

unique ministry, but it always a ministry of service and fidelity to the word of God, to the celebration of the Eucharist and to the pastoral care of God's people.

All ministry of the Church is a ministry of service that must be exercised in such a way as to reflect the caring work of Jesus Christ in our midst. That special care of Jesus is witnessed also in the third oil we bless, the **oil of the sick**, used in the sacrament that brings comfort support and hope to those who are at the weakest moments in their life. Wherever Jesus preached the Good News he also showed special concern for those who were sick or troubled or weighed down with the burdens of life's challenges. Every community of the disciples of Jesus must be marked by concrete concern for those who in life suffer and are marginalised.

The oil of the sick is a reminder of the special place of cherishing life in the ministry of the Church. Every human life is precious at any moment in its existence and no matter what condition in which it may find itself. The Church is pro-life and its pro-life message is not simply an occasional political platform but something deeper and irreplaceable. Every human life is created in the image of God. No one is excluded from God's loving care and from the care of the believers in Jesus Christ.

*Fr. Michael Carey*

### Mass intentions for Next Week

<b>Mon</b> 8.00am Ruairi Warnock	
<b>Mon</b> 10.00am John & Margaret Madden	<b>Sat</b> 10.00am Morning Prayer
<b>Tues</b> 8.00am Beatrice & Ned Egan	
<b>Tues</b> 10.00am J.C Savage	<b>Sat</b> 6.30pm Patrick Larmon
<b>Wed</b> 8.00am Patricia Hennelly	
<b>Wed</b> 10.00am Thomas Noctor	<b>Sun</b> 8.30am Elizabeth McKittrick & dec family members
<b>Thurs</b> 8.00am Daniel Roche	
<b>Thurs</b> 10.00am Ellen Farrell	<b>Sun</b> 11.00am John Collins & Colin Loughran Gerry Foley (MM)
<b>Fri</b> 8.00am Special intention	
<b>Fri</b> 10.00am Martin Nulty	<b>Sun</b> 6.30pm Nuala Collier

### Church of the Visitation Drynam    The Visitation of the BVM

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

Next Sunday we will have an additional Mass at 12:15 for the Holywell National School children and families as part of the 'Do This In Memory' program.

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently  
**Alice Roe**                      **Newtown Cottages**



### 2nd Sunday of Easter – Divine Mercy Sunday

Eastertide extends from the Easter Vigil until Pentecost and during it the Paschal or Easter candle is lit. It is intended to be a symbol of the risen Lord among his people. His presence is light, shedding this light on the meaning of life. The candle is an invitation to those who seek this light in their lives to search the Scriptures, especially the Gospels, if they wish to embrace the teaching of Jesus found there. (Source: St. Paul's Missal)

**Fr. Michael Carey-8403378:**

**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**



Second Sunday of Easter – Divine Mercy  
**The sacraments - the signs of the  
presence in the Church of the redeeming  
power of Jesus Christ.**

*“Receive the joy of your glory, giving thanks to God”*

Newsletter Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2018

### **What is the Chrism Mass?**

On Holy Thursday morning, the bishop, joined by the priests of the diocese, gather at the Cathedral to celebrate the Chrism Mass. This Mass demonstrates and shows the unity of the priests with their bishop. Also at this Mass the three Holy Oils are blessed and after are distributed to every Parish in the Diocese. At the Chrism Mass held in the Pro-Cathedral on Holy Thursday morning last, the Archbishop had the following to say about the Oils and the upcoming World Meeting of Families:

“This is a unique celebration. We gather around the table of the Lord to celebrate the Eucharist as a diocesan community. We have priests and lay representatives of every parish community, of every type of ministry or service, gathered with the Bishop around the Lord's Table. I thank all of you for being here and I thank you and the communities you represent for your daily commitment to the life of the Church of Jesus Christ in this diocese. It is good to gather together to celebrate the Eucharist.

We come to bless and consecrate the oils that will be used in the coming year in the celebration of the sacraments, the signs of the presence in the Church of the redeeming power of Jesus Christ.

The **oil of catechumens** is the oil of baptism, from which arises the central calling of all of us as Christians. That oil represents newness in Christian life. It is oil of the birth of new Christians through their incorporation into the life of Jesus Christ and into the Church. It reminds us of the fundamental call to holiness of each Christian, of the call to witness to Jesus, to use words of Pope Benedict, in a world in “which so many of the men and women of today do not know where to find God”.

The blessing of oils reminds us that the saving power of Jesus is found in the Church, where Jesus is present through his action and protection. You might ask, what does that mean to the many in our world and in our diocese who find the Church alienating – to those who repeatedly proclaim that they believe in God but not in the Church?

We have to remember that even when the members and the leadership in the Church fail, Jesus' salvation remains there to challenge us and stands there to judge us in our failings. When the Church becomes caught up in its own structures or in the ways of the world, it fails Jesus but Jesus never fails us.

The **oil of Chrism** is an oil of consecration used in baptism and confirmation and is also a sign of the special consecration of bishops and priests, a sign of their dignity and their special configuration to Christ in the service of the Church.

This Mass is a particular moment in which we celebrate priestly ministry and the fellowship of priests. It is good to be together as we renew our commitment to our calling and to our mission within the Church. The priest is called from among the baptised to a



### 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*



#### **Morning Prayer**

Next Saturday-14<sup>th</sup> April, Morning Prayer will be celebrated at 10.00am. In terms of the Prayer Book it is week 2

#### **Confirmation - Ceremony of Light**

The Ceremony of Light for St. Colmcille's BNS will be held this Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 1.30pm

#### **Do This in Memory**

Next weekend the boys and girls and their families will be present at the 6.30pm Saturday Vigil Mass as part of their Parish based preparation programme for the Sacrament of First Eucharist. We look forward to seeing them and praying with them.

#### **A Date for your Diary**

The fundraising committee will be running its annual Golf Classic in Forest little Golf Club on **Friday 8th June 2018**.

#### **Easter Dues**

A sincere thank you to all who have returned their Easter Dues envelopes. Your continued generosity is very much appreciated. If you did not receive an Easter Card from the Parish containing a dues envelope, there are some available at the back of the Church. If you are not a regular contributor to the Parish and would like to do so, please leave your name and contact details with myself or in Sacristy or Parish Office.

#### **Saints for the Coming Week**

##### **The Annunciation of the Lord (Monday April 9th)**

Because March 25<sup>th</sup> fell on Palm Sunday this feast day has been transferred to Monday April 9<sup>th</sup>. It celebrates Mary's 'Yes' to the Angel Gabriel that she be the mother of 'Our Lord'. We are holy because Jesus is holy. We do not earn holiness by doing good deeds, but our good deeds – our care and concern for others - is a concrete expression of our holiness, our relationship with God. We celebrate this day Jesus being made flesh in the womb of the Virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit. We also celebrate this day Jesus being made flesh in our own lives by our faithful living of the divine Life that was first given us in baptism and continues to grow in us as we, like Mary, say yes to God in all we do.

#### **St. Vincent de Paul**

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

### **DUBLIN DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SATURDAY 21ST APRIL 2018**

The three Parishes in Swords have arranged buses to Knock for the Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage. The buses will leave at 7:30am on Saturday 21st April. Cost of the bus is €20 and Children under 16 €10 Please bring a Packed Lunch – Tea & Coffee available in St. John's Centre, Knock. Bus will stop for 15 minutes on the way down and back.

**To book please contact Colette at the Parish Office**



#### **Grouping PPC's**

The PPC's for Swords, Drynam, Brackenstown and River Valley will meet this coming Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April in River Valley parish at 8.00pm

#### **Towards the Referendum on the 8<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution**

Choose Life 2018 is a weekly newsletter [www.dublindiocese.ie/choose-life-2018](http://www.dublindiocese.ie/choose-life-2018). The 10th edition is on that website now. There are some copies on the table at the back of the Church.

**The McBreen's Story** "The beginning of our pregnancy with Grace was the same as our other children. Everything was normal. We had an early scan at seven weeks which showed a heartbeat. We had another at 12 weeks and at 16 weeks we went for a third scan where the doctor could see something was wrong. "The doctors told us our baby had a 'fatal foetal abnormality' and that they were 100% certain that our baby wouldn't live. We were told there was no hope at all. We were devastated obviously. Before the doctors sent us home they brought us into a room and told us we didn't have to continue with this pregnancy. We were told we were taking the difficult route. They said there was obviously something wrong and the easiest thing for us to do would be to terminate the baby. There was pressure. There was an expectation that we should terminate. "We wanted God to decide what day, what hour, and what minute our baby was to leave. We thought if she's going to die anyway let it be natural. We wanted to give her every chance. "Grace was born in November 2014 with Down Syndrome. She is a little miracle. She's a joy from morning until night. She has made a difference in everybody's life. Her siblings adore her. Everybody adores her. She teaches us something new every day. "She wakes up first thing in the morning with a smile on her face and we fight over whose turn it is to hold Grace, to play with her, to feed her. She is making a big impact, on us as her family, and on everyone who meets her. "We are proud to live in a country that protects the right to life of unborn babies. Where there is life there is always hope."

**Anam Cara** North Dublin, an organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its next monthly Parent Evening on Wednesday 18th April from 7.30pm-9:00pm in the Carnegie Court Hotel, Swords. Anam Cara offers a safe and comfortable setting where you can 'drop the mask' and be yourself among people who understand. This event is open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether this was recent or not.