

responsibility, to commit to overcoming delays in the distribution of vaccines and to facilitate their distribution, especially in the poorest countries.

The crucified and risen Lord is comfort for those who have lost their jobs or experience serious economic difficulties and lack adequate social protection. May he inspire public authorities to act so that everyone, especially families in greatest need, will be offered the assistance needed for a decent standard of living. Sadly, the pandemic has dramatically increased the number of the poor and the despair of thousands of people.

The risen Jesus is also hope for all those young people forced to go long periods without attending school or university, or spending time with their friends. Experiencing real human relationships, not just virtual relationships, is something that everyone needs, especially at an age when a person's character and personality is being formed.

Dear brothers and sisters, once again this year, in various places many Christians have celebrated Easter under severe restrictions and, at times, without being able to attend liturgical celebrations. We pray that those restrictions, as well as all restrictions on freedom of worship and religion worldwide, may be lifted and everyone be allowed to pray and praise God freely.

Amid the many hardships we are enduring, let us never forget that we have been healed by the wounds of Christ (cf. *1 Pet 2:24*). In the light of the Risen Lord, our sufferings are now transfigured. Where there was death, now there is life. Where there was mourning, now there is consolation. In embracing the cross, Jesus bestowed meaning on our sufferings and now we pray that the benefits of that healing will spread throughout the world. A good, happy and serene Easter to all of you!

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 Peter Gannon

Sun 8.30am Willie Snow & Cissie Snow

Sun 11.15am Nuala Collier



Mass intentions for next Next Week

Mon 10.00am Turlough O'Carolan

Mon 10.00am Peter Gannon

Tues 10.00am Edward Duffy

Tues 10.00am Oliver Morton & Deceased family members

Wed 10.00am Special Intention

Wed 10.00am Deceased members of Byrne Family

Thurs 10.00am Elizabeth & John Tyrell & daughter
Helen & Deceased family members

Sat 6.30am Muriel Harford

Thurs 10.00am Barney O'Rourke

Sun 8.30am In Honour of St Joseph

Fri 10.00am Jim Condon

Sun 11.15am Stephen Farrell

Fri 10.00am Special intention

Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM

The Church will be open from 12pm - 1.30pm on Sunday's only for private prayer. Strict HSE guidelines are in place



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. Colmcille'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



Third Sunday of Easter

“Jesus who was crucified has risen”

“Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name”

Newsletter Sunday 18th April 2021

For this week's newsletter, I am printing an extract from the Pope's 'Urbi et Orbi' message given on Easter Sunday, 4th April 2021.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, a good, happy and peaceful Easter!

Today, throughout the world, the Church's proclamation resounds: "Jesus, who was crucified, has risen as he said. Alleluia!"

The Easter message does not offer us a mirage or reveal a magic formula. It does not point to an escape from the difficult situation we are experiencing. The pandemic is still spreading, while the social and economic crisis remains severe, especially for the poor. Nonetheless – and this is scandalous – armed conflicts have not ended and military arsenals are being strengthened. That is today's scandal.

In the face of, or better, in the midst of this complex reality, the Easter message speaks concisely of the event that gives us the hope that does not disappoint: **“Jesus who was crucified has risen”**. It speaks to us not about angels or ghosts, but about a man, a man of flesh and bone, with a face and a name: Jesus. The Gospel testifies that this Jesus, crucified under Pontius Pilate for claiming he was the Christ, the Son of God, rose on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, just as he had foretold to his disciples.

The crucified Jesus, none other, has risen from the dead. God the Father raised Jesus, his Son, because he fully accomplished his saving will. Jesus took upon himself our weakness, our infirmities, even our death. He endured our sufferings and bore the weight of our sins. Because of this, God the Father exalted him and now Jesus Christ lives forever; he is the Lord.

The witnesses report an important detail: the risen Jesus bears the marks of the wounds in his hands, feet and side. These wounds are the everlasting seal of his love for us. All those who experience a painful trial in body or spirit can find refuge in these wounds and, through them, receive the grace of the hope that does not disappoint.

The risen Christ is hope for all who continue to suffer from the pandemic, both the sick and those who have lost a loved one. May the Lord give them comfort and sustain the valiant efforts of doctors and nurses. Everyone, especially the most vulnerable among us, requires assistance and has the right to have access to necessary care. This is even more evident in these times when all of us are called to combat the pandemic. Vaccines are an essential tool in this fight. I urge the entire international community, in a spirit of global

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)*



EASTER - Level 5 Liturgy/Prayer Service

For the Month of **April** as the Level 5 lockdown 2021 continues the Parish will host a special liturgy every **Tuesday** and **Thursday** Evening at **7.00pm**

The format will be:

- A Decade of the Rosary
- Spiritual Reading – “Let us Dream” by Pope Francis
- The Night Prayer of the Church

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

Easter Dues

A sincere thank you to all who have returned their Easter Dues envelopes. Your continued generosity is very much appreciated. *If you have not made a return and would like to there are dues envelopes available at the back of the Church*

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

DUBLIN DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK – ONLINE ADULT & FAMILY PILGRIMAGE

The Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock will take place on Saturday **April 24th** with a programme of online workshops from Our Lady of Victories Church, Ballymun Road via [webcam](#) commencing at 11.50am. The workshops themes will include Challenge for Families, the Holy Spirit and St Joseph & the apparition. From 2.30pm, we will switch to the Knock Shrine [webcam](#) for the rosary, the Pilgrimage Mass at 3pm and opportunity for quiet time in the Apparition Chapel. More details to follow next week. Last month, Pope Francis elevated Knock to an International Sanctuary of Special Eucharistic and Marian Devotion, placing it at the same level as Lourdes and Fatima. We look forward to welcoming you on our virtual pilgrimage which we hope will be a moment of inspiration and encouragement for our Archdiocese at such challenging year for so many people.



3rd Sunday of Easter

In today's gospel Luke describes how fear can lead to faith, joy, wonder and future service. The final section of the gospel echoes a favourite theme of Luke: that Jesus can be known through the interpretation of Scripture. (Source: *St. Paul's Missal*).

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

Vincent Harford

Seatown Villas



Scripture Note –3rd Sunday of Easter

In the First Reading Peter shows great courage when he confronts the people with their part in the death of Jesus. However, he goes on to excuse them on the grounds that they acted in ignorance. In this he may have been inspired by the dying prayer of Jesus: 'Father, forgive them, they know not what they do'. He urges them to repent, assuring them that if they do, their sins will be forgiven.

In the Gospel Luke's primary interest is to show that the risen Jesus is the same person the apostles had known prior to the crucifixion. He emphasises the reality of Jesus' bodily resurrection, but makes it clear that the resurrection is not a return to earthly life – Jesus has risen to a new life beyond death.

It was only by combining various passages from the prophets that the early Christians came to accept the idea that a suffering Messiah was part of God's plan of salvation. So Luke has the risen Lord showing the apostles how the Scriptures had foretold that the Christ would suffer and so enter into his glory. Jesus also gives them a mission – the proclamation of repentance and forgiveness of sins.

In the Second Reading John says that authentic love is proved by obedience to the commandments. Anticipating that the Christian will sin, he reminds us that we have in Jesus an advocate who will plead our cause.

One theme occurs in all three readings: forgiveness is available to those who repent and believe in Jesus as their Saviour. This has great relevance for us. A lot of ugly crimes are committed today, not all of which can be put down to ignorance. But if there is forgiveness for those who killed Jesus, then surely there is forgiveness for those who do these things. The task of preachers of the word is to assure people that God's forgiveness is available to them, thus enabling them to make a fresh start. (Source: *Fr. Flor McCarthy, SDB*)

Bethany Bereavement Support Group are offering telephone support, please contact Brid 086 6006397 from Sunday 18th April to Saturday 24th April. Please phone after 6pm. More details on the Parish website. You can also find information on <https://bethany.ie> It's good to talk. Do not grieve alone or unaided.

“Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted”.