

Strong and Perfect

We know what strong means. But the word 'perfect' may be a 'turn off'. Who is perfect? Who likes perfect people? In terms of the definition 'perfect', it has a religious meaning. Jesus said to his followers "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (St. Matthew-Ch 5 verse 48)

We are invited in our life's journey to become perfect as 'God is Perfect' because we are made in God's image and likeness" "Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness" (Genesis-Ch 1 verse 26) So that's the WHY? But what does to be perfect mean? – It means that our lives reveal the fruits of the Holy Spirit in how we live them: love; joy; peace; patience; kindness; goodness; gentleness; faithfulness self-control.

Fr. Michael Carey Adm

Mass Intentions for this coming week: St Colmcille's:

Mon 8.00am Aisling Burke	Sat 10.00am Jack & Mary Mulligan
Mon 10.00am Eileen & Nora O'Sullivan	
Tues 8.00 Edward Dolan	Sun 6.30pm Patrick Flynn
Tues 10.00am Vera Barker	Sun 8.30am Jim Nevin Jnr
Wed 8.00am Special intention	Sun 10.00am Paddy Barker
Wed 10.00am Mary, William, Michael & Patrick Harford	Sun 11.30am Christine & Frances Loughran
Thurs 8.00 am David Fitzgerald Peggy Watson	Sun 7.30pm Dec members of McLoughney Family
Thurs 10.00 Honour of Sacred Heart	
Fri 8.00am Maureen Downey	
Fri 10.00 am Dec members of Hughes Family	

Church of the Visitation Drynam

The Visitation of the BVM

Mass Times for Drynam: Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri:9.20am. Sun, 10.00am 11.00am

(Irish)& 12 noon. Today we celebrate 12:00 Mass for Fr Declan McHugh C.C. who died 20 years ago yesterday. Fr. Declan was our first priest here in Drynam and he is fondly remembered for his kindness and dedicated work setting up the new church.

We also welcome the family of Lena McMyler on the occasion of her Month's Mind celebrated at the 11:00AM Mass today. We will never forget Lena's selfless contribution to Drynam Pastoral Team projects in recent years and for overseeing the 11:00 Irish Mass in particular.

Pentecost Sunday

Shalom – peace – is one of those wonderful words which speaks directly to the hearts and needs of us all. In the Old Testament, shalom already has a rich meaning: physical health, prosperity, good relationship and fertility. The shalom of the Risen Lord includes his love, his offer of forgiveness of sins and his gift of freedom from death and the fear of death. We live these gifts through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, the gift of the Risen Christ.

Prayer - Breathe upon us again, O Risen Lord, the breath of the Holy Spirit that we live the Good News in our hearts and lives and become bearers of the Gospel to the people of our time.

The Bethany Bereavement Support Group will meet on Monday 9th June from 7.30pm - 8.30 pm in the Parochial House, Seatown Road. All Fingal residents welcome

Annual Commemoration Ceremony for Frank Duff, founder of Legion of Mary takes place on Sunday June 8th at 3pm in Glasnevin Cemetery

Holy Mass in **Polish Language**, will be celebrated on Sunday 8th June at 6.45pm in St. Cronan's Church, Brackenstown Road, Swords. (Spowiedz 6.15pm & Msza 6.45pm)

Fr. Michael Carey-8403378: Fr. Peter McCarron-8405948

Parish Secretary: Colette Stokes at Parish Office, Seatown Road-8407277

(Mon to Fri 9.15am-12.30pm & Tues-Thurs 2pm-4pm)

Sacristan: Stephanie Byrne-8400547 (Mon –Sat 9.30am-10.30am)

Website: www.swords-parish.com Email: stcolmcilleschurch@eircom.net



Pentecost Sunday

The Sacrament of Confirmation

“The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit of God dwelling within us , alleluia”



Newsletter Sunday 8th June 2014

Over the past fortnight our Parish has celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation. The actual two days themselves were wonderful and a real exercise in collaborative ministry and partnership between the School, the Parish and the Home. Teachers helped the children to try and understand what confirmation is about. Priests assisted the teachers and talked about and the ceremony itself.

CONFIRMATION - A GREAT OCCASION

There is no doubt about the fact that Confirmation is a very special occasion in the life of any Christian. It is a great day for the parish. It is also a big day for the family. Confirmation, however, is more than just a special day. It involves a lot of time in the preparation for the day itself and it stretches forward in that it can affect the whole future life of the child who is being confirmed.

A person is not confirmed in isolation from others. From the very start of the preparation various people such as parents, teachers, priests, and sponsors, are involved. In a real sense the first step on the road to confirmation was taken at baptism. For this reason parents, as the ones who presented the children for baptism, have an essential role to play in the preparation. Teachers will help the children to try and understand what confirmation is about. Priests will talk about the ceremony itself. As such then, preparing children for confirmation is a work of partnership.

DEFINITION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

It is the Sacrament in which we receive the Holy Spirit in order to make us strong and perfect Christians and workers for the Kingdom of Christ. It is not the faith that is confirmed but the person.

What is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Blessed Trinity. It is the loving presence of God the Father, or God the Son, in our lives. It is easier to think of Father and Son rather than the Holy Spirit. In the beginning of the story of creation, the Bible tells us that a wind of God swept over the face of the waters. We know that wind is one of the symbols or ways in which we speak about the Holy Spirit. As Christians, we come to know the Holy Spirit when we see and appreciate that the power or energy or creativity that is at work in all areas of our existence-in the natural world, in the world of science, mathematics, art, in family life, in the life of the Church and in all our relations with others-is really the Holy Spirit, active in the universe since the very beginning. It is the presence, action, energy, creativity and love of the Holy Spirit which, day after day, renews the face of the earth. In every act of kindness or goodness we do, or have done to us, in every moment of joy, in every attempt to make peace or show love or patience, in every expression of gentleness or self-control, and every time we give or receive trust, we see the Holy Spirit at work in people's lives. This is the same Holy Spirit that we see at work in the beauty , wonder and order of the natural world. (Source: *Veritas-Alive O*)

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Antiphon - "They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia."



Cemetery Sunday – Sunday 29th June at 4pm

As we prepare for Cemetery Sunday we need your help. At the moment Paddy Gerrard, Domnic Temple and Noel Markey are doing all the grass and hedge cutting. It is a huge task and becoming too much for them. Can you help? It is an ideal Corporal Work of Mercy. Please consider and if you can assist you can ring Paddy at 01-8401466.

St. Colmcille's - Summer Schedule

To enable myself and Frs. Pat and Johnny to take summer holidays and recharge the batteries the 10.00am Sunday Morning Mass will be dropped for July and August and the first half of September. It will return on Sunday 14th September. I am sorry for the disappointment that this will cause to the 'regulars' at this Mass but I hope that you understand. There is a 10.00am Mass in the Church of the Visitation, Drynam and St. Finian's, River Valley

Corpus Christi Procession

On Thursday 19th June the Archbishop will lead a Corpus Christi Procession through the grounds of Clonliffe College (Clonliffe Rd. Dn.3) at 7.30pm. As a parish we travelled last year and I know those who went found it rewarding and spiritually uplifting. You can make your own way there or - **A bus has been organised for the Swords grouping of Parishes at a cost of €6 per ticket. Purchase from Stephanie in the Sacristy – 17 places available.**

St. Colmcille's Cemetery Sunday

On Sunday 29th June the Parish will celebrate the Annual Blessing of Graves at 4pm. This year will be slightly different. The priests will divide the graveyard into roughly 10 stations/sections and at each station/section, the Scripture will be proclaimed followed by a Prayer of Blessing and then the sprinkling of the graves. On that Sunday Morning one of the Masses will be offered for all who are buried in the Cemetery

A REFLECTIVE SENTENCE Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created and you shall renew the face of the earth.

Prayer for Pentecost

God, whose Spirit is known in the bringing together of those
Who were once kept apart,
You have announced good news in the very human accents
Which have become most dear to us.
And so we pray; Come, Holy Spirit,
And celebrate in us that love of God in Jesus Christ
Which need never be measured and will never run short,
And for whose cadences you have given us,
Without distinction, the ears to hear.

Brackenstown, Rivervalley & Swords

Lourdes Parish Pilgrimage

Sunday 7th – Friday 12th September 2014

Spiritual Leader Fr Michael Carey Adm.

Price: €669.00 per person sharing



Price includes: Return flights Dublin Lourdes; Return airport transfers to Lourdes. 5 nights accommodation at Hotel Roissy (3*); Full board basis; Services of a Travel representative in Lourdes Extras: Single room supplement €175.00 for duration of stay Airport taxes: €75.00 Insurance: €25.00 . Bookings: Parish Office, Colette, 8407277. Louise 8401188

Ecumenical Bible Week: Takes place in the week June 8th-15th, starting on Pentecost Sunday. This new initiative, involving all the main churches, is a different kind of celebration. It is not a congress or an assembly but a series of events which will move around Dublin and the wider area. With a highly ecumenical engagement, this new initiative has great potential for the coming together of Christians from all backgrounds around the Word of God which we all share. The Ecumenical Bible Week is a direct fruit of the International Eucharistic Congress of 2012. If it proves a success, it may well become an annual happening. The churches and movements so far involved are: Scripture Union, the Evangelical Alliance, the Orthodox Church, the Church of Ireland, the Catholic Church, the Methodist Church and the Presbyterian Church. See schedule attached and check out www.bibleweek.com. Nearest Venue:

Whitehall Parish Church/Centre - Monday, 9th June at 7.30p.m.—Bible and Music
Tuesday, 10th June at 7.30p.m.—Exploring and Praying the Bible.
Wednesday, 11th June at 7.30p.m.— Bible & Film.
Friday, 13th June at 7.30p.m.— Bible & Contemporary Issues

Exam – A Parent's Prayer.

Dear Lord,

I pray for my child and all students about to sit exams.

Help them to keep calm and clear-minded.

Fill them with your peace so that they may be able to make best use of their abilities, the study they have done and the education they have been blessed with.

Do not let the burden of fear and nervousness prevent them from doing as well as they deserve. However, teach them not to measure their self worth by the mark they receive but rather by the effort they put in.

Guide their footsteps when they walk alone, but help them also to be there for each other, supporting and encouraging in the truest spirit of friendship.

Lord, bless everyone today who has given of themselves to these students on their journey, teachers, family, friends and fellow classmates.

Teach them to be thankful, that despite the stress and worry that exams bring, they have this opportunity that many young people all over the world are deprived of.

*May the light of Jesus shine gently on them now and during any difficult times they might face on their journey through life. **Amen***