

Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup>, until Pentecost Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> May 2015. The Season of Easter is marked in yellow or white.

### THE EASTER TRIDUUM

Triduum is a Latin word meaning 'three days'. The Easter Triduum is the highpoint of the Church's year and occurs in 2015 from April 2<sup>nd</sup> to April 5<sup>th</sup>. During these days – from Holy Thursday Evening to Good Friday Evening, Good Friday Evening to Holy Saturday Evening, Holy Saturday Evening to Easter Sunday Evening - the Church enters intensely the Passion and Resurrection of the Lord Jesus. The Easter Triduum is shown in red.

### SUNDAY - THE LORD'S DAY - A WEEKLY EASTER, the FIRST HOLY DAY OF ALL

There is an essential connection between the Easter Triduum and all other Sundays. Sundays, the highpoint and first day of each week, the Church revisits the Easter Triduum, in order to cling to and sustain the supreme joy that 'Christ is risen.' In every Parish, it is necessary that a festive Easter joy characterises the celebration of the liturgy on Sundays.

### SOLEMNITIES, FEASTS AND MEMORIALS OF THE SAINTS.

On weekdays, the Church has happy commemoration of all men and women who were faithful disciples of Jesus. These multitudes are represented on specific days by well-known saints such as: Mary, the Mother of God, the Twelve Apostles, Vincent de Paul, Edith Stein, Maximilian Kolbe, and Mary Magdalene. There are Irish Saints too, e.g. Patrick, Brigid and Columbanus, Gobnait of Ballyvourney, Kevin of Glendalough and Flannan of Killaloe.

(Source: Days of the Lord-Liturgical Centre Maynooth)

Fr. Michael Carey Adm

### Mass Intentions for this coming week: St Colmcille's:

Mon 8.00am People of the Parish

Sat 10.00am Dominic Emerson

Mon 10.00am Dec members of the Geraghty & McGreevy Families

Tues 8.00am James Fitzsimons

Sat 6.30pm Nora & John Broderick

Tues 10.00 am Pat Barmwell

Wed 8.00am Health Intention

Sun 8.30am Peggie Curran

Wed 10.00am Bridget & Jack McNulty

Sun 10.00 am Barbara Kealy

Thurs 8.00am Michael Reilly

Sun 11.30am Dominic King

Thurs 10.00 am Kathleen Gaffney

Sun 7.30 pm Ned Garrigan

Fri 8.00am Altar List of the Dead

Fri 10.00am Altar list of the Dead

### Church of the Visitation Drynam

### The Visitation of the BVM

Mass Times for Drynam: Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri: 9.20am. Sun, 10.00am 11.00am (Irish) & 12 noon



We are making some progress with forming a Baptismal Team, but we still need volunteers willing to impart a basic understanding of the meaning and importance of the sacrament to the parents of children presenting for Baptism. The course for parents is well structured and training will be provided to team members. Please let us know if you think you may be able assist in this important work.

### First Sunday of Advent

First Sunday of Advent, beginning again is an invitation to look in two directions. What happened for me in the last year, both in my ordinary life and in my life as a believer, a person of faith? For what do I ask forgiveness? For what do I give thanks? We also look forward and the new beginning gives us a chance to start again on the Way of discipleship. Both thanksgiving and renewal are to be found in today's readings. The Gospel is an invitation to wake up, to keep watch, to live fully the present moment under God, in whom we live and move and have our being.

**Prayer** - Wake us up, O God, and rouse us from the slumber of the everyday that we may recognise you in every moment and in every person each day of our lives

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)

Sacristan: Stephanie Byrne-8400547 (Mon -Sat 9.30am-10.30am)

Website: [www.swords-parish.com](http://www.swords-parish.com) Email: [stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com](mailto:stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com)



1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

### Days of the Lord

*"Grace and peace to you from him who is, who was, and who is to come" (Rev.1:4)*



### Newsletter Sunday 30th November 2014



Advent begins the beginning of the Church's Liturgical Calendar which is summarised below:

### ADVENT

Advent is the Church's season for preparing for Christmas. Advent is identified in red-violet. Advent begins with Evening Prayer of the Sunday falling on or closest to November 30<sup>th</sup> - this year, it is November 30<sup>th</sup> – and it ends before Evening Prayer on Christmas Eve. Advent has a twofold purpose: to prepare for the celebration of Christ's 'first' coming and to prepare minds and hearts for Christ's 'second' coming at the end of time. From December 17<sup>th</sup> until December 24<sup>th</sup> in particular we focus on the proximate celebration of Christ's 'first' coming. On these days, both in the Evening Prayer of the Church and in the Gospel acclamations of the day, we use the antiphonal phrases: O Wisdom!; O Adonai!; O Root of Jesse!; O Key of David!; O Rising Sun!; O King ! and O Emmanuel! Also known as The O Antiphons.

### THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Next to the yearly celebration of the Easter Triduum, the Church holds most sacred the memorial of Christ's birth and some various manifestations connected to it. The Christmas Season runs from Christmas Eve, December 24<sup>th</sup>, until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on January, 12<sup>th</sup>. The Season of Christmas is marked in golden yellow or white.

### ORDINARY TIME

Ordinary Time does not mean 'usual' or 'average', but rather 'time which is counted and numbered.' Ordinary Time is marked in green. Apart from Advent, Christmas, the Easter Triduum, the Season of Easter, Lent, there are thirty-three to thirty-four weeks of the Church's year remaining. During these, the Church celebrates the mystery of Christ in general – in all its aspects, without any specific or distinctive character. Ordinary Time happens in two periods; this year from the Monday after the Baptism of the Lord, January 12<sup>th</sup> until the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> and from the Monday after Pentecost Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, until before Evening Prayer One of the First Sunday of Advent, November 29<sup>th</sup>.

### LENT

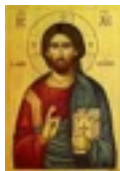
The Season of Lent serves to prepare for and anticipate the celebration of the Easter Triduum. This year, Lent runs from Ash Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February to before the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Lent is marked in blue-violet. For all who are already members of the Church, Lent is time to repair relationship with God and with one another. It is approximately forty-day process of contrition, forgiveness, penance and reconciliation.

### THE SEASON OF EASTER

The Season of Easter extends the Easter Day celebration of the Lord's Resurrection to fifty days. This year, the Season of Easter runs from the Evening of the Sunday of the Resurrection,

## ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

*Antiphon – “The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase”*



### Jesse Tree

Once again I thank John Walsh who again supplied the lovely Jesse Tree for St. Colmcille's. It is a lovely feature of the Advent Season

### Confirmation Mass

Next weekend the boys and girls and their families will be present at the 6.30pm Vigil Mass and the 10.00am Sunday Mass as part of their Parish based preparation programme for the Sacrament of Confirmation. We hope to rekindle and remind the young people and their families of the experience of being at a Mass where we hope that they will feel at home in the Church, to feel that they belong and are welcome. We look forward to seeing them and praying with them.

### Debt Free

The Season of Advent is the beginning of the Liturgical Year (as opposed to the calendar year being 1<sup>st</sup> January). As we begin this New Year in the life of the Universal Church and of our local church in Swords/Drynam I am delighted to announce that our Parish is now **debt free!** The sale of the site at the Parochial House was completed last week and the proceeds cleared our debt. This great news is due entirely to the hard work, dedication and commitment of the Parish Property and Finance Committee and on behalf of the entire Parish I extend to them our heartfelt appreciation and thanks. We will make sterling efforts to ensure that we will remain debt free and to this end **I thank all parishioners** for their contributions to the two Church collections; Christmas and Easter dues; the Planned giving- envelopes and standing orders; the Parish Pastoral Collection and the Fund raisers. Your ongoing support to these streams of income, ensure that our Parish can function and continue to be a lively Christian Catholic Community.

**A REFLECTIVE SENTENCE:** God is so great that he can become small. God is so powerful that he can make himself vulnerable and come to us as a defenseless child, so that we can love him – Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI

### Ministers of the Eucharist-Swords

All Ministers of the Eucharist, of St. Colmcille's Swords are invited to Night Prayer and Light refreshments in the **Parochial House, Seatown Rd on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm** I'd be delighted if you could make it.

### Christmas Mass Bouquets

Special Christmas Mass Bouquet cards are now available in the Sacristy and Parish Office of both churches. All Masses on Christmas Day and St. Stephens Day will be offered for the intentions of the donors of these cards. They cost €5 per card and would make a 'lovely stocking filler' for your nearest and dearest.



### Advent Wreath-1st CANDLE – (purple)

#### **THE PROPHECY CANDLE or CANDLE OF HOPE –**

*We speak of hope – because God keeps his promises to us.*

*Today is the First Sunday of Advent, in which we recall the hope we have in Christ. God of Abraham and Sarah and all the Patriarchs of Old, you are our Father too. Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, Son of God, and Son of David.*

*Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth, to make our hearts ready and to place our hope in you. Help us today and every day to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your hope with others. We ask this in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen*

The Advent wreath is significant in that unlike holly or floral wreaths, it has candles standing upright, representing the four Sundays of Advent and the thousands of years that God's people awaited the Messiah. The round ring of the Advent Wreath represents eternity-time without end. As the circle is never ending, so time with God goes on and on. The evergreens are for eternal life, life without end. Evergreens do not die in the winter and like them God is always fresh and new. The candles remind us of Christ 'Light of the World'



### JESSE TREE-week 1

This tree is named after David, the great king of Israel. The symbols represent the promises God made through the Old Testament concerning the birth of his only Son. Some of the most important promise were made to Jesses and his son David. They were promised that God's only Son would be born in their family. The first week of Advent will see the following symbols on the Jesse Tree in both our Churches

#### **Apple**

In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve ate the fruit of the forbidden tree. People began to disobey the commands of God and so we needed a redeemer

#### **Ark**

When Noah, his family and all the animals came out of the ark, God promised

#### **Joseph's Dreamcoat**

Joseph's Dreamcoat reminds us of the story of Joseph and his brothers. After he was rejected and sold into slavery in Egypt by his brothers, through understanding dreams, Joseph became an important person in the Egyptian kingdom.



that he  
with us

### Annual Carol Service and Readings

The annual Carol Service takes place in St. Colmcille's Church on **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 4.00pm**, with the Parish Choir. We would be grateful if parishioners could bring along some mince pies for the tea's/coffee's which will be available after the service.

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### **Swords and District Lions Club** will present their

Emergency Information System, Message in a Bottle, in the Church on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> Nov. A simple but effective way to keep essential personal and medical details where they can be found by the Emergency Services – the fridge.

