

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 8.00am Kay Simpson

Mon 10.00am Mary Flynn
Audrey Mullen

Tues 8.00am Fr Jim Murphy

Tues 10.00am Daniel Burke

Wed 8.00am Eddie Keller

Wed 10.00am Monica Feeney

Wed 7.30pm

Thurs 8.00am Molly Byrne

Thurs 10.00am Mary Flynn

Kathleen Doyle

Fri 8.00am Tom Phelan

Fri 10.00am Anthony & Mary Kelly

Sat 11.00am Special Mass for the Sick

Sat 6.30pm Jacqueline Monaghan

Bridie Runae MM

Sun 8.30am Patrick Kane

Sun 11.00am Elizabeth Ivers

Sun 6.30pm Frank King

Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM

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

Fr. Peter is saying the 10:00 Mass today. We have tea/coffee after each Mass today.

Please do come in for a cuppa.



B.E. - BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

B.E. is a support group for those coping with the pain of loss of their life partner, through Death, Separation or Divorce. Few people are able to cope alone with the pain of loss. Do you find that you need more support than family and friends can provide? Seeking help is a sign of strength and self-knowledge – not weakness. This is a healing ministry, which helps to resolve the grief that goes with the end of a marriage or relationship. Coping effectively with bereavement is a skill we can all learn. A team, who are themselves widowed, separated or divorced share their experiences with you.

Next Coping Programme will commence on Wednesday 3rd February 2016 for 7 Wednesday evenings, at 7.15pm in White Friars Community Centre, Aungier St., Dublin 2. If you missed the first night, please come along on February 10th you will be most welcome. For further information phone 086 0877379 or email bedublin@gmail.com. www.beginningexperience.ie

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Mass is composed of two principal parts: word and sacrament. In the first part, we are invited to listen to God's word, not a passive response but an activity which can transform us. Our scriptures come from a Jewish background. When the Jewish people were celebrating an event of the past it was as if that event were present to them at the moment of celebration. As we celebrate the Lord's supper today that event is made real for us now.

Reflection - Faith has traditionally been called a theological virtue because its presence in a human being prepares and enables that person to share in God's life. Biblical faith is not simply agreeing with a particular belief but is a commitment to God freely given in response to God's prior gift to the believer. (Source: St. Paul's Missal)

DCU ILP are offering FREE computer courses to the over 55's. Details below:

FREE Module - Duration 4 weeks - Start Dates Feb 22nd-Mar 21st – Apr 18th

- Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs - 10am to 12pm or 2pm to 4pm - This module will enable students to become familiar with the basic uses of a computer including e-mailing, browsing the Internet and conducting an online transaction. Each student will receive one session per week (2 hours) for four weeks with support from DCU volunteer students. contact Carmel on 01 7007423 or email ilp.info@dcu.ie

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



5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We can be Doers of Mercy

“O come, let us worship God and bow down before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God”

Newsletter Sunday 7th February 2016



Recently Pope Francis said the following: “God's mercy has always been present throughout the history of the People of Israel, accompanying the way of Patriarchs, endowing them with offspring despite their sterility as in the case of Abraham and Sarah, and leading them on paths of grace and reconciliation, as is shown by the story of Joseph and his brothers. When life became difficult due to slavery in Egypt, God was not indifferent to their suffering. He saved them from the Pharaoh through Moses, he took them out of Egypt and led them through the Red Sea and the desert to the promised land and to freedom. ‘God heard their groaning and He remembered His covenant’, drawn from the Book of Exodus.

Mercy is not indifferent to the pain of the oppressed, to the cry of those who suffer violence and slavery or are condemned to death. Suffering is a sad reality that afflicts every age, including our own, and often makes us feel helpless, tempting us to harden our hearts and think of other things. God, however, is not indifferent; He never turns away from human suffering. The God of mercy ... intervenes to save, inspiring men capable of hearing the cry of suffering and of working in favour of the oppressed.

Moses, one of God's chosen ones, saved from the waters of the Nile by divine mercy, becomes a mediator for the liberation of his people. **And we too, in this Year of Mercy, can be mediators** ... with the works of mercy, being close to our neighbours, to relieve them. They are many good things we can do.

God's mercy always acts to save us. The Lord, through his servant Moses, leads Israel in the desert like a child, educating his people in faith and creating a strong bond of love, like that between a father and son, or a bride and groom. ... God possesses all the earth because He has created it, but the people become for Him a different type of possession:

His personal reserve of gold and silver, like the treasure King David says he has donated for the construction of the Temple. This is what we become for God by welcoming his covenant and letting ourselves be saved by Him. The Lord's mercy makes man precious, like a personal wealth that belongs to Him, that He conserves and is pleased with.

These are the wonders of divine mercy, that finds fulfilment in the Lord Jesus, in that 'new and eternal alliance' consummated with His blood, that with forgiveness destroys our sin and definitively makes us children of God, precious jewels in the hands of the good and merciful Father. And if we are children of God, we have the possibility of inheriting this goodness and mercy. Let us ask the Lord, in this Year of Mercy ... to open our heart to reach everyone with the works of mercy, the legacy of the mercy that God the Father has shown to us”.

What is Mercy?

Mercy is the quality of care for another, willingness to make an effort, even at great sacrifice, to ease another's pain, readiness to forgive, eagerness to help.

Fr. Michael Carey

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Year of Mercy – “Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful” (Lk.6:36)

Year of Mercy

The sixth paragraph of the Papal encyclical – ‘*Misericordiae Vultus*’ is as follows: “It is proper to God to exercise mercy, and he manifests his omnipotence particularly in this way”. Saint Thomas Aquinas’ words show that God’s mercy, rather than a sign of weakness, is the mark of his omnipotence. For this reason the liturgy, in one of its most ancient collects, has us pray: “O God, who reveal your power above all in your mercy and forgiveness ...” Throughout the history of humanity, God will always be the One who is present, close, provident, holy, and merciful.

Confirmation Mass

I welcome this weekend the boys and girls and their families to the 6.30pm Saturday Vigil Mass and the 6.30pm Sunday Evening Mass as part of our new Parish initiative as they journey towards the Sacrament of Confirmation. We anticipate their presence and look forward to seeing them and their families and praying with them.

Book of Intentions

At the back of the Church (St. Colmcille’s) is a ‘Book of Intentions’. I invite you to write prayer requests in it and a special ‘Prayer of the Faithful’ will be said every Sunday. We are now on the fifth book. You should leaf through it – it is very humbling.



A REFLECTIVE SENTENCE Only Christ (is) truly priest. But the others are his ministers. – St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274).

First Penance

Congratulations to the girls in 2nd Class who received their First Penance last Thursday. They were excellently prepared by Ms. O’Brien and Ms. Murphy. This week is a special week for the boys and girls from St. Colmcille’s BNS and Holy Well Educate Together as they celebrate their First Penance on Tuesday 9th February at 7.30pm. I thank the teachers for the preparatory work that they are undertaking and the parents for presenting their children for this Sacrament.

Bethany Bereavement Support Group

Help is at hand. Bethany trained members are available to provide support to those grieving after the loss of a loved one. This is a free, confidential service. The Group meet on the second and last Monday of each month from 7.30 - 8.30 p.m. at the Parochial House, Seatown Road - **Next Meeting 8th February 2016** For further information please 'phone Mary 8402652 or Brid 086 6006397 after 6 p.m. Open to all Fingal Residents - You are most welcome to attend.

Msze Swieta w Jeryku Polskim w Niedziele 14 Luty, o godz 18.45pm w St Cronan’s Church, Brackenstown Road, Swords. (Spowiedz 18.15 - 18.40 pm)

Ash Wednesday – 10th February.

This is a day of fast and abstinence and the beginning of the Season of Lent.

Why do we put ash on our forehead? - Ashes are applied to our forehead in the sign of the cross as the words, "Remember, you are dust and to dust you shall return" are spoken to us. The other formula which is used, "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel" emphasises our call to continual conversion and holiness of life. This act symbolises our mortality as well as our need for ongoing repentance. It is a reminder that this life is short and merely a foreshadowing of what we shall become through the redemption of Jesus Christ on the cross. The work of our redemption will not be complete until we are raised from the dead, in resurrected bodies like His own and called to the eternal communion of heaven.

Lent - Ash Wednesday – 10th February.

The season of Lent begins this Ash Wednesday 10th February. The Masses on this day are 8.00am; 10.00am and **7.30pm** in St. Colmcille’s and at 9.20am in Our Lady of the Visitation, Drynam



Parish Mass of healing and Anointing for the sick

February 11th, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes is when the Church celebrates the ‘World Day of the Sick’. 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.

‘The World Day of the Sick is a call once again to all, to see in the face of their brother or sister who is sick the face of Christ who, suffering, dying and rising, brought salvation to humanity.’ *Blessed John Paul II*

There will be no 10.00am Mass this Saturday Morning

St. Vincent de Paul

The outdoor monthly collection for the VdP, will be taken up this weekend (Feb 6th/7th) after all Masses.

Accord

The annual collection for ACCORD, the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family will take place at all Masses next **weekend 13th/14th February**. The collection will replace the usual Share collection.

A New Life Saving Group for Swords

Swords Community First Responders is a new life saving group for Swords. A public information meeting will be held on Tuesday 23rd February at 7.30pm in The Old Schoolhouse Pub, Church Road. For further information contact swordscfr@gmail.com