

The voice of God never imposes but proposes, whereas the enemy is strident, insistent and even monotonous. The voice of God might correct us, but gently, always encouraging, consoling, giving us hope. The bad spirit on the other hand offers us dazzling illusions and tempting sensations, but they are fleeting. It exploits our fears and suspicions, and seduces us with wealth and prestige. If we ignore it, it responds with contempt and accusation, telling us: You're worthless.

The voice of the enemy distracts us from the present by getting us to focus on fears of the future or the sadness of the past. The voice of God, on the other hand, speaks to the present, helping us to move ahead in the here and now. What comes from God asks: "What is good for me, what is good for us?"

The voice of God opens your horizons, whereas the enemy pins you against a wall. Where the good spirit gives you hope, the bad spirit sows suspicion, anxiety, and finger-pointing. The good spirit appeals to my desire to do good, to help and serve, and gives me strength to go forward on the right path. The bad spirit, conversely, closes me in on myself, and makes me rigid and intolerant. It is the spirit of fear and grievance. It makes me sad, fearful and irritable. Rather than freeing me, it enslaves me. Rather than opening me up to the present and the future, it encloses me in fear and resignation.

Learning to distinguish these two kinds of "voice" allows us to choose the right path forward, which is not always the most obvious, and to avoid making decisions while trapped in past hurts or in fears of the future that risk immobilising us".

Fr. Michael Carey

Mass Intentions this Weekend - Intentions for 6.30pm Vigil Mass & 8.30am Mass will be prayed for at 11.15am Mass via the Parish webcam

Sat 6.30pm Pat Walsh

Sun 8.30am Special Intention

Sun 11.15am Margaret Prendergast
Sean Byrne (MM)



Mass intentions for next Next Week

Mon 10.00am In Thanksgiving of Our Lady **Fri** 10.00am Birthday Remembrance

Tues 10.00am Vinnie Harford **Fri** 10.00am Jerry Murphy

Tues 10.00am Derek Hunter

Tues 10.00am Denis O'Connell **Sat** 6.30pm Harry Sheridan

Wed 10.00am Francis McManus **Sun** 8.30am Tom, Mary & Sharon Conway

Wed 10.00am Tina Noble

Thurs 10.00am Paddy Gerrard **Sun** 11.15am Billy Harrington

Thurs 10.00am Leo Callis

Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM

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

We are happy to welcome people back to Sunday Mass in the Church

As before everyone must wear a mask in Church. Seats marked for social distance and hand sanitizer to be used on way in. Our church only holds 37 so sorry in advance if we have to turn someone away.



Fr. Michael Carey-8403378: Fr John Collins 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: Website: www.swords-parish.com Email:

stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com

Facebook: St. Colmille's Church, Swords & Church of the Visitation, Drynam



My beloved father (Joseph), all my trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power



Pentecost Sunday

God acts in the simplicity of open hearts

"The love of God has been poured into our hearts, alleluia"

Newsletter Sunday 23rd May 2021

Pope Francis has written movingly about the Holy Spirit in his new book, "Let us Dream".

This newsletter is an extract of some of his writing taken from pages 57 to 62.

"The Spirit shows us new things through what the Church calls "signs of the times".

Discerning the signs of the times allows us to make sense of change. In interpreting and praying over events or trends in the light of the Gospel, we can detect movements that reflect the values of God's Kingdom or their opposite.

The change of era, accelerated by coronavirus is a propitious moment for reading the signs of the times. A gap has opened up between the realities and challenges we face and the recipes and solutions available to us. That gap becomes a space in which to reflect, question and dialogue.

The disruption of Covid has turned the tables, inviting us to stop, alter our routines and priorities, and to ask: What if the economic, the social, and the ecological challenges we face are really different faces of the same crisis? What if they have a common solution? Could it be that replacing the objective of growth with that of new ways of relating will allow for a different kind of economy, one that meets the needs of all within the means of our planet?

The discernment step allows us to ask: What is the Spirit telling us? What is the grace on offer here, if we can embrace it; and what are the obstacles and temptations? What humanises, what dehumanises? Where is the good news hidden within the sombre news, and where is the bad spirit dressed as an angel of light? These are questions for those who humbly search and listen, who are willing not just to grasp at answers but to reflect and pray.

Be careful of those who claim now to see the future with a kind of clarity and security. In crises "false Messiahs" always appear who ignore the freedom of the people to build their own future, and who close themselves to the action of God entering into the life and history of His people. God acts in the simplicity of open hearts, in the patience of those who pause until they can see clearly. How do we distinguish the spirits? They speak different languages: they use different ways to reach our hearts.

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

*May the Lord be a sure path beneath your feet,
a bright light before you,
a kindly shepherd behind you;
this day, this night and always.....St. Colmcille (Celebrating 1500 years)*



Confessions

Next Saturday May 29th I will be available for the Sacrament of Confession from **11.00am until 11.30am** and from **4.00pm until 4.30pm**

I will not be in the confessional box but sitting in the Sanctuary behind a clear screen

Communions and Confirmations

As I'm sure you are aware these Sacraments are not permitted at the moment and again for the foreseeable future.

1st and 2nd Collections

At every Mass, weekday and weekend there will be collection boxes situated around the Church. If you cannot make the Sunday Mass, but are able to go to the weekday Mass, you can make your weekly contribution during the weekday Mass. Thank You. *One contribution per week and not one every day!!!*

Newsletters and Missalettes

This is just a reminder. The Newsletters and Missalettes are left out for the weekend Masses. Please take them **BUT** bring them home with you. In these Covid times leaflets should not be picked up, read and put back again. Please, please take home with you.

Seating

St. Colmcille's has been marked out to observe social distancing. With the 2 metre rule the Church can only accommodate 48 people.

More than 48

What happens when we reach the 48 limit? When that happens the volunteer stewards will inform you that the Church is full, that it has reached the limit demanded by Government regulations.

It will be awful to be informed that you cannot come in to participate and celebrate in the Mass. It will also be awful for the volunteer who informs you of this!

EASTER - Liturgy/Prayer Service

I will continue this for the month of MAY on **Thursday Evening at 7.00pm**

This Liturgy/Prayer Service can be viewed through the Parish Webcam and should last about 30 minutes

The webcam can be accessed through the Parish website, www.swords-parish.com

The Sunday Obligation

In the current emergency, all are dispensed from the obligation to physically attend Sunday Mass

Mass Intentions

How can a book a Mass during these Covid times

- 1) You can email your request to the Parish Office at stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com
- 2) Call to the Sacristy *before Mass* between 9.40am and 9.55am and *after Mass* from 10.30am to 10.45am or by phone 01-8400547

Ministers of the Eucharist

If you are a Minister of the Eucharist and would like to be included in the roster for weekends - Saturday Vigil 6.30pm, Sunday 8.30am & 11.15am, please email Colette at stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com, with your preferred Mass time.

Due to the current restriction in numbers only one Eucharistic Minister will be at each Mass.

Pentecost Sunday

"Come, Holy Spirit!" Where truth, love, goodness, peace, kindness, wisdom, courage, patience, and many others of his fruits are present, there the Spirit is active. In so many different ways, the Spirit reminds the world of the Gospel.

The word 'Pentecost' meaning 'fiftieth day' was the name given to the Feast of Weeks in the Jewish calendar because it fell on the fiftieth day after Passover. In the Christian tradition it was applied to the feast of the descent of the Holy Spirit because this event is portrayed as occurring fifty days after Easter Sunday. After Easter it has been described as the second festival of the Church. Pentecost Sunday marks the close of Eastertide. (Source: St. Paul's Missal).

Bethany Bereavement Support Group are offering telephone support, please contact

Brid 086 6006397 from Sunday 23rd May to Saturday 29th May. Please phone after 6pm. More details on the Parish website. You can also find information on <https://bethany.ie>

Scripture Note – Pentecost

Luke has the giving of the Spirit happening on the feast of Pentecost. Jewish tradition saw Pentecost as the feast of the giving of the Law on Mount Sinai. According to a legend a mighty wind turned to fire and a voice proclaimed the Law. In a further refinement, the fire split into seventy tongues of fire corresponding to the seventy nations of the world: the law was proclaimed, not only to Israel, but to all humankind.

Luke exploits this tradition. He, too, has the mighty wind and tongues of fire coming upon the group of disciples. But for Luke the universal proclamation was not that of the Law, but of the Good News, a proclamation that has undone the sentence of Babel and re-united the scattered nations.

In his Gospel John has the giving of the Spirit happening on Ester Day. However, we must avoid any impression of a two-fold initial solemn bestowal of the Spirit. Luke and John are saying the same thing: the risen Lord gives the gift of the Spirit, and inaugurates the mission of the Church. That they differ in their dating is due to theological concerns.

(Source: Fr. Flor McCarthy, SDB)

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

Mary Madden
Anne Marke

Seatown Villas
Brackenstown Village

