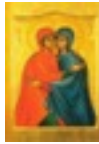


At Cana, Mary's work of intercession was complemented by the physical work of the servants who filled the jars with water. The Holy Spirit sometimes moves us to do something very practical for those who feel drained and empty. So this Sunday we pray that we would always be open to the many ways the Lord wants to work through us to serve those for whom something basic has run out. (Partly sourced from *Jesus our Saviour* by Fr. Martin Hogan) **Fr. Michael Carey**

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 8.00am Special intention	Sat 10.00am Maura Rock
Mon 10.00am Kathleen Maher	
Tues 8.00am Mar Byrne	Sat 6.30pm Gerald, Bernadette & Imelda Donnelly
Tues 10.00am Joan Power	
Wed 8.00am Cecil Connolly	Sun 8.30am In Thanksgiving
Wed 10.00am In Thanksgiving	Sun 11.00 am Dec members of Kenny Family
Thurs 8.00am Judith Hamill	Joseph Cain (MM)
Thurs 10.00am Bartle McDonnell	
Fri 8.00am George McDonnell	Sun 6.30pm John & Margaret Madden
Fri 10.00am Deirdre Byrne	Hilda & William Parker

Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM
Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am-11.00am(Irish)& 12 noon (No weekday Mass)
 The Drynam Pastoral Team has started investigating the possibility of replacing our ageing church structure. We would welcome your ideas and practical help on this project. Please talk to anyone on the team.



Epiphany Moment

In the liturgical tradition, the miracle in the wedding at Cana, together with the coming of the wise men, and the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan, is an 'epiphany', a manifestation of God's power and glory. Although his 'hour has not yet come', Jesus acts in response to his mother Mary. In John's Gospel Jesus' 'hour' is the crucifixion, when he reigns in glory from the cross. Mary is with him there, too; she forms a model for the Church that prays. (Source: *Glenstal Sunday Missal*)



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

In its Jewish context 'Peace' or 'Shalom' captures the idea of life, the promotion of all that is truly human. Where human beings are flourishing the kingdom of God is there. Wedding, bridegroom and wine combine to draw attention to one aspect of peace: good relations between people. This is particularly apt as we are in the Week of Prayer and work for Christian Unity.
Reflection - Heaven and earth, God and humanity, are wedded in the person of Jesus. He is frequently presented as a bridegroom who is close to the community of the Church which is his bride. In any human relationship either party can be unfaithful, but in the case of God and his people only one can be. God is always faithful. (Source: *St. Paul's Missal*)

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



2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Wine can run out on us

“All the earth shall bow down before you, O God”

Newsletter Sunday 17th January 2016

The visit of the Wise Men, The Baptism of The Lord and the Wedding feast of Cana – today's Gospel - these are the three epiphany Gospels, moments where Christ's power and glory are made visible, are shown forth. The three moments are celebrated more or less one week after the next in the Church's calendar.

In the Adoration of the Magi, Christ is revealed as the one true King, the only God and Saviour of the World. The gifts of gold for the King of kings, frankincense for the one true God and myrrh for the burial of the Saviour symbolise these three realities. At his Baptism in the Jordan he is acclaimed as the Son of God by the voice coming from the cloud. At the Wedding at Cana he lets his glory be seen and his disciples believe in him, for the Lord has truly appeared among us.

“Forsaken”, “Abandoned” - two words used in the 1st reading, which may at times or may even now, capture where we are at. Or to use the image of the Gospel – the wine has run out. But if it were just to leave things there and say that the readings have captured the sometimes human condition of joylessness and that no hope was offered then it wouldn't be 'good news'.

At Cana, the Lord worked not just to replace what had run out but to surpass what had run out. He not only replaced the wine but he provided wine of a better quality. ‘You have kept the best wine till now’.

Today's Gospel is famous, beautiful and a bit strange. Mary has a prominent role in it. She asks her Son to do something about the lack of wine at the celebration. “They have no Wine” We are told also that the guests have had plenty to drink, so this request for more wine might seem - irresponsible.

But if we allow for some exaggeration and poetic licence, the whole story can be taken as a way of telling us that nothing is too minor or too earthly or inconsequential to put before God in prayer. Rather than spending a lot of time to figure out whether our petitions are of the right calibre or level of importance, possibly we would do better to get into the habit of asking God about everything that is of any importance in our life. Anything we think may be of some good is certainly worth setting before the God. Let God sort out whether or not it's worthy of God's action

That great work of Jesus in today's Gospel still continues today in situations or in our lives where the wine has run out. But as in the gospel - the Lord needs people - he needs us to carry out his work. That's the link with the second reading – the Holy Spirit has given different people different gifts for the good of others.

Sometimes our role may be that of intercession – like Mary in the gospel, bringing a situation to the Lord attention. This is where we pray for each other, interceding with the Lord on each other's behalf, and this is where the ‘Prayer of the Faithful’ come into their own during the Mass. As a parish community on Sunday's - and individually when we pray, we bring before the Lord in prayer those for whom the wine has run out and that may be ourselves.



ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Antiphon – “We have come to know and to believe in the love that God has for us “



Year of Mercy

The third paragraph of the Papal encyclical – ‘*Misericordiae Vultus*’ is as follows: At times we are called to gaze even more attentively on mercy so that we may become a more effective sign of the Father’s action in our lives. For this reason I have proclaimed an *Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy* as a special time for the Church, a time when the witness of believers might grow stronger and more effective

Do This in Memory

Next weekend the boys and girls and their families will be present at the 6.30pm Saturday Vigil Mass and the 6.30pm Sunday evening 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.

World Day of Migrants and Refugees

This takes place today 17th January. In his pastoral message marking this important date in the Church calendar, Pope Francis reminds us how Jesus identified himself with strangers and outcasts: ‘Jesus Christ is always waiting to be recognised in migrants and refugees, in displaced persons and in exiles, and through them he calls us to share our resources, and occasionally to give up something of our acquired riches.’ On this day we are asked to remember in our prayers those who have left our shores and also those who have joined us here in our parishes from overseas.

Let us remember in a special way those migrants whose journeys were filled with fear, trepidation and hostility. In particular, let us remember the elderly Irish community in Britain, the undocumented in the United States and Irish prisoners overseas. Closer to home we remember those who are victims of racism, human trafficking and those living in the direct provision system. May we all walk together in prayerful solidarity with migrant peoples – both at home and abroad. May they find comfort and shelter in our parish and in our community. (*Irish Bishop’s Council for Emigrants*)

Parish Holiday

I really need to know by the end of the month, if parishioners are interested in this holiday so determine if it is a runner!

A REFLECTIVE SENTENCE After a fall, stand up again right away! Do not leave sin in your heart even for a moment! - *St. John Vianney (1786-1859)*.

Christian Unity Week 2016

To celebrate Christian Unity week 2016, Swords Area Prayer Service will take place in St Columba’s Church on Friday 22nd January at 8.00pm. *All are welcome*

• Liturgy Meeting

The Liturgy Team will meet on Tuesday 19th January at 7.30pm in the Parochial House

Parish Holiday to Vienna & Salzburg

Monday 27 June – Saturday 2 July 2016

Home of magnificent buildings, elegant palaces, fine art, classical music, waltzes, coffee shops and beautiful gardens this is **Vienna** where you will be spending 3 nights before heading to the lovely Baroque romantic city of **Salzburg**, for the remainder of your holiday.

Highlights include Guided half day walking tour of Vienna *Visiting the Melk Abbey*Half day walking tour of Salzburg*Half day Sound of Music coach tour **Cost: €895.00 per person sharing**

This price includes: Return direct flight Dublin/Vienna, Munich/Dublin with Aer Lingus* 5 nights accommodation sharing twin room in 3star hotel* Meals: bed and breakfast + 2 dinners* **Extras:** Baggage fee (currently €50.00 – 15 kg) * Insurance: €28.00 (66 yrs+: double insurance premium applies) * Single room supplement: €35.00 per person per night Bookings and Information: Contact **Parish Office. Tel: (01) 8407277**

Open Morning – St Colmcille’s Girls School

An ‘Open Morning will take place in St Colmcille’s Girls’ School on Wednesday 20th January from 9am – 10.45 am. All welcome.

Enrolment St. Colmcille’s Girls School

Enrolment for girls starting school in September 2016 takes place from January 25th – 29th , 9am – 10.30am each morning. **Baptismal & Birth Certificate must accompany all forms**



Enrolment St. Colmcille’s Boy’s School.

Application forms for enrolment for boys starting school in September 2016 are available from the school, 9.00am –4.00pm daily. Completed forms must be returned by January 29th **Baptismal & Birth Certificate must accompany all forms**

A Date for your Diary

On **Saturday 13th February at 11am** the Parish will celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick in St. Colmcille’s. All parishioners are welcome. It is an ideal opportunity to reach out to a housebound neighbour or a neighbour who has no means of transport and bring them to the church for this celebration.

Property and Finance Committee

The Property and Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday 19th January at 2.30pm in Parochial House.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

Henry Savage

Rathbeale Cottages