

Can understand, and so he says, "Be still
 And know that I am God." The hour is late
 And you must rest awhile; and you must wait
 Until life's empty reservoirs fill up
 As slow rains fill an empty, upturned cup.
 Hold up your cup, dear child, for God to fill.
 He only asks today that you be still.

Fr. Michael Carey

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 10.00am Sara Jones & Tony Reddington	Sat 6.30pm Victor Geddes
Tues 10.00am Molly Hatch	
Wed 10.00am Paddy Birmingham	Sun 8.30am William Lawrence
Thurs 10.00am Agnes Donovan	Sun 11.15am Mary & Ellen McGrane
Fri 10.00am Mary Gannon	Joan Parker(1st An)
	Ellen Finnegan & Margaret Pawley

Mass intentions for week commencing 30th July

Mon 10.00am Oliver Ward	10.00am Teresa Murray Hessin
Tues 10.00am Elizabeth McKeon	
Wed 10.00am Charles Stefanazzi	6.30pm Richie O'Connell
Thurs 10.00am Margaret O'Brien	Tom Gavillet
Fri 8.00am Altar List of the Dead	8.30am Margaret Roche
Fri 10.00am Altar list of the Dead	11.15am Bridie Ferris
	Shane Rock (1st An)

Mass intentions for week commencing 6th August

Mon 10.00am Fr Sean O'Neill	
Tues 8.00am Michael Murphy	Sat 6.30pm Marie Corby
Tues 10.00am Special Intention	Ann Fleming (1st An)
Wed 8.00am Desmond Molloy	
Wed 10.00am Catherine Matthews	Sun 8.30am Eileen Breen
Thurs 8.00am Dessie Molloy	Sun 11.15am Elizabeth O'Brien
Thurs 10.00am Gerry Vesey	Noel Foran (MM)
Fri 8.00am Special Intention	
Fri 10.00am Katie Keane	

Mass intentions for week commencing 13th August

Mon 8.00am Srs. Sidus & Laboure Cuddihy	
Mon 10.00am Sonny Conway	Sat 6.30pm John Red (1st An)
Tues 8.00am In Honour & thanksgiving of our Heavenly Father	Nick Bates
Tues 10.00am Julia Moreira	
Tues 6.30pm Fr Brian Keenan	Sun 8.30pm Frank Keane
Wed 8.00am Elizabeth Byrne	Sun 11.15am Kevin Leonard
Wed 10.00am Kathleen & Tommy Powerley & Lily Richardson	
Thurs 8.00am Pauline Delaney	
Thurs 10.00am Birthday Remembrance	
Fri 8.00am Susan McCabe	
Fri 10.00am Nuala Lynch	

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 Email: stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com

16th;17th;18th;19th Sundays in Ordinary Time

Under the Broom Tree

"Get up and eat or the journey will be too long for you"

Newsletter Sunday 22nd July 2018



As this is the last newsletter before the summer break, I thought that I'd write a general one. It is an extract from a short story by William J Bausch from a book called 'Timely Homilies'. It is based on the story of the prophet Elijah on his journey to Mount Horeb where he sat under a furze bush and wished he were dead (1 Kings 19:1-9).

He begins with funny comments based on headstones he observed in America. "Here lies the body of Obadiah Wilkinson and Ruth, his wife; their warfare is accomplished" Another says: "She lived with her husband fifty years and died in a confident hope of a better life." Yet another, an eighteenth-century man had this one on his wife's tombstone: "Here lies Jane Smith, wife of Thomas Smith, marble cutter. This monument was erected by her husband as a tribute to her memory and as a sample of his work. Monuments of the same style sell for \$350". Finally, a woman put this on her husband's tombstone: "Sacred to the memory of Mr. Gerard Bates, who died August 5th, 1880. His widow aged 24, who mourns as one who can be comforted, lives at 7 Elm street, this village, and possesses every qualification of a good wife."

Back to the prophet Elijah. As the story tells us, he's discouraged, the wicked Queen Jezebel is after him, all his work seems down the drain, he's at a very bad part in his life; extremely discouraged. So he treks across the desert, physically and mentally exhausted, sits beneath the broom tree, and asks God to take his life; he's had it; enough already, I'm ready to die. His epitaph on his tombstone would probably be: "A tired and discouraged prophet."

But in the way the story is told and saved and passed on to us, there is an interesting point – in the story, as we get it, God does not summon Elijah to a life hereafter as he requested, but rather to engagement, to living in this life right now, after he has recovered. Elijah is a beacon for people who have reached the bottom, who are discouraged and hurting; and if they just sit beneath the broom tree and give it time, they're going to be invited back to life in a new way, a way of wisdom.

Elijah ran and ran and ran and frankly, exhausted in mind and body, sat beneath the broom tree (furze bush); and in the stillness he had a chance to regroup and recover, and listen to the Lord. There's a lovely poem by Grace Noel Crowell entitled "For One who is Tired." It goes like this:

Dear child, God **does not say**,
 "Today, be strong".
 He knows your strength is spent,
 He knows how long the road has been;

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.*



Newsletter

This is the last newsletter before the summer holidays – it will be available again on Sat/Sun 18th/19th August

Summer Holidays

Weekday 8.00am Mass

Due to summer holidays this Mass is dropped from Monday 16th July and will resume on Friday 3rd August, the First Friday of August.

Sunday Masses

These will continue as normal: **Swords** – Saturday Vigil at 6.30pm; Sunday at 8.30am and 11.15am - **Drynam** - Sunday at 10.00am

Saturday Morning Mass

The next Saturday morning Mass is at 10.00am of Saturday 4th August – the first Saturday of the month

Parish Office

The Parish Office will be closed from Monday 6th August to Friday 10th August. It will re-open on Monday 13th August

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

Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am

Bo Peep Montessori will continue to provide services at their portacabin beside the church hall for 1 further year finishing on 30th June 2019. Access will continue to be via the large gate to the side of the hall.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently

Noel Foran

Ashley Ave

Josephine Cassely

Lissenhall



St. Colmcille's Parish Pilgrimage to Knock

This takes place on **Saturday 11th August**. To book your seat please contact Mary: 087-2711376 or Ita: 01-8402268. Coach costs €15 and departs from 'The Star' at 8am sharp. There will be a stopover for Breakfast/Snack en – route and an Evening meal/carvery on return at Percy French Hotel, Srokestown. (This cost is not included in the coach fare)



There are still a small number of seats available.

Dates for the beginning of August

First Friday – 3rd August

There will be two Masses celebrated today – 8.00am and 10.00am

Sat 4th/Sun 5th August

The Legion of Mary will hold their annual outdoor collection in aid of the Lourdes Pilgrimage Trust. The monies from this very worthwhile collection goes to the Lourdes Office at Archbishop's house and helps sponsoring the cost of sending sick pilgrims to Lourdes with the Diocesan annual pilgrimage on September each year.

Monday 6th August

Today is a bank holiday – there will be one Mass at 10.00am

Sat 11th/Sun 12th August

The outdoor monthly collection for the VdP, will be taken up after all Masses this weekend

Saints for the coming week

St. James, Apostle – Wednesday 25th July, son of Zebedee and brother of John, called the Greater. He was one of the three apostles, along with St. Peter and St. John, who witnessed the Transfiguration (Mt.17:1) and the agony in the Garden (Mt.16:37). He was put to death by Herod Agrippa about the year 44, being the first of the apostles to die for Christ. His shrine is at Compostella in Spain.

Ss. Joachim and Anne– Thursday 26th July parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary and grandparents of the Lord. An old shrine is at tradition going back to the second century gives these names. They remind us that the Word truly became flesh in a particular family. Our devotion to them is an extension of our love of Mary and her Divine Son. St. Anne is patron of Canada, women in labour, miners, cabinet-makers and home-makers.

Youth 2000 Summer Festival

Youth 2000 Summer Festival, Cistercian College, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary from Thursday 16th –Sunday 19th August 2018. For young people aged 16-35, an opportunity not to be missed to experience the Catholic faith and meet many new people, with over 1000 young people from all corners of Ireland attending last year. The festival is donation only. Free buses travelling from all around Ireland. For more info and to book online, see www.youth2000.ie.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The custom of bringing gifts when coming to the Eucharist developed differently in the Eastern Church and in the West. In the East before the Eucharist people brought gifts for the Eucharist itself, for the poor and for the upkeep of the Church, particularly the clergy. The minister took what was necessary for the Eucharist and brought this in solemnly after the liturgy of the word. In the West all the gifts were collected after the liturgy of the word, some used for the Eucharist and the remainder left to one side. (Source: St. Paul's Missal)