

*Third Sunday of Advent  
Newsletter 19th December 2021*

**Fr. Colin Rothery -8404546: Fr John Collins 8405948**  
**Parish Secretary: Colette Stokes - Parish Office, Seatown Road-8407277**  
*(Mon to Fri 9.15am-12.30pm)*  
**Sacristy: -8400547 (Mon –Sat 9.30am-9.55am and 10.30am to 10.50am)**  
**Website: Website: www.swords-parish.com Email:**  
**stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com**  
**Facebook: St. Colmcille's Church, Swords & Church of the Visitation, Drynam**



***Mass Intentions this Weekend***

**Sat 6.30pm** Peggy Dillon  
William Parker (MM)  
**Sun 8.30am** Paddy & Vera Barker  
**Sun 11.15am** Des Becton  
Gerard Walsh (1st An)



***Mass intentions for next Next Week***

<b>Mon</b> 10.00am Maureen Wiseman	<b>Fri 24th 6.30pm</b> Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards
<b>Tues</b> 10.00am Vera Barker	<b>9.30pm</b> Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards
<b>Tues</b> 10.00am Jimmy Lucey	<b>Sat 25th 8.30am</b> Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards
<b>Wed</b> 10.00am Maura Clancy	<b>11.15am</b> Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards
<b>Thurs</b> 10.00am Elizabeth Burke	
<b>Fri</b> 10.00am Olive & Michael Keenan	

***Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM***  
***Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am, 11.00am (Irish Mass)***



**RECENTLY DECEASED**

***Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:***

PJ Carey Castle Grove



**Carol Service – online only**

The annual Carol Service with St Colmcille's Choir takes place in St. Colmcille's Church on **Sunday 19th December at 5.00pm**. This will be a *webcam only* event but Morgan and the choir have put a lot of work into it and it will be beautiful. If you cannot watch it on the day we will record it so that it can be viewed at any time

**Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards**

Christmas Mass bouquet cards are now available from the Sacristy.  
All Masses on Christmas Day and St. Stephens Day will be offered for the intentions of the donors of these cards.

**Planned Giving/Family Offering Envelopes**

New planned Giving/Family Offering Envelopes are now ready for collection from the Sacristy

**Final Part of a Pastoral Letter for Advent by Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin**

I am inviting the Church in the Archdiocese of Dublin to use this season of Advent as a time of prayer and reflection to prepare ourselves spiritually for the challenge of renewal. Responding to the Task Force Report, we need to create a prayerful atmosphere this Advent as we begin to look to the future of parishes, groupings of parishes, and the Diocese itself. Our prayer must be open to the Spirit to guide us in our mission as bearers of light and carriers of good news to the people of our time. We honour our history and our traditions. We draw strength from what has been built up. But we are not afraid to craft new wineskins to carry the new wine of the Good News to those who thirst for it today. In Advent we begin the new Liturgical Year. Our diocesan theme this year is 'Be Still', waiting for the Lord, preparing ourselves for the year ahead with Him. We need to 'be still' during Advent, and mark time a little with the Lord, as we set out on a year of prayer, reflection and planning. I am asking each parish community to pray for conversion of heart so that we may be effective missionaries. In the season of Advent, we unite ourselves with our Blessed Mother Mary, whose own preparation models for us the spirit of hope and faith that brings the light of Christ to life.

*Ever faithful God,*

*You sent your son into the darkness of human history to fulfil your will, and guide your people home to you. Fill our hearts with the hope of your coming that we may draw close to all our sisters and brothers especially those who bear the cross of Jesus in the heart of our world. May the Light of his victory over darkness and death, guide our feet on the way of justice and peace. We ask this in the name of Him who came and will come again, Jesus, our Lord, for ever and ever. Amen*

**A little "Thank you"**

"I've received a very warm personal welcome from so many of you since I started my time in Swords, and I do look forward to getting to know many more of you in 2022 and beyond. Thank you and God you and yours this Christmas! *Fr. Colin*

**MASS COLLECTIONS - 'TAP AND GO' CONTACTLESS DONATION**

The Archdiocese of Dublin has introduced a "Tap and Go" contactless donation method to enable people to donate directly to the First Collection (Common Fund) and the Second Collection (Share Fund). A card machine is in place at the back of the Church for this purpose.

Please note any donation through this method will be split 60% to the First Collection and 40% to the Second Collection.

This new technology does not replace the collection boxes which are placed around the Church

**Bethany Bereavement Support Group** are offering telephone support, please contact Terri 8403243 from Sunday 19th to Wednesday 22nd December. Terri 8403243 from Wednesday 29th December to Saturday 1st January 2022

Kay - 086 2209297 - week Sunday 2nd January to Saturday 8th January 2022. Details on the Parish website. You can also find information on <https://bethany.ie>

**Christmas Cards and Timetable**

These are at the doors of the Church. Please take one home with you and if you can, please take some for your neighbours

### **Prayer for Synod**

We stand before you Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.  
With you alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; teach us the way  
we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.  
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our  
actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life  
And not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time,  
In the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever . *Amen*