

dark night that the light of faith shines purest in our hearts. And that light will show the way to the renewal of the Christian life in Ireland in the years ahead.

Finally,... What is the first duty of the bishop? I say it to everyone: it is prayer. When the Greek-speaking Christians complained that their widows were being neglected (cf. Acts 6:1), Peter and the apostles created deacons. Then when Peter explained the matter, he concluded by saying: "We [apostles] will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word". So I throw out a question and each of you can answer it at home: how many hours a day does each of you devote to prayer?

With these thoughts, dear brothers, I assure you of my prayers for your intentions, and I ask you to keep me in your own. To all of you, and to the faithful entrusted to your pastoral care, I impart my blessing as a pledge of joy and strength in our Lord Jesus Christ. I am close to you: keep moving ahead with courage! The Lord is very good, and Our Lady is watching over you. When things get a little difficult, pray, because the Russian mystics say that at moments of spiritual turmoil, we should go under the mantle of the Holy Mother of God. Thank you very much! Now I will give you my blessing.

Together let us pray the Hail Mary.

May God bless you all, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Thank you very much.

*Fr. Michael Carey*

***Mass intentions for Next Week***

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Mon</b> 8.00am Angela Beausang     | <b>Sat</b> 6.30pm Susan Lambe             |
| <b>Mon</b> 10.00am Liam McPhearson    | Molly McGarry                             |
| <b>Tues</b> 8.00am Harry Lawrence     | Anthony Turvey (1st An)                   |
| <b>Tues</b> 10.00 Joe & Peggy Savage  |   |
| <b>Wed</b> 8.00am Breda Raymond       | <b>Sun</b> 8.30am John MGrane             |
| <b>Wed</b> 10.00am Patrick Walsh      |   |
| <b>Thurs</b> 8.00am Special Intention |   |
| <b>Thurs</b> 10.00am Alice & Tom Kane | <b>Sun</b> 11.15am Bridie & Joe McDonnell |
| <b>Fri</b> 8.00am Mary Cudoihy        | Martin Bradley (1st An)                   |
| <b>Fri</b> 10.00am Sean Flynn         |   |

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

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

Today we are delighted to welcome Fr John Collins to Drynam and wish him every success in his ministry here in coming years..

**Overseas Volunteers Required!**

Volunteer Carpenters, Builders, Media Specialists, Early Childhood Practitioners, Occupational Therapists, Primary/Secondary Teachers, Accountants, Social Workers, Farmers...required for placements on Missions in Africa, SE Asia and the Caribbean. No previous overseas exp required, no upper age limit! Volunteer training programme begins 22nd September in Dublin - open to all! Contact Viatores Christi +353-1-8689986 or email [apply@viatoreschristi.com](mailto:apply@viatoreschristi.com) for more info.

**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](http://www.swords-parish.com) Email: [stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com](mailto:stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com)**

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Pope's Talk to Irish Bishops**

*"Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you"*

Newsletter Sunday 16th September 2018



The final talk of Pope Francis before he left Ireland was to the Bishop's of Ireland. Below is an extract from that talk:

"As we mentioned in our conversation in Rome, the transmission of the faith in its integrity and beauty represents a significant challenge in the context of Ireland's rapidly evolving society. The World Meeting of Families has given us great hope and encouragement that families are growing more and more conscious of their own irreplaceable role in passing on the faith. Passing on the faith essentially takes place in the family; the faith is passed on in everyday speech, the language of the family. At the same time, Catholic schools and programmes of religious instruction continue to play an indispensable role in creating a culture of faith and a sense of missionary discipleship. I know that this is a source of pastoral concern for all of you. Genuine religious formation calls for faithful and joyful teachers who are able to shape not only minds but also hearts in the love of Christ and in the practice of prayer.

Sometimes we can think that faith formation means teaching religious concepts, and we don't think of forming the heart, shaping attitudes. Yesterday the President of the nation told me that he had written a poem about Descartes and said, more or less: "The coldness of thought has killed the music of the heart". Forming the mind, yes, but also the heart. And teaching how to pray: teaching children how to pray from the very start. Prayer....

The upheavals of recent years have tested the traditionally strong faith of the Irish people. Yet they have also offered the opportunity for an interior renewal of the Church in this country and pointed to new ways of envisioning its life and mission. "God is eternal newness" and he impels us "constantly to set out anew, to pass beyond what is familiar, to the fringes and beyond". With humility and trust in his grace, may you discern and set out on new paths for these new times. Be courageous and creative. Surely, the strong missionary sense rooted in the soul of your people will inspire creative ways of bearing witness to the truth of the Gospel and building up the community of believers in the love of Christ and zeal for the growth of his kingdom.

In your daily efforts to be fathers and shepherds to God's family in this country – fathers, please, and not stepfathers! – may you always be sustained by the hope that trusts in the truth of Christ's words and the certainty of his promises. In every time and place, that truth "sets free" (Jn 8:32); it has a power all its own to convince minds and draw hearts to itself. Whenever you and your people feel that you are a "little flock" facing challenges and difficulties, do not grow discouraged. As Saint John of the Cross teaches us, it is in the

## 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*



### Who was Jesus, really?

#### **Facts:**

Matthew begins his gospel by telling us that Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah, the anointed one. He is also the son of Abraham, the Son of David. We know a lot of facts about Jesus. He was born in Bethlehem, during the reign of the emperor Augustus. His mother's name was Mary. His foster father was a man named Joseph. He was raised in Nazareth. He was a good Jew from a Jewish family. He was a man, a human being, who experienced the human condition as we do; he felt hunger, thirst, joy and sadness, tiredness, grief and pain. He was like us in all things except sin. But he was so much more than that. He died a terrible death on the Cross and He rose from the dead.

#### **Teacher:**

When he was about thirty He began, what we call, his public ministry. He gathered a group of disciples around him, ordinary men and women, who for one reason or another left everything and followed him. He taught them many things, about how they should relate to God and to one another. He often spoke in parables and many of the things he said were, and indeed still are, radical and thought provoking: 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven'. 'Blessed are the gentle, for they shall have the earth for their heritage.'...He spoke with an authority they had never heard the likes of... 'you have heard it said...but I say this to you.'

#### **Healer:**

They saw him heal the sick and release the possessed, 'He cast out the spirits with a word and cured all who were sick.' He calmed the seas and raised the dead. He walked on the water and fed the 5,000 and yet, for all that, he wept. He wept over Jerusalem and at the death of His friend Lazarus. All he said and did was for others, he once said that he came so that we might have life and have it to the full and he said that he was the door to life. I am the way, the truth and the life, he said. It was only towards the end of His life that he admitted to being the Messiah. He preferred to call himself 'Son of Man'.

In the Gospels he tells us He is the Bread of Life, the Good Shepherd. He is the love, the compassion and the empathy of God in a human being, '**And the word was made flesh and lived among us.**' And he tells us 'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened and I will give you rest.'

Finally, after his passion, death and resurrection the disciples came to realise who he truly was, in the words of Peter he is - **the Christ, the Son of the living God.**'

Jesus asks each one of us, '**Who do you say I am?**' (Talk given by Fr. Paddy Boyle to the Parish 3 years ago)

### Swords Grouping of PPC's

The Parish Pastoral Councils of Brackenstown, River Valley, Swords and Drynam will meet this Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 8.00pm in the Parochial House, Seatown Rd

### Crosscare

The annual collection for CROSSCARE, – Social Support Agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Dublin will take place at all Masses this weekend 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> September. This collection is for Community and homeless services. The collection will replace the usual Share collection. Inspired by the example and teachings of Jesus Christ, Crosscare has: A vision of a society where all people have the opportunity to fulfil their potential. A mission to provide innovation and relevant services to those most in need. Siobhan Reid from Crosscare will speak at all Masses in Swords about the mission of Crosscare.



**Autumn Liturgy Seminar** will take place in Clonliffe College on Saturday 29 September 2018 (9.30am to 1.30pm) Registration 9.00 to 9.30am.

- 1) **A Time to be Born - Patricia Carroll and Donal Harrington** will continue their accompaniment of Baptism Teams in a full morning workshop
- 2) **A Time to Lead - Damian McNeice** will open up the role of lay people in organising and leading prayer for a variety of occasions.
- 3) **A Time to Explore - Julie Kavanagh** will explore the concept of the Body in worship and it's implications for the central act of the Christian Community.
- 4) **A Time to Sing - Ian Callanan** will go through the Emmanuel 2019 programme. Be prepared to sing, sway and clap.
- 5) **A Time to Reflect - Pat O' Donoghue** will explore the spirituality of liturgical ministers - who are called to serve their communities in welcoming, reading, distributing holy communion, music etc.

Please contact Colette in Parish Office to book (two workshops)

**Anam Cara** North Dublin the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Bereavement Information Evening on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 7:30pm in the Carnegie Court Hotel, Swords. This is a free event and open to all bereaved parents. As we will need to confirm numbers for teas, coffees, etc, please RSVP to [info@anamcara.ie](mailto:info@anamcara.ie) before Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September or call the Information Line 085 2888 888.

### **Bethany Bereavement Support Group -Public Talk**

'How Bethany helped me on my grieving journey' a talk by Nuala Casey will take place on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm in St Xavier's Church, Gardiner Street, all welcome, no charge. For further information 087 9905299. For more information visit: [www.bethany.ie](http://www.bethany.ie)

### **Opening Year Mass**

Scoil an Duinnigh will have their Opening Mass of the School Year Mass in the School hall this coming Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 11.00am