

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Antiphon – “ One does not live on bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God”



New Mass Schedule

This weekend heralds the new Mass Schedule in both our Parish Churches. I hope and pray that all goes well. I thank you most sincerely for your patience and understanding in this matter.

Saturday Morning Mass

I have discussed the proposed cancellation of the Saturday Morning 10.00am Mass with Fr. Pat. We came up with a proposal which I discussed with the Parish Pastoral Council and they agreed with it. The proposal is that we continue with the Saturday Morning Mass and (the Confessions and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament till 11.00am.). We also agreed that this Mass will be ‘dropped’ for the summer as part of the ‘Summer Schedule’. To that end this Mass and the morning Confessions and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will cease on Saturday 27th June and will resume on Saturday 12th September.

Booked Mass Intentions

When the 2015 Diary was opened in November 2014 for the taking of Mass bookings, I had no idea that a revised Mass Schedule had to be implemented. Therefore I propose combining the intentions booked for the Sunday 10.00am Mass and the 11.30am Mass into the new 11.00am Mass. If anybody wishes to change or cancel their Mass intention please contact Stephanie in the Sacristy. There haven't been too many Saturday Morning intentions booked for July and August but where they have been I propose offering them at the Saturday Evening Vigil Mass at 6.30pm of the same day. I hope this is a satisfactory solution

Lectio Divina-something for Lent

Spirituality and the deepening of your faith appeals to many. Some people like to attend courses and some want to deepen or learn a new way of praying. *Lectio Divina* is a wonderful way of praying by yourself but it also ideal as a group/fellowship way of praying which is very safe and not at all about revealing your innermost life experiences, thoughts or feelings. Our Parish is very lucky to have a well established prayer group. If you want to give it a go and *you would be made feel very welcome*, just visit the Parochial House, Seatown Rd, where this group meets every **Tuesday from 8.00 to 9.00pm**. If you desire further information you can contact Sr. Margaret or Sr. Mary, their phone number is in the Parish Calendar. It might be something to consider for Lent.

A REFLECTIVE SENTENCE:To live life to the full in freedom we must overcome the test that this freedom entails, that is, temptation.....Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI

First Sunday of Lent

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.

This Sunday – Sunday Mass Times

From Sunday our new Sunday Mass Schedule is as follows:

St. Colmcille's: Sat (Vigil) 6.30pm (Folk Group); Sun 8.30am; 11.00am (Parish Choir) and 6.30pm.

Our lady of the Visitation-Drynam: Sun 10.00am; 11.00am (Irish Mass) 12.00 noon (Drynam Folk Group)

St Vincent de Paul

An information & recruitment evening for new members for St Vincent de Paul will take place on Thursday 26th February at 7.30pm in the Carnegie Court Hotel Swords. All welcome.

Forms of Friday Penance

The following are suggestions from the Bishop's Conference on ways of fulfilling Friday penance: *Abstaining from meat or some other food;*Abstaining from alcoholic drink or smoking;*Making a special effort at involvement in family prayer;*Making a special effort to participate in Mass on Friday's;*Visiting a Church or the Blessed Sacrament;*Making the stations of the Cross;*Fasting from all food for a longer period than usual and perhaps giving what is saved to the needy;*Helping the poor, sick, old or lonely.

Reading the Signs of the Times

All Hallows are holding a series of public talks on Wednesday evenings in March from 7.30pm – 9.00pm. Entrance fee is €10 or €30 for the four talks. Pay at the door. You can book by emailing ehoulahan@allhallows.ie or telephoning 01-8520742.

Wednesday 4th March: The Synod on the Family: What can we expect?

Archbishop Diarmuid Martin

Wednesday 11th March: Women in the Church: Is this the Elephant in the Room? Prof. Mary T. Malone

Wednesday 18th March: A poor Church for the Poor: What is our Call/Response?

Fr. Peter McVerry, SJ

Wednesday 25th March: Faith, Ecology and Climate Change: The challenge for the Church?
Br. Anthony Mark McDonnell, CFC

Swords Men's Shed. Are you male, retired or unemployed and have too much time on your hands? If so why not come and join others who have been in the same situation and help us expand the activities of our Men's Shed. You will experience a warm welcome every Wednesday morning between 10 and 12, 30 in the Riasc Centre, Feltrim Road, Swords. Email: swords@menssheds.ie

Rosminians

The Rosminians are visiting St. Colmcille's Swords next weekend and will