

St. Gabriel's Parish Newsletter

1956 – 2006

15th April 2007

Special Souvenir Edition

Welcome

Fáilte

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(Pronounced: SWÁ-GA-THAM)

As we Celebrate Our Church's Refurbishment
& the Rededication of the Altar

we welcome

ARCHBISHOP DIARMUID MARTIN

And all our Visitors to our Celebrations Today

Celebrating Our Local Heroes

In honour of our celebrations this week we decided to bring you details of the many Parishioners who are attaining great achievements in their particular fields. We received a huge response to our queries, more than would fit on a page, and we are sure there are many more that we did not hear about. To anyone who has been left out, we sincerely apologise. If you feel that you or some member of your family should be included, please let us have your story and we will publish it at a later date.

Happy Birthday and Many Happy Returns to **Moya O'Brien**, Seafield Road, who celebrated her 90th Birthday on Thursday last. We send her and her family our very best wishes. ***Congratulations Moya!***

New World Champion: Ellen Keane, Dollymount Grove, arrived home last Monday after swimming for Ireland in the World Junior Amputee Championships in South Africa. Ellen was entered in five competitions and achieved gold in every one of them. Ellen, who celebrated her 12th birthday while in South Africa, was competing in the under-14 category. Her two team mates also won gold in all of their competitions. Paul Byrne from Tallaght won six gold medals in the under-16 category and Ciaran O'Hara from Kerry won four in the under-14 section. ***Congratulations to Ellen, Paul & Ciaran!***

Karina Hayes, one of the members of the Family Mass Children's Choir, recently scored a double success. Having won the under-10 Vocal Competition at the Annual Sutton Park Music and Drama Feis, she then went on to win the overall prize of "Young Musician of the Year" at the closing Prize Winners Concert, where she was competing with 22 other prize winners up to under 21 years of age. ***Congratulation Karina!***

Orla Doogue, Dollymount Rise, has won a Travel Bursary on graduate.com and will represent the Holy Faith when she joins other representatives from Ireland and Europe and addresses the European Parliament later this month.

Well done, Orla, and good luck on your travels!

Clontarf Rugby Team are currently in 3rd place in the 1st Division of the All-Ireland League and hopefully will reach the semi-finals after playing Dungannon. One of their players, our Parishioner **Cian Healy**, was a member of the Ireland under-20's who recently won the Grand Slam. Another member of that team was **Paul O'Donohoe**, formerly of Seafield Grove. And of course we can't mention rugby without including **Brian O'Driscoll**, famous son of Doctors Frank and Geraldine from Park Lawn, who has captained Leinster, Ireland, and in 2005 the British & Irish Lions. But he didn't get his talent off the grass, as they say. Dad Frank toured with Ireland in Argentina and was Captain of Clontarf Rugby Club in 1976. ***Congrats. Lads!***

The girls are also achieving All-Ireland glory. Holy Faith Secondary School Under-19 Basketball Team has won All-Ireland titles this year in both League and Cup competitions. ***Well Done, Girls!***

Imagine you are a small boy in Africa. Everyday you wake up at 4 am and walk 15 km to school. All you have for food before you leave is a glass of milk. But somehow you understand that education will save your life. Then one day an Irish woman - Elaine Bannon: www.lightofmasai.com - shows up and says she will find someone in Ireland to build a school in your village.

That 'someone' was **Belgrove Senior Boys School**. Together with a donation from ElectricAid, the boys and their teachers have changed the lives of over 200 children in Kenya forever. The school in Kenya is well underway and will be completed this summer. The school will be named 'BELGROVE'

Well done, Everyone involved!