

The resurrection we celebrate at Easter is not just a distant memory, an event entirely of the past. The Risen Lord is among us. Through his resurrection, Jesus has changed human history and opened a path to new life. With his resurrection Jesus Christ transforms history and draws it to itself. *(continued next week).*

Fr. Michael Carey

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 10.00am Jack, Catherine, Judy & Gertie Howard	Sat 10.00am Morning Prayer
Tues 8.00am Deceased members of UJ Sisters	
Tues 10.00am Declan Garry	Sun 6.30pm James McGuirk
Wed 8.00am Maureen Lavin	
Wed 10.00am Special Intention	Sun 8.30am Catherine Conroy
Thurs 8.00am Declan Garry	
Thurs 10.00am Ann Kummer	Sun 11.00am Paddy Ivers
Fri 8.00am Special Intention	Sun 6.30pm Richard Forbes
Fri 10.00am John O'Grady	

Church of the Visitation Drynam *The Visitation of the BVM*

Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am, 11.00am (Irish Mass)

We are currently checking possibility of organising a group registration from Drynam to attend World Meeting of Families from 21 to 26 August. Please let a member of the Drynam Pastoral Team know if you would like to join a Drynam group. See <https://www.worldmeeting2018.ie> if you would prefer to register individually. Registration guarantees tickets for the events in Croke Park and Phoenix Park attended by Pope Francis.

Young Church Dublin

Ewe Thina: We Walk God's Way Join other young adults (20's & 30's) for reflective hikes around Dublin Area. Monthly event. The next hike will be Sunday 27th May for the Bray to Greystones Coastal Trail. We will meet at Bray Dart Station at 1pm. Contact st.pauls@dublindiocese.ie and www.facebook.com/wewalkgodsway

The Encounter Friday 18th May in St. Paul's Church, Arran Quay at 8pm. For young adults (20's & 30's) this event will have live acoustic music and reflective prayer in adoration, with guest speakers on life, faith and purpose. We are delighted to announce that Hannah Evans is our guest speaker and Cormac Buckley is our musician for the night. Contact st.pauls@dublindiocese.ie and www.facebook.com/theencounterdublincity

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Love, or charity, has often been described as the primary Christian virtue. If there were any doubt as to why it should be so today's gospel would dispel it. The Father's relationship with Jesus is seen in terms of love. So, too, is Jesus' relationship with his disciples. And it is love which Jesus commands his disciples to have for one another.

Saint John puts this demand of Jesus in the context of his last supper conversation with his disciples, thus giving it added emphasis. Jesus' laying down his life for his friends is presented as the highest expression of love that any human being can have for another.

(Source: St. Paul's Missal)

Fr. Michael Carey-8403378:

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(Mon to Fri 9.15am-12.30pm & Tues-Thurs 2pm-4pm)

Sacristy: -8400547 (Mon -Sat 9.30am-9.55am and 10.30am to 10.50am)

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Sixth Sunday of Easter

Where do we find Jesus Christ?

"Proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia"

Newsletter Sunday 6th May 2018

We are now two thirds of the way through the Easter Season. I usually print the Archbishop's Easter Homily at some stage during the Easter Season and it falls on this Sixth Sunday of Easter – time is flying by, next Sunday we celebrate the Ascension and the Sunday after, Pentecost. In my opinion it is a very good and thought provoking homily in which he addresses the situation in which some people state that they believe in God but not in the Church.

"They have taken the Lord out of the tomb and we do not know where they have put him"

These words constitute a question for all of us... **"Where do we find Jesus Christ"?**

Many seek Jesus Christ but look in the wrong places and thus never really find him. There are many aspects of our contemporary culture that make it hard to discover and understand Jesus Christ or that may point us in the wrong direction.

We live in a secularised society. More and more people feel that they can live their daily lives without any direct reference to God. Many of them will still turn to the Church in special moments in their lives, but their relationship to God is fragile and tenuous. Secularisation is not just about a fall in Mass attendance or weaker attachment of individuals to their faith. It is not about a political or media bias against the Church.

Where the overall presence of God in society diminishes or becomes relativized, then society as a whole begins to ask itself if God really matters at all. If society goes about its business without God really mattering, then the overall place of faith in society changes. When the language of faith and the overall language of a society become more separated from each other, the danger arises that the men and women of that society do not have a language that opens them to God and or helps them find Jesus in their lives.

This is not something completely new and original to our times and our society. Our society is probably no worse than others The history of salvation is a complex history of acceptance and reception. It is a story of God's people living often in exile, in an alien place and under persecution. The people rebel and refuse and reject their God and create false God's. It is however God himself who intervenes and his call reaches out in every generation to a people willing to return to him in fidelity and hope.

The story of the history of salvation is the story of the Church, of God's people renewed in each new generation. Today still it is in the Church that we encounter the saving power of Jesus. You might ask, what does that mean to the many in our world and in our diocese who find the Church alienating – to those who repeatedly proclaim that they believe in God but not in the Church?

The answer is that which we learn from the history of salvation. It is God himself who intervenes and his call reaches out in every generation to a people who are called to return to him in fidelity and hope.



ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

*How much better our family life would be if we used the words....
Please... Thank you....and I'm sorry. Pope Francis.*



Morning Prayer

Next Saturday-12th May, Morning Prayer will be celebrated at 10.00am. In terms of the Prayer Book it is week 2

Scoil an Duinnigh – 1st Holy Communion

The celebration of 1st Holy Communion took place last Saturday 28th April in St. Colmcille's Swords and it was a lovely occasion. Congratulations to all involved - Pól Ó Cathasaigh, Chairperson of the Board of Management and the Principal and Teachers: Noirin Ni Laighan (Principal), Maria Cutliffe and Ide Nic Gearailt (Class Teachers) and the Music teacher Aoife Ni Chaoimh the lovely choir. The girls and boys were excellently and prayerfully prepared by their class teachers. Again well done to all, it was a lovely occasion and congratulation to the children's parents and families.

St. Colmcille's BNS

Next Saturday, 12th May at 11am, the boys from St. Colmcille's BNS will receive their 1st Holy Communion. I wish the school well in all their preparation this coming week, and I hope the weather is fantastic on the day.

Monday 7th May

Today is a bank holiday. Mass will be celebrated at 10.00am only in St. Colmcille's

God's Housekeepers

The next date for cleaning the Church is next **Friday 11th May** after the 10.00am Mass. Can cleaning group 1 for this Friday please turn up! Also if anyone has a half hour to spare you would be most welcome

World Meeting of Families

Pope Francis has chosen Dublin to host the 2018 World Meeting of Families. In getting ready, we are continuing our parish conversations on what family means to us. We will also look at what Pope Francis says about the importance of family in the life of the church which he shared with us in Amoris Laetitia. The conversations will take place in each of the three parishes.

Conversation 4:

Tuesday 8th May in St. Colmcille's Parochial House, Seatown Road from 2pm - 3:30pm

Tuesday 8th May in St. Cronan's Pastoral Centre on from 7.30pm - 9:00pm

Thursday 10th May in St. Finian's, River Valley from 10:30am - 12 noon

These conversations are for everybody to share their experience of family. Please come along and share your story - after all we as a parish, are a family of families!



Inter-Parish Picnic: The three Parishes of Swords are planning a Parish Picnic on Sunday 10th June. Stewards are required - if you are available to help on the day please leave your name and phone number in the parish office. *Thank you*

Towards the Referendum on the 8th Amendment to the Constitution

Choose Life 2018 is a weekly newsletter www.dublindioocese.ie/choose-life-2018. There are some copies on the table at the back of the Church.

Dr Monaghan's Story "Doctors have always been faced with the care and management of a woman who develops serious illness when she is pregnant. Unfortunately, in these cases, because delivery has to be brought forward, the baby may lose his or her life. No doctor in Ireland has ever been accused of wrong doing for intervening in this way to save a mother's life. This intervention is not the same as performing an abortion which deliberately ends the life of the unborn child. "There has been a lot of debate about the need to remove the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution in the interest of women's health. The amendment does not restrict doctors from acting to save a woman's life when a serious complication arises in pregnancy. The number of mothers who lose their life during pregnancy in Ireland is lower than it is in the UK and considerably lower than in the United States. People can be assured that Ireland is a very safe country to have a baby. The reasons for repealing the Eighth Amendment are not about healthcare, despite what is being claimed. Doctors are being asked to end pregnancies where both the mother and baby are healthy. This goes against the clear duty of a medical doctor to 'first do no harm' and a fundamental call to preserve life, not to end it. The health issue in this debate is being used as a lever to broaden the grounds for abortions which are not related to health. In my 40 years of practice in obstetrics and gynaecology I have seen many difficult cases but I have never felt that the Eighth Amendment had a negative effect on the safe practice of medicine." *Dr John Monaghan is a retired obstetrician and gynaecologist*

Ecumenical Bible Week

Ecumenical Bible Week will take place from 20th-27th May 2018. Now in its fifth year, it is a parish-based event that is jointly sponsored by the Archdiocese of Dublin, the combined dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough, and other key groups such as Scripture Union. The theme this year is 'Handing on Faith - Crisis, Challenge and the Great Commission'. It begins on Pentecost Sunday with the launch event, 'Praying the New Cosmology', and will take place in 13 venues across Dublin and surrounding areas.

Two key events take place in Holy Cross College, Clonliffe, Dublin 3 on Thursday 24th May.

- Symposium chaired by Brenda Drumm which will include presenters John Waters – 'Taking us Back to the Father'; Ginnie Kennerley – 'The Family Today: Healing and Expansion in Christ'; and Nick Park – 'Modern Family - Ancient Problems'. Time 2-5pm. Cost €12. Pre-registration required at www.bibleweek.ie
- 'Thinking Allowed' - What have we from our personal experience discovered about living and passion on the faith? A chaired panel discussion with audience participation. Panellists will include three married couples from different Christian experiences, Archbishop Eamon Martin (Armagh) and Archbishop Michael Jackson (Dublin). Free event, starts at 7.30pm. Further information and free downloads and material on www.bibleweek.ie and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/bibleweekie

Rev. Canon Robert Deane is retiring!! To celebrate his years of ministry as Rector in St. Columba's Church since 2000, we are having Evening Prayer on Friday 11th May in St. Cronan's Church, Brackenstown at 7.00pm. Everybody most welcome to attend.