Saturday 20th March: Michael and Marian Twohig Ballinakeen 11.00 a.m.
Saturday 27th March: Noreen Murphy Knockenroe 11.00 a.m.
Tuesday 30th March: Liam and Helan Ryan Burren 11.00 a.m.
Thursday 1st April: Mary O'Sullivan Kilshinihan 11.00 a.m.
Friday 2nd April: Denis and Ann Aherne, Harbour View. 8.00 p.m.
Wednesday 14th April: Bernie O'Regan, Ratharoon. 8.00 p.m.

Friday 30th April: Pat and Mai Murphy, Glendubh West. 8.00 p.m.

We had fifteen stations in all last Autumn. The tradition remains very strong in Kilbrittain. I would again encourage moderation in the hospitality..

Tom Riordan P.P.

Income and Expenditure 2003

Income €50,692.26 **Expenditure** €35,366.19 **Credit Balance** over the year €15,326.07

A sum of \in 56,665 held in a Term Deposit account and a strong credit balance last year means that we have just over \in 120.000 in total available for the work being done on the church. We will need to collect probably \in 55,000 in the coming special appeal in order to cover this work and remain in credit.

During the month of February collectors will be going around from house to house inviting you to contribute to the work being done on the church. They will deliver an envelope for the contribution and a letter explaining the need and an explanatory note about the possibility of getting tax benefit.

Dates for the Diary

Lent will begin on Ash Wednesday the 25th of February.

Confirmation Tuesday 2nd March

Celebration of First Penance; Tuesday 9th March

Parish Retreat; 23rd to 25th March

Good Friday, 9th April, Easter Sunday, 11th April

First Holy Communion Saturday 8th May

Prayer for Lent

A booklet **"Walk with Me"** prayers for each day of Lent, is on sale here at the church for €1. It is very suitable for family prayer or for those who want to share a moment of prayer each day during Lent.