

God engages her in the plan of human of salvation through the motherhood of Jesus.

- ‘Pray for us sinners.’ Intercessory prayer concerns the needs and hopes of others. Jesus Christ, our High Priest, always intercedes for us before the Father, and he calls us to intercede for others as well. The saints and the Blessed Virgin Mary continue this prayer of intercession in heaven. As Mother of the Church, Mary continues to pray with a mother’s care for the Body of her Son on earth. At Cana, Mary interceded with Jesus on behalf of the couple who had run out of wine. Jesus heard her prayer and turned water into wine. Mary’s last words in Scripture are spoken to us: ‘Do whatever he [Jesus] tells you’ (Jn.2:5). Our holy Mother always brings us to Jesus
- ‘Now and at the hour of our death, Amen.’ In her life, Mary walked a pilgrimage of faith. Even with all the grace she received from God, she encountered the mysterious ways of God and profound suffering, especially at the death of her Son. She knows what a journey of faith entails, and she accompanies us with prayer as we make our journey to God throughout our lives and at death.

Fr. Michael Carey

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 10.00am Mass in Thanksgiving of ‘Precious Blood	Sat 6.30pm Tom Gavillet (An)
Tues 10.00am Bridget & John McNulty	Bridget O’Rourke (MM)
Wed 10.00am Sean O Fátharta	
Thurs 10.00am Catherine & Simon Geoghegan	Sat 8.30am Dec members of
Fri 10.00am Molly Hatch	Hoare Family
	Sat 11.15am Anthony McQuillan
	Tommy Hanratty (MM)
	Anna Collins (MM)

At our Masses next weekend we also remember: Sarah Jane & Tony Reddington

Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM

Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am, 11.00am (Irish Mass - not during Summer months)
We have taken delivery of a new portacabin and we are working to get it ready for use for storage and a meeting room. This is behind the church. This will facilitate removal of the existing portacabin and make way for improvement works to the church itself.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

Phyllis Duggan

North Street



Swords and District Lions Club are hosting the Music Night in the marquee in Swords Castle on Fri 19 July featuring "Forever Young the Songs and Stories of Rod Stewart". Tickets €20 from Fingal Tourism Office in the Castle ph 01 8400891, or Lions Club members Maurice 086 8305917; Greg 086 2598397; Declan 086 3835053; Mark 087 7695156. Seated by 7.45pm. Music starts 8pm. Sellout event every year. Proceeds to Lions Club Charities.

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: www.swords-parish.com Email: stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Hail Mary

“I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.”

Newsletter Sunday 14th July 2019

Last week I wrote a newsletter of the ‘Our Father’, so this week I will write one on ‘The Hail Mary’. Along with the Lord’s Prayer, the Hail Mary is one of the most widely used prayers in the Catholic Church. The first half of the Hail Mary comes from Luke’s Gospel accounts of the Angel Gabriel’s annunciation to Mary that she was called to be the Mother of God’s Son (Lk 1:26-56). The second half is an intercessory prayer developed in the Church’s tradition. The source for this newsletter is the ‘Irish Catholic Catechism for Adults’ – Veritas.

- ‘Hail Mary, full of grace’. This is the greeting the Angel Gabriel spoke to Mary of Nazareth. Gabriel proclaims that Mary is full of grace, meaning that she is a sinless woman, blessed with a deep union with God, who had come to dwell on her.
- ‘The Lord is with thee.’ Mary was chosen by God for this great privilege. He is with her, having already preserved her from sin and filled her with grace. This does not mean that Mary is deprived of her freedom. She lives in graced friendship with God and freely offers him her undivided heart.
- ‘Of all women you are the most blessed.’ This was the greeting given Mary by her cousin Elizabeth when Mary came to visit and help Elizabeth with the birth of her forthcoming child (Lk.1:42). As Scripture points out, Mary holds a singular place among all God’s chosen ones in the history of salvation. Mary is the world’s most honoured woman.
- ‘Blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.’ This is another beatitude or blessing uttered by Elizabeth, who spoke these words after her child, John the Baptist, leaped in her womb at the moment she hears the greeting of Mary. Elizabeth is inspired by the Holy Spirit to bless Mary for believing the message of Gabriel. Elizabeth acknowledges the presence of God in Mary’s womb: ‘Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?’ (Lk.1:43). This is the first time in Scripture that Mary’s faith is praised.
- ‘Holy Mary, Mother of God.’ Sometime in the Middle Ages, the second half of the Hail Mary, which begins by invoking her title of Mother of God, was composed. This title comes from the earliest days of Christian faith. Mary is the Mother of God, because she is the mother of Jesus, who is true God and true man, as defined by the Council of Ephesus in AD 431. The Eastern Churches call Mary *Theotokos*, or ‘Birth-giver of God’ (sometimes translated as ‘Godbearer’). Mary’s response to



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*



Summer Schedule

Weekday 8.00am Mass

This Mass is dropped from Monday 15th July and will resume on Tuesday 6th August

Confessions:

Saturday confessions are available on Saturday evenings from 6.00pm to 6.20pm

Visitors

Now that we are in summertime, we get visitors to both of churches, whether holidaymakers or family members visiting home. You are all very welcome and I hope that you have a pleasant and safe holiday/family visit in Swords.

Church Gate Collection - next weekend

Next weekend Sat/Sun July 14th/15th there will be a Church Gate collection in aid of 'Mary's Meals Ireland'. This collection is being organised by Aoife Martin a Swords resident & member of Mary's Meals Dublin Supporter Group – further information on Mary's Meals in this newsletter

'Mary's Meals Ireland' are holding a church gate collection at St. Colmcille's Church after each mass on the weekend of Saturday 13th July and Sunday 14th July

At present, Mary's Meals is feeding 1,425,013 children every school day, in schools in 18 of the most disadvantaged countries of the world.

The Mary's Meals Dublin Supporter Group are raising funds to feed the 464 students at "Gold Camp public School" in Liberia, West Africa. Liberia is one of the poorest countries in the world. The school will require €7,239.00 p.a. to feed these pupils with a daily nutritious meal, provided by Mary's Meals, for the next year.

Your donation will help these children, who might otherwise miss school to work, beg or scavenge for food, gain an education which we pray will be their ladder out of poverty.

You can help this life changing work possible. For more information about the work of Mary's Meals, please visit www.marysmeals.ie

We are so grateful for your support and prayers.

St. Vincent de Paul

The outdoor monthly collection for St. Colmcille's Swords, VdP, will be taken up **this** weekend 13th/14th July at all Masses

St Colmcille's Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine will take place on Saturday 10th August. Details are on the notice board at the back of the Church

Foster Parents - Five Rivers Ireland

Urgent need for foster parents for children 0- 10 years in Swords area . individuals or families are need for emergency to long term care . full training & support provided . spare bedroom is essential . please visit www.fiveriversireland.ie or enquire to 018665290

Pathways: Exploring Faith as an Adult: Pathways is a two-year, one evening a week, Adult Faith Development course on Thursday evenings in Holy Cross College, Clonliffe Road. Late September to May (7.00 p.m. – 9.30 p.m). Application now open for September 2019. Contact: Pathways Director, Eileen Houlahan at 01 8087594 or pathways@dublindiocese.ie or www.evangelisation.ie (Early application advised).

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

'Vocation', meaning a call by God, is for everyone in the Church. It has frequently been used in the narrow sense of a call to the religious life and/or to the priesthood. It is not that certain words are heard but rather that a voice is discerned. And it is the persons themselves who are in the best position to discern what God's call for them may be. Once the call has been discerned, the next step is the generosity to respond.

Reflection - The single life is one way through which a significant number of people respond to God's call. While the majority of people opt for marriage their path through life is equally esteemed in the Christian community. Many who have not had the care of a spouse and family have given generously of their time and talents to the wider family of the Church. Both paths are part of the rich tapestry of Christian vocation. *(Source: St. Paul's Missal)*

Living the Paschal Mystery

All communities, clubs, organisations, families have "bylaws". These bylaws are not ends in themselves, however, but means for helping the group achieve its purpose. The same is true for God's laws.

Jesus makes explicit what is the purpose of the law and it seems so simple: to love God and neighbour: Yet the kind of love Jesus describes through the parable of the Good Samaritan is anything but simple. It requires of us the unconditional gift of self.

What Jesus does make simple is that love of neighbour is practical, concrete, readily identifiable. Jesus challenges us to see and respond to the hurt and bleeding persons lying beside the road of our daily life. We walk past people in need sometimes because we are too busy, sometimes because we are too intent on where we are going, or sometimes because we are too afraid to get involved. The law of love challenges us constantly to re-evaluate our priorities and discern where we need to grow in the unconditional gift of self. We need to see....Then we need to... *(Source: Living Liturgy)*