

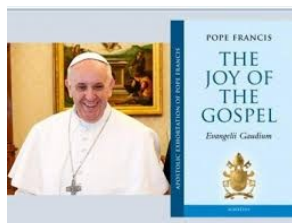
Swords - St. Colmcille's / Dynam - Our Lady of the Visitation

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.net7th Sunday in Ordinary Time**THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL (Part 2)**

“O, Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation”

Newsletter Sunday 23rd February 2014

The Pope goes on to talk about pastoral work, pastoral planning, pastoral initiatives etc. He basically says how easy it is to get demoralised and how easy it is to go astray in plans etc.

He addresses these points in the second chapter which is dedicated to recognizing the challenges of the contemporary world and to overcoming the easy temptations which undermine the New Evangelization. *{In short, to proclaim the “Good News” is the essence of evangelisation. In the Gospels, “the preaching of the Good News” is Jesus’ self definition of his mission or purpose. ‘To other towns I must announce the good news of the Kingdom of God, because that is why I was sent’ (Lk.4: 42-43).}*

In the first place, the Pope affirms, we must recover our identity without those inferiority complexes which lead to “concealing our identity and convictions ... and end up suffocating the joy of our mission as we become obsessed over becoming like everyone else possessing the things which they possess” This makes Christians fall into “a kind of relativism which is more dangerous than the doctrinal one”, because it impinges directly on the lifestyle of believers.

So it happens that many expressions of our pastoral activity suffer from a kind of weariness which derives from placing the accent on the initiatives themselves and not on the person. The Pope believes that the temptation of a “de-personalization of the person” in order to become better organized is both real and common. By the same token, the challenges in evangelization should be accepted more as a chance to grow and as not as a reason for falling into depression. There should be no talk, then, of a “sense of defeat”. As well as the more usual and more widespread challenges, however, we must be alive to those which impinge more directly on our lives: the sense of “daily uncertainty, with evil consequences”, the various forms of “social disparity”, the “fetishism of money and the dictatorship of a faceless economy”, the “exasperation of consumption” and “unbridled consumerism”... In short, we find ourselves in the presence of a “globalization of indifference” and a “sneering contempt” towards ethics, accompanied by a constant attempt to marginalize every critical warning over the supremacy of the market which, with its “trickle down” creates the illusion of helping the poor. If the Church today appears still highly credible in many countries of the world, even where it is a minority, it is because of her works of charity and solidarity.

Some more quotes from *Evangelii Gaudium* – The Joy of the Gospel

Unjust economics: Today we also have to say “thou shalt not” to an economy of exclusion and inequality. Such an economy kills. How can it be that it is not a news item when an elderly homeless person dies of exposure, but it is news when the stock market loses two points? This is a case of exclusion. Can we continue to stand by when food is thrown away while people are starving? This is the case of inequality. Today everything comes under the laws of competition and the survival of the fittest, where the powerful feed upon the powerless. (53).

Consumerism: We have created new idols. The worship of the ancient golden calf (cf. Ex 32:1-35) has returned in a new and ruthless guise in the idolatry of money and the dictatorship of an impersonal economy lacking a truly human purpose. The worldwide crisis affecting finance and the economy lays bare their imbalances and, above all, their lack of real concern for human beings; man is reduced to one of his needs alone: consumption.(55).

To pray for a person with whom I am irritated is a beautiful step forward in love, and an act of evangelization. Let us do it today! Let us not allow ourselves to be robbed of the ideal of fraternal love! (101).

Fr. Michael Carey Adm

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

Mon 8.00 am John McHugh

Sat 6.30pm Richard & Eva Kearns

Mon 10.00am Mary Hoare & Dec family mem

Sun 8.30am Sean Dignam

Tues 8.00 am Special Intention

Sun 10.00am Dec mem of Geraghty & McGreevy Families

Tues 10.00 am Christopher Morgan

Wed 8.00am Delia O'Donoghue

Sun 11.30am Maria Coleman

Wed 10.00am Joe Hatch

Sun 7.30pm Maurice Bermingham

Thurs 8.00am Thelma Ward

Thurs 10.00am Special Intention

Fri 8.00am Michael John Reilly

Fri 10.00am Mike Maguire

Sat 10.00am Larry Donnelly



The Visitation of the BVM

Church of the Visitation Drynam

Just a reminder that next Sunday 2nd March is our monthly Hospitality Sunday. Tea and coffee after 10:00, 11:00 and 12:00 Masses. All welcome.

Taizé: The Archdiocese of Dublin is running a pilgrimage for a group of young people from the Diocese to join thousand young Christians seeking friendship with Christ for a week away in France with the TAIZE Community from Sunday 29th June-Sunday 5th July. The trip costs €420 (this includes flights from Dublin to Lyon and contribution to the Community for your basic accommodation) - A deposit of €100 is required before the closing date: 18th April email your interest to: evangelisation@dublindiocese.ie. For further information check out www.taize.fr or facebook 'Taize Dublin'. Open to : 16 to 30 year olds

World Day of Prayer

You are invited to celebrate 'World Day of Prayer' in St Colmcille's Church on Friday 7th March at 8pm

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Antiphon - "Lord, I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of the living God, who is coming into this world"

Our parish Grouping - RETREAT

Brackenstown Parish are putting on a retreat, titled 'HEALING & HOPE: OUR CELEBRATION OF FAITH'. The timetable is detailed below. I thank Fr. Paul and his team for putting together this exciting week of prayer and reflection. All are invited to attend.

Mid-Term Break

I hope all the children had a lovely week and it's back to school on Monday, no doubt to the delight of their parents.

Mass for the Sick

It was a lovely occasion. I thank the Liturgy Team for all their hard work in preparing for this celebration and for the light refreshments which followed. If anyone would like myself or Fr. Peter to visit a sick or elderly relative at home please let us know, or leave information with Colette.



A REFLECTIVE SENTENCE: What we believe is important, but even more important is the One in whom we believe. Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI

Brackenstown -2014 Parish Retreat: *Healing & Hope: Our Celebration Of Faith*

Sunday 2nd March to Friday 7th March will be a special time of prayer, renewal and celebration of our Faith. Each day of the Retreat there will be an early morning Mass at 7:30am, the usual 10:00am Mass and an Evening talk at 7:30pm. We will also have the blessing of families, children and expectant parents, as well as the Sacrament of the Sick. Confession will be available daily during the Retreat.

RETREAT PROGRAMME

Sunday 2nd March: 3:00pm *Blessing of families, babies, children and expectant parents. Monday to Friday Mass at 7:30am*

Monday 3rd March: 7:30pm *Let Get Ready for Lent*, Fr. Bryan Shortall, OFM Cap.

Tuesday 4th March: 7:30pm *Healing the pain of Bereavement*, Marie Gribbon

Wednesday 5th March: 7:30pm *The healing touch of St. Pio of Pietrelcina, (Padre Pio)* Sean Mulryan will lead the evening which concludes with a blessing of a first class relic.

Thurs 6th March: 1:15pm *Mass of Healing with Anointing of the Sick* Fr. Joe Walsh OFM

7:30pm *Youth Celebration of Faith* led by Fr. Cyril and the African Chaplaincy in Dublin

Friday 7th March: 7:30pm *Prayer Around the Cross in the Taizé tradition*

There will be a Prayer Wall in the Sacred Space beside the organ to Post your petitions. The Prayer of St. Francis Xavier will be said each from 4th March

All the sessions of the Retreat will be broadcast on the Parish Radio.

We welcome the following newly Baptised to our Parish Community:

Karleigh Doyle, Lane Smith, Emily Bermingham, Alex McFadden, Matthew Hamill



SPLENDOURS OF VENETO based in Sottomarina

Swords/Drynam Parish Holiday Tuesday 3rd – Tuesday 10th June 2014

Adriatic Coast

Chioggia is a quaint picturesque town on the Venetian lagoon about 25km south of Venice. It is in fact known as “Little Venice” because of its narrow streets, hump back canals and is completely unspoilt and full of character. A bridge leads to the neighbouring island of Sottomarina with its long sandy beaches bordering the Adriatic. This is where we will be based for the week

Price: €870.00 per person sharing

Price includes: Return flights Dublin-Venice 7 nights' accommodation : 4 star hotel; half board; B&B and Dinner., Day excursion to Venice by boat and day excursions to Ravenna and Padua

Extras: Single room supplement €25.00 per night for duration of stay Airport taxes: €85.00. baggage fee €40 Insurance: €36.00 (66+double premium applies)

. Please contact Colette at the Parish Office for booking (€250 deposit per person). Balance of €100 by the end of January and remainder 10 weeks before departure. For more details telephone Colette: 8407277.

Brochures at back of Church

The Parish Pastoral Collection: This outdoor collection takes place after all Masses this Sunday. Please support, as all funds go to the Parish

The Sacrament of the Sick

This sacrament proclaims God's immediate and saving presence, that God will act in a saving way within this very sickness, that God will make this illness redemptive; he will turn it 'unto good' on some way or another. Your illness may heal other wounds-in the family perhaps, or draw out the generosity of relations or the goodness of neighbours. God will comfort the sick person, strengthen you and reach through the pain to enlighten the mind or change the heart. That's what we mean when we say that God will use the illness 'redemptively'

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RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

Fr Declan Doyle **Former Chaplain, Dublin Airport**

Joe O'Grady **Seatown Court**



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 Parish Office, Parochial House, Seatown Road, Swords - Next Meeting 24th February 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.