



## Rumblings from the Bunker

### AGAINST THE GRAIN!! (NOT QUITE GOODBYE, BUT GETTING THERE!!)

'It goes against my grain', was one of my mother's phrases. One of those sayings we now call a 'bridism'!

A bridism was either a phrase, unique to our mother, or at the very least, one that she used often.

Against the grain was one such phrase.

'Do you think I am the Ali Khan?' was one that was unique to Ma. We think now it was a corruption of Aga Khan. The Aga Khan was of course a very wealthy race horse owner. This phrase might be offered when we urged her to buy us something when we were with her on a shopping expedition.

It was Ma's version of 'do you think I am made of money?'

I began thinking of bridisms the other day when I heard the phrase 'against the grain!'

It was a lady here in St. Matthew's speaking about my imminent departure to Celbridge where I am going shortly as Parish Priest. She said to me, 'Does it not go against your grain to have to pack up and go off and start all over again?'

It got me thinking. In some ways yes it does go against the grain and in other ways no it doesn't.

In the sense that it does, I feel moving into one of these major life moves, it's much more demanding now that I am in my fifties than it was say back when I was in my thirties. Maybe as we get older we tend to nest. To batten down the hatches. To cling to the familiar. The notion of starting over again is not so attractive. Can I do it again? Will it work? Have I got what it takes? Will I be happy?

Will I be happy. That reminds me of something my mother said to my sister on the phone, just a few weeks before she died, 'you know I can't remember when I last saw the big fella as happy'.

She was right. It has been a very happy seven years here in St. Matthew's. Sure I have made mistakes and no doubt at times driven people mad, but all in all it has been good. If I offended you I'm sorry. I hope you forgive me. That was never my intention. At times I wanted to disturb, to rattle and to challenge.

I hope in some small way I contributed to your faith and your joy. I hope at times I might even have inspired you a little. I certainly got far more than I gave most especially from the people, by which I mean you, the people of St. Matthew's. You are great. You are very special. I will miss you terribly and yes you will always be part of me. Thank You.

And yet I go. And yes I go and no it's not against the grain. In fact it's for the grain. It's not against any grain but for the grain of wheat that must die. The dying that's part of life. The dying that's part of the rising. I must go.

I go. I go I hope in response to the whispering of the Holy Spirit deep in my heart.

Please pray that I will be able to honor you in my grateful sadness and yet go to the people of St. Patrick and St. Brigid with a joyful and generous heart.

Let us resolve to remember each other in prayer and to stay united in our dedication to come to know the Lord better and to keep struggling to love him more deeply with each passing day.

May Matthew continue to intercede on our behalf. Amen.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

May Canavan	John Dillon	Arthur Dunne Jnr.
Arthur Dunne Snr.	Eddie Dunphy	Rose Dunphy
George Long	Ann McCormack	Daniel McGann
Eileen Piggott	George Twamley	

**Recent Funerals:**  
Garreth Morrissey

**MASS TIMES**

<b>Weekends</b>	<b>Weekdays:</b>
<b>Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.30</b>	<b>Mon, Thur, Fri: 10.00</b>
<b>Sunday: 09.00,10.30,12.00</b>	
<b>Tuesday: No Prayer Service until September</b>	
<b>No Mass on Wednesday evenings during the month of July</b>	

**NOTICE TO ALL PARISHIONERS**

Fr Yanbo Chen will be leaving us on Sunday August 12th. Fr Yanbo will say goodbye to parishioners at all the Masses that weekend. A collection will be taken up for him.

As you know Fr Joe McDonald our Parish Priest is also leaving us to take up his new appointment as Parish Priest in St. Patrick and St. Brigid's in Celbridge and Straffan. Fr Joe will celebrate his last Mass in St. Matthew's at the end of August. Details in next week's newsletter'.

**Concert in Aid of Hospice Harold's Cross  
And a Donation to St. Matthew's**

In St. Matthew's Church  
Friday 22nd November  
@ 8.00pm: Tickets €15.  
For more information contact  
Ken @ 0862365288

**BOOK OF THE WEEK**

**THE VISION OF ST. JOHN XXII  
RANDALL S. ROSENBERG**

**PAULIST PRESS. NEW YORK. 2014. Pp 141**

This is the best, the quickest and the handiest introduction to the major themes of the life and legacy of old Roncalli, 'the good Pope', now known as Saint John XXIII.

**TEA DANCE**

Palmerstown Festival Tea Dance  
Sunday July 28 6pm—8pm  
Palmerstown Community and Youth Centre  
(Beside Supervalu)  
No Charge, But you Must have a Ticket  
Contact PCYC on 616 6981  
or Marian @ 087 278 5792 for Tickets

**Age Action**

**Free 1-to-1 Computer Classes for the Over 55s**

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**For more in formation phone: 475 6989**



SOCIETY OF AFRICAN MISSIONS

**An SMA priest will visit the parish on Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th July to speak at all the masses about the work of the SMA Fathers.**

The Society of African Missions (SMA Fathers) was founded in France in 1856 and when it was established in Ireland in 1878 it was the first exclusively missionary congregation to send out missionaries from Ireland. The main mission of the SMA is in Africa where members work in 17 countries. Today, there are about 800 members and about 300 seminarians preparing to be missionaries. The SMA asks for the support of prayers for the success of its missionary works. Our greatest need is funds to educate our seminarians and to continue the work of our priests among some of the poorest people on earth.

**GOSPEL READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Mon 29/07	<b>Jn 11: 19 – 27</b>	<b>ST. MARTHA</b> 'Do you believe this?'
Tue 30/07	<b>Matt 13: 36 – 43</b>	'As the darnel is gathered up and burnt, so it will be at the end of time'.
Wed 31/07	<b>Matt. 13: 44-46</b>	<b>ST. IGNATIUS LOYOLA, PRIEST</b> 'He sells everything he owns and buys the field'.
Thu 01/08	<b>Matt 13: 47-53</b>	<b>ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE'LIGUORI, BISHOP, DOCTOR</b> 'Have you understood all this?'
Fri 02/08	<b>Matt. 13: 54-58</b>	'A prophet is only despised in his own country'.
Sat 03/08	<b>Matt 14: 1-12</b>	'John's disciples came and took the body and buried it then they went off to tell Jesus.'