



RONCALLI RANT 9

A parishioner said to me last week, 'when is the Roncalli rant going to be about Roncalli'? So here goes!

I look to Neil Young for music. My long infatuation with Katharine Hepburn is well known. My favourite American Presidents are Reagan, Clinton and Obama, in that order. I love reading, usually Dickens, Hardy or Bronte. However when it comes to popes, whilst I have a great love for John Paul II, considerable regard for Gregory the Great and much gratitude for our present pontiff, Francis, there is something about John XXIII. Yes for me there is something special about 'oul Roncalli'. Yes Angelo Roncalli, Pope John XXIII, now Pope St John XXIII is my ultimate papal hero.

On a human level I am drawn to his 'unpredictable' or 'unforeseen' election and again what might be termed his 'unsuitability'. Of course looked upon with the eyes of faith these so called 'criteria' disappear very fast. The truth is God had a plan. God's will is made manifest in the dance of the Holy Spirit. For me a profound example of this is found in the Second Vatican Council which this great pope called. I believe that the Holy Spirit was herself present in very real tangible ways in the calling of the Council in the first place, in it's actual workings and in it's ensuing decrees.

Now at this point I am going to make a bold statement. I believe that the Church is in the mess it is in today largely due to it's failure to implement the work of Vatican II. The reaction in so many places to the huge effort and far reaching statements of the Council was 'business as usual' or 'no change here'. In fact I think we were particularly guilty of that ostrich mentality here in Ireland. In very real terms we refused to implement the reforms of Vatican II.

Why is this so? Whilst I believe one of the greatest blocks to any reform is us priests, I have learned over the past few years that clericalism is a sickness not confined to priests. Perhaps people generally resist change. Sometimes we just get cosy and comfortable and before we know it we are complacent. Whatever way we put it I think we have, in the main, resisted the fire of reform that was Vatican II.

I think we have paid a high price for this. We remain a very hierarchical church. Clerical and in some ways misogynistic. One of the most glaring areas of this is within the area of the laity. The Second Vatican Council was revolutionary in this regard and yet reform with regard to the laity was essentially stifled. Was this because greater involvement of the laity did not suit us priests? Are we now seeing greater lay involvement because we know it is the right thing to do and we have turned into it with gospel gusto or is it more lethargic than that? Is lay involvement tolerated on 'father's terms'? Is lay involvement truly welcome or tolerated because there are fewer priests?

So then the Roncalli Community or Roncalli Reform which I founded last year is essentially a prayer movement in the Church that wants to explore new ways of doing ministry, or if you like 'being parish'. It is rooted in Vatican II. Whilst it acknowledges the sins of the Church, it continues to proclaim her beauty. If Roncalli takes off it will mentor a different way of being a local faith community. More communal than hierarchical, more lay than clerical. Lay led, most likely woman led. In fact it will facilitate a happier priesthood and a happier laity as both will be allowed to grow more freely into their own respective vocations.
Fraternally, JoeMcD

Mass Times: St. Patrick's Church, Celbridge:

Saturday (Vigil) 6.30 pm, Sunday: 8.30am, 9.30am, 11am, 12.30pm & 7pm.

Weekday Mass: 10am Holy Days: 10am 7pm. Bank Holidays: 10am.

Confessions: Saturday after 10am Mass

Mass Times: St Brigid's Church, Straffan Saturday (Vigil) 6pm. Sunday 11am

Weekday Mass 9.15am Confessions Saturday before 6pm Mass

Adoration Fri at 9am in St. Patrick's and St. Brigid's after Mass for an hour.

Parish Office hours Mon - Fri -9am -1pm

(Closed Wednesday)

Contact Details: 01 6288827 /

0858662255

Email: celbridgeparishoffice@gmail.com.

Parish website: www.celstra.ie

Sacristy: 6275942 (Mass times only)

Weekday Mass Intentions St. Patrick's Church

Mon 4th 10am: Johnnie Lynam, Sean Mulligan

Tue 5th 10am: Christopher Donovan, Maura Carey

Wed 6th 10am: John & Kathleen Murphy, John & Julia Tallon

Thur 7th 10am: Frank Duff, Gerry Flannery 7pm: Mass for the deceased

Fri 8th 10am: Vincent O'Keefe

Sat 9th 10am: Breda O' Donovan

PIZZA & POETRY

"Death is Nothing at All" by Henry Scott Holland,

Henry, an English clergyman, wrote the poem in 1910.

The poem was popularized by the Carmelite monks in Tallow, County Waterford.

It is a uniquely calm and moving poem about death and often quoted at funerals.

"Death is nothing at all

I have only slipped away to the next room.

I am I and you are you.

Whatever we were to each other,

That, we still are.

Call me by my old familiar name.

Speak to me in the easy way
which you always used.

Put no difference into your tone.

Wear no forced air of solemnity or sorrow.

Laugh as we always laughed

at the little jokes we enjoyed together.

Play, smile, think of me. Pray for me.

Let my name be ever the household word
that it always was.

Let it be spoken without effect.

Without the trace of a shadow on it.

Life means all that it ever meant.

It is the same that it ever was.

There is absolute unbroken continuity.

Why should I be out of mind
because I am out of sight?

I am but waiting for you.

For an interval.

Somewhere. Very near.

Just around the corner.

All is well.

Nothing is past; nothing is lost. One brief moment and all will be as it was before only better, infinitely happier and forever we will all be one together with Christ.

Weekend Mass Intentions

St. Brigid's Church

Saturday 6pm:

Sunday 11am: Special intention

St. Patrick's Church

Sat: 6.30pm: Eleanor Cleary, Kitty Fitzpatrick, Maurice & Nancy Murray

Sun: 8.30am: Beenie Kennedy,

9.30am: Rita Hyland

11am: Tommy & Eileen Ferguson, Veronica Murphy, Eileen Conway

12.30pm: Jack, Bridget, Anthony & David Condell, Albert Sedens (1st anniv), Caroline Meade, John Pentony (m.m.)

7pm: Pat Hartigan

Planned Giving - amount was €967.65. Thanks to all who contributed through the standing orders and the Planned Giving. Thanks also to the collectors and counters.

ART GROUP: We are looking for members for our Art Group. We are a small group who meet on Monday's in The St. Eustace Centre (basement of the Parochial House) We meet from 10am - 12noon. All levels or none welcome, nice social gathering. Contact Margaret at 087 6799104

The Blessing of the Graves takes place this weekend at Donaghcumper Cemetery will take place this Sunday 3rd November at 3.30pm. There will be the usual annual gate collection for the upkeep and maintenance of the cemetery. Blessing of the Graves in Straffan Cemetery at 12 noon.

Altar List of the Dead list and envelopes are available at the back of the Church. And can be dropped into the parish office or sacristy, and in the collection bags at weekend Masses. Please do not leave in the safe's or Church for security reasons. Thank you.

Please Support our Weekly Parish Lotto

The profit from our Lotto goes to developing our Parish.

The prize fund is now at €3350

The lotto envelopes can be placed in the safe at the back of the Church in St. Patricks & St. Brigid's & the collection bags at the Masses. You pick four numbers between 1 - 30.

One line just €2, 3 lines €5.

This week numbers were: 1st draw: 22, 13, 10, 24.

2nd draw: 23, 3, 10, 1

3 consolation prize winners: Shane, Pat Kennedy, Con Quinlan

Prizes can be collected in the Sacristy during weekend Mass times. Prizes have to be collected within 30 days of the draw. Our next draw will take place on Mon afternoon. Envelopes must be submitted before 10.30am on Mondays

