

Thirdly, a Catholic school is not a closed island of believers isolated or, much worse, hostile to the rest of the educational world. The Catholic school community is not a gated community. We already have too many of them. The Catholic school must enter into relationships with schools of other patronage so that it is not a source of division. All the agents of education in Ireland are called to foster relationships of respect and tolerance and welcome, in such a manner as to build a respectful pluralist model of education for a new pluralist Ireland.

A pluralist education system in a pluralist Ireland must be one where battles of ideology are overcome and not reinforced. The Catholic school must be an island of excellence and an island of excellence must, by its nature, be a bridge builder.” *Fr. Michael Carey*

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 8.00am	Sat 10.00am John Reid
Mon 10.00am Parochial House Rose Howard	
Tues 8.00am Special Intention	Sat 6.30pm Phyllis O’Rourke
Tues 10.00am Parochial House Special Intention	
Wed 8.00am Ann Fleming	Sun 8.30am Michael Claffey
Wed 10.00am Parochial House Teresa Rabbitt	
Thurs 8.00am Kitty Butcher	Sun 11.00am William Rooney
Thurs 10.00am Parochial House John Reid	Leo Walsh (1st An)
Fri 8.00am Altar List of the Dead	
Fri 10.00am Parochial House Altar List of the Dead	Sun 6.30pm Thomas O’Gorman

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

Martin Bradley	Seatown Villas
Anthony Cervi	Newcourt



Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM

We will have a Pastoral Team Meeting on Tuesday 26th at 8:00PM..

We had a Pastoral Team Meeting on Tuesday. We discussed with Fr. Michael Carey the situation regarding availability of priests in the Diocese. Unfortunately it will be necessary to reduce by one the number of Masses in our church and would welcome your thoughts on this. Please chat to any of the Pastoral Team members.

Thanks to Scoil an Duinnigh for the continued permission to use the school hall for Sunday Masses.



Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today’s parable, the offence is to be found in the blindingly obvious answer to the question Jesus sets. The application is then very sharp: those who seemingly never have experienced sin and conversion (who are they?) are quick to judge others who come to God through failure and fracture. It is like the ninety-nine who have no need of conversion – we may doubt that they ever really existed! A certain complacency can mark any settled religious group and if we add to that self righteousness, then the mix is explosive and we are far from the Gospel as preached by Jesus.

Prayer - Blessed are they who know their need of God (Mt 5:3). May we recognise ourselves as part of the community of the needy and show the compassion of Jesus to all without distinction. (Source: *St. Paul’s Missal*)

Fr. Michael Carey-8403378: Fr. Peter McCarron-8405948.
Parish Secretary: Colette Stokes - Parish Office, Seatown Road-8407277
(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)
Website: www.swords-parish.com Email: stolcmilleschurch@gmail.com

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Catholic Schools

“Deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.”

Newsletter Sunday 1st October 2017



Below are extracts from the homily given by the Archbishop at the Mass for the beginning of the Academic Year. This Mass was celebrated in St. Patrick’s College, DCU on Monday 25th September

“Visiting parishes and schools, I have come to see the subtle and at times more obvious ways in which some schools experience disadvantage. Some of this disadvantage is due to external social inequalities. Some is due to lack of financial support proportionate to the particular needs of schools. A narrow one-size-fits-all financial model can easily become a straitjacket for disadvantaged schools..... I know better that many the extraordinary work being done by teachers in schools that suffer social disadvantage. They are great schools working in the face of great odds and they need our solidarity.

There is much debate in Ireland about different forms of patronage and such discussion is valid and necessary. The real divides in Irish education can often be very different and as someone who grew up in an area of disadvantage I have strong feelings about the economic and social divide in which many young people still have to grow up.

Catholic schools have a non-renounceable Gospel imperative to be at the service of the poorest. This was the characteristic of the religious orders that were established to provide education and it is important – alongside the failures and abuse that have tarnished their history – that we also pay tribute to the men and women religious who dedicated themselves to the education of the poor, and especially in different times to the equal education of girls.

The best path forward for those of us who wish to foster Catholic education today is to ensure that Catholic schools in a different future live up to these original ideals.

Where do we find the drawing board for the future of Catholic education? Let me give some suggestions.

Firstly, we have to have a clear understanding of what Catholic education is. Catholic education is not education with a Catholic veneer. It is about a path of discovering what faith in Jesus Christ can bring as an additional qualitative dimension to education. Catholic education is not an imposition, but a proposition that attracts. Watered-down Catholic education will attract no one. Jesus himself is the one who brings the life-giving waters of his message as fulfilment and meaning to the lives of his followers. Religious education is not just an intellectual exercise. Belief in Jesus Christ must inspire a new path of meaning and hope into the life of the child and young adult.

Secondly, this requires a bond between the faith life of the pupils and that of his or her parents and of the religious community to which they belong. Catholic education cannot play only lip service to the primary role of parents.

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



Bishop Raymond Field

I am delighted to welcome Bishop Ray to our Parish this weekend. He is very kindly celebrating the 8.30am and the 11.00am Sunday morning masses as myself and Fr. Pat are away.

This coming week

Monday 2nd Oct to Friday 6th October – 8.00am Mass in the Church

Monday 2nd Oct to Friday 6th October – 10.00am Mass in the **Parochial House**

Saturday 7th November – 10.00am morning Mass in the Church followed by the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Weekend Schedule as normal in the Parish Church.

Church will be open

For the duration of the painting the Church will remain open and people can visit as normal to say prayers and light a candle

Church Painting – Scaffolding

The Scaffolding will be in place this week and most of next week so that the painters can paint the upper walls and the roof. I think it best that no funerals be celebrated in the Church these days and should a funeral occur I'll request of the family that it be celebrated in Brackenstown or River Valley.

The 'Do This in Memory' Programme

Last weekend the boys and girls of our Parish who will be receiving their 1st Holy Communion in May 2018 were enrolled into the Programme. Theirs names were called out at Mass and they made some promises. This was followed by their parents promising that they would partake in the programme and pray with their children.

A lot of work goes into the programme. I would like to thank the schools:

St. Colmcille's GNS and St. Colmcille's BNS and the parents organising committee. But a special thanks to Sr. Mary and Sr. Margaret who organise and drive this programme and whose assistance in preparing the boys and girls for this Sacrament is invaluable.

Safeguarding

Letters are being prepared to be delivered (by hand in the main) to all members of Parish Ministry Teams regarding the requirement to be Garda Vetted. This will be happening over the next few weeks. I kindly ask for your co-operation. The Parish Pastoral Council are undergoing this exercise to comply with Diocesan best practice and also with the legislative requirements of the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act 2012. Thanking you in anticipation

Mission Month of October: Today marks the first day of the Mission Month of October. World Missions Ireland is the Holy Father's official charity for overseas mission and is responsible for coordinating mission Sunday in Ireland. A calendar of events has been put in place throughout the month of October, which can be found on www.wmi.ie

Day for life

This Sunday marks the 'Day for Life' – 'Faced with the sacredness of life and of the human person, and before the marvels of the universe, wonder is the only, appropriate attitude' – St. John Paul II.

Prayer to Mary, Mother of the Life Within

O Mary, Mother of the Life Within, all life we entrust to you; The life of every expectant mother and the child within her womb: The life of every human body, the life of every human soul; The life of every newborn child and the life of all grown old. You held the Lord to your own heart and drew him so close in. So draw us now in all our needs, O Mother of the Life Within. Amen.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING

Bishop Raymond Field is hosting a Mass of **Thanksgiving** for his Pastoral Area on Sunday the 15th of October at 10.30am in St. Brigid's Parish, Blanchardstown for couples who are celebrating Silver, Ruby, Golden, Diamond and Platinum Wedding Anniversaries. Were you Married in [1947](#), [1957](#), [1967](#), [1977](#) or 1992? If so and you would to attend this Mass please leave your name with Colette so that can inform Blanchardstown Parish.

RACKENSTOWN BIBLE STUDY 2018

Matthew: The King and His Kingdom is a Catholic Bible study that brings the history of Christ to life through Matthew's Gospel. You will see Jesus as the awaited Messiah who fulfils the promises and prophecies of the Old Testament, establishes the New Law, and inaugurates the Kingdom of Heaven.

Join us for Matthew: The King and His Kingdom in St Cronan's Pastoral Centre beginning January 2018. The study runs for a total of 24 weeks, there will be 14 classes in Spring and 10 classes in Autumn 2018. Classes are 7.30-9pm on Monday nights, the cost is €20 and the class size will be limited to 45 people. To register for the study call Louise at 01-8401188 or via email: brackenstownparish@gmail.com.

Festfest 11: Are you looking for a place where you can meet other young people to explore faith and life in a fun and exciting way? Faithfest has- music, prayer, workshops and chat 'n' chill! For teenagers from parishes who wish to meet other teens from other parishes in Dublin. Come along to Holy Cross College, Diocesan Centre, Dublin 3 on Friday the 6th of October, 6.00-9.30pm. For more info, michelle.manley@dublindiocese.ie. All welcome.

Fingal for Life a local group, are holding an information meeting on the forthcoming plan to repeal the 8th amendment and the effect this will have on our nation. Join us on Wednesday 4th October at 8.00pm in the Parish Centre, Sacred Heart Church, Seabury, Malahide. Invited speakers to include David Quinn from Iona Institute