

image too literally, we'd have to imagine someone (but who? Eve is not on the scene) recording the names.

The point, of course, is that it is the human who has the intelligence and the ability to classify and distinguish. But most important in this chapter is the emphasis on our need for other people and for human companionship: "it is not good for the man to be alone" (Gen 2:18). A dog may be a man's best friend, according to some. But we human beings need companionship on a deeper level. And so God makes the woman and Adam rejoices: "This one, at last" (Gen 2:23), is what he had been waiting for. Further on, the author describes the origin of the woman from the man's rib as an argument for the drive toward marriage. The two parts desire to be one again. Scripture does not offer very many opportunities to reflect on friendship and love. This story is one such opportunity. We need other people; we need friendship and love. None of us can really be too busy for friendship or love. (Source: *Homilies for weekdays – Don Talafoús*) **Fr Michael Carey**

Intentions for Next Week

Mon 8.00am Michael Ryan

Mon 10.00am Ellen Green

Anthony Mulligan **MM**

Tues 8.00am Madge O'Hara

Tues 10.00am **NO MASS**

Wed 8.00am Pat O'Reilly

Wed 10.00am Bridget & John McNulty

Thurs 8.00am Dan Gillooley

Thurs 10.00am Ann Farron & Eileen Bird

Daniel Roche (1st An)

Fri 8.00am Pat O'Reilly

Fri 10.00am Paul Burke

Sat 6.30pm Dick O'Connell

Mary & Peter Wilson

Sun 8.30am Paddy Barker

Sun 11.15am Gerry & Isabel Byrne

Gerry Foley (1st An)

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

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

There will be Mass for Ash Wednesday, 6th March, at 9:20AM here in Drynam. We will have a Drynam Pastoral Team meeting on Tuesday evening at 8:00PM.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

Margaret Hanratty

Glasmore Park

Tuesday 5th March

Due to the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation there will be **NO 10.00am Mass**.

Mass will be celebrated at 8.00am as normal

St. Vincent de Paul

The outdoor monthly collection for St. Colmcille's Swords, VdP, will be taken up **next** weekend at all Masses

Fr. Michael Carey-8403378: Fr John Collins 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: stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Rest and Friendship

"He saved me because he delighted in me"

Newsletter Sunday 3rd March 2019



As this is the last newsletter before the Lenten Season, I will continue on from last week's newsletter, with some reflections on the Book of Genesis.

Sabbath

In the past, some of the human and cultural traditions which surrounded the Sabbath, our Sunday made it very unattractive to many. The idea that Sabbath rest meant making sure that nothing we did that day was enjoyable or anything that involved physical exertion, may be an example of the kind of tradition Jesus rejected. In our day the whole idea of the Sabbath, of Sabbath rest, has practically disappeared.

A goOd number still keep the day by going to Mass, by worship. It seems irrelevant to many to imitate God's rest and put aside activities and work by which we make a living. But setting aside a day on which we particularly honour God in worship and turn aside from the activities occupying us the other five or six days is still most desirable. "On the seventh day God completed the work he had been doing. He rested on the seventh day after all the work he had been doing. God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on that day he had rested after all his work of creating". (Gen 2:1-3)

It is desirable from the standpoint of our relation to God and for the health of our spirit. For the man or woman who works hard all week in an office or at a machine or computer, a little gardening on a Sunday may be a really contemplative and refreshing activity. So much modern technology seems aimed only at making us "more productive", as the contemporary expression has it. Isn't the business of having a phone or a laptop always at hand, of not simply driving somewhere but eating breakfast and making calls or going on line while doing so – doesn't all this assume the materialistic adage, "time is money"?

We can't so the thinking is, let any bit of time be lost to profit. Simply enjoying and living in the moment without thought of productivity, making money, or getting ahead is to rest and allow for genuine appreciation of God's good creation. Our spirit is only open to God if we let it be still at times and empty of plans for making a living. What set us aside from animals is freedom from having to scrounge for our livelihood every single minute.

Finally, a friend

The picture we get from Genesis chapter 2 is another unforgettable one from Genesis. We can just picture Adam sitting on a rock with the animals coming before him in a long file while he gives them names: giraffe, gerbil, tiger, cat, koala, and so on. If we took this

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*



Sacrament of Confirmation – Scoill an Duinninigh

Next Tuesday 5th March, the cailini and buachailli from Scoill an Duinninigh will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at **11am** in St. Colmcille's Swords. On behalf of the Parish, I wish the school well in all their preparation these coming days. I trust and pray that the families involved will have a lovely day.

There will be **no** 10.00am Mass in Swords this day

Take up something for Lent

You will see the notice in the newsletter concerning the reading of 'Rejoice and be Glad'. I do encourage you to investigate this initiative. A lot of what the Pope writes is very good but we don't have the time or get the chance to explore it in some depth. What is proposed by the Parish for this coming Lent is very gentle. Please do consider participating.

Ash Wednesday – 6th March

This is a day of fast and abstinence and the beginning of the Season of Lent. *Why do we put ash on our forehead?* - Ashes are applied to our forehead in the sign of the cross as the words, "Remember, you are dust and to dust you shall return" are spoken to us. The other formula which is used, "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel" emphasises our call to continual conversion and holiness of life. This act symbolises our mortality as well as our need for ongoing repentance. It is a reminder that this life is short and merely a foreshadowing of what we shall become through the redemption of Jesus Christ on the cross. The work of our redemption will not be complete until we are raised from the dead, in resurrected bodies like His own and called to the eternal communion of heaven.

Today's Gospel

These words could have been spoken by anyone, by any teacher of wisdom. In Luke's Gospel Jesus' teaching often resonates quite naturally with us. Jesus is presented as one of our own, as he relates in everyday life with all sorts of people, Jews and non-Jews, and with as many women as men. And he appeals to our common sense through parables and wisdom sayings. We give thanks to God that Jesus has truly shared our human nature and renounced nothing in it that is good, true and beautiful. (Source: *Glenstal Sunday Missal*)

Trocaire

Lent invites us to personal spiritual renewal, and also to be mindful of our poor, oppressed and persecuted sisters and brothers and to reach out to them in their hour of need. The Trociare boxes are in the packets at the back of the Church along with included information with the theme for this year. Please take a box home - it can be quite amazing how much loose change can amount to.



Take up Something for Lent

This year for Lent the Parish has decided to read and discuss Pope Francis's book, 'Rejoice and be Glad', we will do this over 5 weeks. This will take the format of a book club where you read a chapter at home and meet as a group to discuss it the next week. Why not give it a try!! You are welcome to come along next Thursday if you were unable to attend last Thursday in the Parochial House at 2.30pm. Books will be supplied and tea and coffee will be served

Rejoice and be Glad!



Lent - Ash Wednesday – 6th March.

The season of Lent begins this Ash Wednesday 6th March.

The Masses on this day are:

8.00am; 10.00am and **7.30pm** in St. Colmcille's and at 9.20am in Our Lady of the Visitation, Drynam



The season of Lent starts on Ash Wednesday. It will continue for five and a half weeks, forty days traditionally, and will be followed by Holy Week. Fasting is a theme of Lent which was encouraged by the Lord by both word and example and was coupled by him with prayer. Lent coincides with springtime and in fact the word itself probably comes from the Old English *lencten*, meaning the lengthening of the days that occurs in spring. And indeed spring is not a bad image for Lent. Spring is the time of new life when the long nights of winter become a thing of the past. It is a time when the hearts of many people lift. Lent offers the possibility to renew and reawaken the life of the spirit and so is a season of joy.

Faithfest Teenagers

Join us on Friday 8th March for Faithfest from 6.00-9.30pm. in Holy Cross College, Clonliffe Road, Dublin 3. Faithfest aims to build spaces where teenagers have an experience of a peer community, explore faith, and encounter an experience of welcoming, belonging, discipleship, worship and prayer in a creative and fun atmosphere. All welcome.

Meditation

A man who was innocent (Jesus), offered himself as a sacrifice for the good of others, including his enemies, and became the ransom of the world. It was a perfect act. (*Mahatma Gandhi*)

The Legion of Mary are recruiting at all Masses this weekend. You are invited to become a member and "do something beautiful for God" - *St Teresa of Calcutta*.