

*Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
*Newsletter 23rd January 2022*

**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:**  
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**Facebook: St. Colmcille's Church, Swords & Church of the Visitation, Drynam**



***Mass Intentions this Weekend***

**Sat 6.30pm** Bartle McDonnell  
**Sun 8.30am** Mary Ryan (1st An)  
Brendan Lawless (1st An)  
**Sun 11.15am** John Bateman



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

<b>Mon</b> 10.00am Maurice & Vera O'Connor	<b>Sat</b> 6.30pm Rita Daly
<b>Mass</b> 10.00am Mass of Reparation	
<b>Tues</b> 10.00am Declan Hanratty	<b>Sun</b> 8.30am Fr Marty Byrne
<b>Tues</b> 10.00am Noreen Beresford (MM)	
<b>Tues</b> 10.00am Special intention	<b>Sun</b> 11.15am Jimmy Devine & deceased
<b>Wed</b> 10.00am Thomas & Elizabeth O'Brien	members of the Devne Family
<b>Thurs</b> 10.00am Deirdre McEntee	
<b>Thurs</b> 10.00am Michael Toft (MM)	
<b>Fri</b> 10.00am Rose Geoghegan	

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

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



**Mask wearing in the Church**

It has been brought to our attention that some people have relaxed on mask wearing in the Church. Could we remind everyone to wear a mask everywhere in the Church and the Sacristy

**RECENTLY DECEASED**

***Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:***  
Sylvia Howe  
Melrose Park



**Bethany Bereavement Support Group** are offering telephone support, please contact Brid on 086 6006397 from Sunday 23rd January to Saturday 29th January. Please phone after 6pm. Details on the Parish website. You can also find information on <https://bethany.ie>

**A word from Fr. Colin**

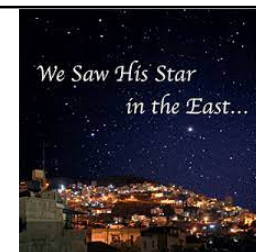
As you may already know, I was confined to my house for 10 days, as so many others have been, after developing a mild case of Covid. Thanks to all who prayed and got in touch with kind offers of help with groceries! From 24<sup>th</sup> January till Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> delegates will gather from around the world at Emmaus retreat house for the World Chapter of the Christian Brothers. I have been asked to celebrate mass for them each morning at 7.30 a.m. Renewed thanks on behalf of the whole parish to Canon Pat for helping us out when needed with our 10 a.m. masses. **Fr Colin**

**Church Unity Week**

The theme for the 2022 Week of Prayer is 'We saw the star in the East and we came to worship him (Mt 2:2) taken from the account of the visit of the magi to pay homage to the infant king (Mt 2:1-12). It is a call to unity, of those from the north and the South from the East and the West, old and young, men and women'

**The Swords Area Ecumenical Prayer Service** will take place in St. Cronan's Church, Brackenstown Road on Tuesday 25th January at 8:00pm. You can attend in person or join us online at [www.Brackenstown-parish.com](http://www.Brackenstown-parish.com).

*We Saw His Star  
in the East...*



**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

There are notable parallels as well as contrasts between the first reading and the gospel of today. In our first reading from Nehemiah, the priest Ezra solemnly reads a lengthy section from the Book of the Law of the people of Israel gathered in an open square in Jerusalem. He thus re-constitutes them as 'God's holy people' following the traumatic years of exile in Babylon. We are told that the people listened attentively and wept as they heard God's word proclaimed to them. How attentively do we listen to God's word and does it ever touch our hearts and move us to tears?

In the Gospel from Luke, Jesus also proclaims God's word to those gathered in the Synagogue of his home town of Nazareth. The passage he reads is taken from the prophet Isaiah. 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring good news to the afflicted. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives, sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord' (Lk 4:18-19). Jesus then sits down, and, in words which launch his great mission of liberation, he says: 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen' (Lk 4:21). The words of Isaiah serve as Jesus' manifesto. He has come to replace the old Jewish love of law with a new law of love and inaugurate the greatest revolution in human history.

**Catholic Schools Week 23rd January - 30th January**

Sunday 23rd January marks the beginning of Catholic Schools week 2022. During this week, we aim to celebrate the unique contribution that Catholic schools, both primary and post-primary, make to support each other and living out Jesus' message of the Gospel. This year's theme is 'Catholic schools: Living Life to the Full'.