

A gathering of the community, which works to become one in voice, heart and body through sung, spoken and ritual prayer, and through daily witness.

Thanksgiving for the Lord who is present within the persons gathered, through the ministry of the presiding ordained celebrant and in God's Word proclaimed and broken.

Fr. Michael Carey

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 8.00am Eileen Moran

Mon 10.00am Christopher Farren

Tues 8.00am Patrick Madden

Tues 10.00am Teresa Noone

Wed 8.00am Special intention

Wed 10.00 Con Donovan

Thurs 8.00am Tom Markham

Thurs 10.00am Padraig McCrann

Fri 8.00am Altar list of the Dead

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Sat 6.30pm Nuala Ryan

Ursula Murphy (MM)

Sun 8.30am Devin O'Toole

Sun 11.0pm Stephen Cleary

Sun 6.30pm Charlie Clarke

Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM

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

We will have the last Mass in the current Drynam church structure on Sunday 23rd July. We are making alternative arrangements for Sunday morning Masses after that and further information will be provided in the announcements at Mass.



A Community's Hidden Treasure

Old age is the most precious time of life, the one nearest eternity. There are two ways of growing old. There are old people who are anxious and bitter, living in the past and illusion, who criticise everything that goes on around them... But there are also old people with a child's heart, who have used their freedom from function and responsibility to find a new youth. They have the wonder of a child, but the wisdom of maturity as well. They have integrated their years of function and so can live without being attached to power. Their freedom of heart and their acceptance of their limitations and weakness makes them people whose radiance illuminates the whole community. They are gentle and merciful, symbols of compassion and forgiveness. They become a community's hidden treasure, sources of unity and life.

Jean Vanier

Who is my neighbour?

Jesus knows the anxieties and tensions experienced by families and he weaves them into his parables: children who leave home to seek adventure (cf. Luke 15: 11-32), or who prove troublesome (Matthew 21:28-31 or fall prey to violence (Mark 12:19). (*Amoris Laetitia*, 21)

The Parish Office will be closed from Monday 3rd July - Friday 7th July

The Parish Pilgrimage to Knock takes place on August 12th. Full details are on the Church notice board

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)

Sacristy: -8400547 (Mon -Sat 9.30am-9.55am and 10.30am to 10.50am)

Website: www.swords-parish.com Email: stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

IT IS GOOD FOR US TO BE HERE

"All peoples, clap your hands, Cry to God with shouts of joy!"

Newsletter Sunday 2nd July 2017



Over the summer, but not necessarily every week I'll be producing a number of newsletters sourced from the National Centre of Liturgy from their document called 'IT IS GOOD FOR US TO BE HERE - gathered on a weekday when the eucharist is not celebrated'. This document is approved by the Irish Bishop's Conference at their meeting of September 2015 I feel it is timely to introduce this topic so that as a parish we can gather as the local faith community to pray and give worship to God when **the priest is absent**. Within the next few years, it is the weekday that is fragile in terms of daily Mass. If and when a priest is absent it does not mean that the parish community cannot give prayer and worship to God and the Church has other forms of worship apart from the Mass especially its Divine Office - Morning (Lauds) and Evening (Vespers) Prayer

An Easter People, A Sunday People

Christian people are decidedly a Sunday people. Christians gather with sisters and brothers on Sundays in order to keep the memorial of Jesus being raised from the dead on a Sunday; the day which the Jewish people named the 'first day of the week'.

It is at the heart of being the Church to assemble on Sunday and encounter the Lord. The Easter Triduum culminating in Easter Sunday is the annual, great, memorial of the Lord. Thereafter, the Sundays of Easter and every other Sunday are the Church's weekly, no less joyful, Easter celebration.

Christians who are Easter people, Sunday people, may seek to be together for worship on weekdays, too. There is no imperative to do so, save the call for God to sanctify all our days, for all of time.

Public Worship - The Liturgy

The Liturgy of the Church, is not just the Mass - it is much more! The Liturgy of the Church consists of the celebration of the Seven Sacraments (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Penance, Marriage, Orders, Anointing of the Sick); the Liturgy of the Hours; the Order of Christian Funerals and the Order of Blessings. The Liturgy of the Church, its sacrifice of praise, surpasses every form of popular, private devotion.

The centre and high point of the Liturgy of the Church and of the whole Christian life is the celebration of the Eucharist. Here is thanksgiving at the substantial, uninterrupted presence of the Lord, under the Eucharistic species of bread and wine.

Being Church 'means that we are to be God's leaven in the midst of humanity. It means proclaiming and bringing God's salvation into our world, which often goes astray and needs to be encouraged, given hope and strengthened on the way. The Church must be a place of mercy freely given, where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live the good life of the Gospel' (Evangeli Gaudium, 114).

The Church's public worship, its liturgy, have all the following in common:

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Antiphon - 'Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all within me, his holy name'



Cemetery Sunday-St. Colmcille's

This is a very important day in the Parish's annual calendar. It was a lovely afternoon weather wise, and the turnout was great as always. I want to take this opportunity to say a special 'thank you' to Paddy Gerrard. He is focused on this event before anyone else. Paddy, Dominic Temple and Noel Markey and the individuals who generously spend a few hours here and there, do a great job in maintaining and cleaning the Cemetery and Paddy also organises the collectors for the day of the blessing and I thank most sincerely the collectors for this. I thank the Bethany Bereavement Support Group who assisted during the Mass as well as the Ministers of the Eucharist, the Liturgy Team, the Choir and the Parish Pastoral Council. Finally, I thank Fr. Pat who con-celebrated the Mass and who assisted in the blessing of the Cemetery.

A THOUGHT

In every year of my priesthood, I have said a Cemetery Mass – every year! There are not too many priests in Dublin, who can say that. My observations for this year are that not too many people receive Holy Communion and the same was so last year. Also there are probably 10 times, if not more, the crowd outside the church than inside. A microphone system to cover the entire graveyard is prohibitively expensive. Also as I highlighted in a newsletter a few years ago:

- As the church is situated in the graveyard, Mass is offered every day in the graveyard
- Having Mass in the Church whilst everyone is outside, is not very satisfactory
- I believe in the main what people want is this annual gathering with their grave blessed.

So maybe next year I will offer the Sunday 11.00am Mass for all buried in the Cemetery (and for Swords parishioners buried in other Cemeteries) and then at 4.00pm when people gather as normal, I will hold a very short liturgy in the Church – a reading, prayer of the faithful and a blessing prayer for the Cemetery and then proceed the bless/sprinkle the individual graves, or at least as many as possible – please let me know what you think.

Flowers

I thank sincerely JC's Supermarket for the beautiful flowers which adorn the altar. These supply these flowers for Cemetery Sunday every year

Charities Act

To comply with the Charities Act we are obliged to send a communication to everyone who has made a contribution to the Parish for Christmas/Easter Dues and the Family Offering. This we are very happy to do. In order to minimise postage costs, I'd be much obliged if parishioners could help drop the letters in people's post boxes. The letters are in the sacristy as opposed to the back of the Church as they are individually addressed. Thanking you in anticipation

St. Vincent de Paul

The outdoor monthly collection for the VdP, will be taken up **next** weekend at all Masses

Peter's Pence – this weekend

This weekend Sat/Sun 1st/2nd July, is the one nearest the Feast of Ss. Peter and Paul. To that end the 2nd Collection (Share) is replaced by the 'Peter's Pence' collection this collection is for the Pope and Pontifical Charities.



World Meeting of Families Volunteer Programme

Dublin, has been chosen by Pope Francis to host the next World Meeting of Families in August 2018. Started by Saint John Paul II, and held every three years, this major world event celebrates family as the cornerstone of our lives, and the fundamental building block of society and the Church.

WMOF 2018 are now recruiting volunteers for a wide range of roles. We need the support of thousands of volunteers, as individuals or groups to assist in organising and running this exciting series of events. For more information visit the website www.worldmeeting2018.ie/volunteer. Leaflets are also at the back of the Church



St Vincent De Paul School uniform Appeal.

The St Vincent De Paul shop in Swords would greatly appreciate new/used wearable school uniforms/ shirts, tracksuits, jumpers, trousers shoes bags etc from both primary and secondary schools. Please donate items to our shop at 1 Castle Shopping Centre Swords Shop open Monday - Saturday 10.00am - 5.30pm Uniform sale will take place in July

St. Vincent de Paul – Annual Clothing Appeal

The Appeal is for clean good-quality clothes, bedclothes, curtains, shoes etc. Bags will be collected the this weekend 1st/2nd July. There will be no Sunday evening collection

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

Samantha Brennan

Bray

Joseph Brady

Melrose Park



Organist/Choir Director

As you may know Anne McDonagh is retiring from her position as Choir Director/Organist after 52 years of extraordinary service to this parish particularly in the music ministry. We wish her well and there will be an opportunity to pay tribute to her at a later date.

Is there someone in our community or among a wider circle that you think might be interested in this position which will become vacant in September? Good keyboard skills, sound knowledge of the liturgy, experience of choir work and ability to work as a member of a team are some of the gifts that we would look for in reviewing applications. Diocesan Guidelines for Church Musicians are used to determine remuneration.