

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

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*(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.net

Swords

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**The Gospel according to Matthew (Part 1)***"We have come to know and to believe in the love that God has for us"***Newsletter Sunday 19th January 2014****Introduction**

This liturgical year, which began in Advent, just gone, is the Year when St. Matthew's Gospel is read on Sundays.

Of the four Canonical books that record the 'good news' (*evangelium*, gospel) (Matthew, Mark, Luke & John) brought by Jesus Christ, the first three are so alike that they can, in many passages, be placed side by side and viewed as it were at a glance: for this reason they are called 'synoptic' ('at one glance') - the Synoptic Gospels.

Overview of the four gospels

The four Gospels have pride of place in the New Testament as principled witness to the life and teachings of Jesus. They are not a biography or a chronological account of the life and times of Jesus in the way books are written today. But the gospels are historical in character, the stories and traditions about Jesus which they contain were faithfully handed down to the Apostolic communities shaping the way of life of these communities. Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the significance of the events of the life of Jesus came to be understood more and more fully. After some decades of this oral (by way of mouth) transmission the record of what Jesus has said and done came to be written down by the apostles or members of the apostolic community. Each author put their own 'stamp' on their gospel by stressing different aspects. The four different accounts, each with its own character and richness, form a fourfold gospel, which, since the end of the first Christian century, has been the norm of all Christian life.

The Gospel according to Matthew

Matthew's gospel has served as the foundation document of the church, rooting in it the teaching of Jesus – a church built on a rock against which the gates of hell would not prevail (only Matt.16:18).

St. Augustine seems to have been responsible for putting the gospel of Matthew first in the order of the four gospels. In the early Church it seems to have been the most popular and widespread of the Gospels, and until recent reforms of the Lectionary, after Vatican II, it was the Gospel read most frequently in the Liturgy.

Matthew's gospel was composed after Mark (AD 68-69), the first of the gospels, and yet before AD110 as it is the only gospel quoted by St. Ignatius of Antioch in his letters written at that time. Therefore scholars reckon that it was probably written in the period AD 80-90 in the vicinity of Antioch in Syria, a major city with a sizeable Jewish population. From Jerusalem, Jewish missionaries came to Antioch proclaiming Christ in the 30s, and they made converts not only among fellow Jews but also among Gentiles. Barnabas and Paul were important figures in the Antioch Christian community by the early 40s (Acts.13:1-3). Matthew reflects on the situation decades later and his gospel is the most Jewish of the gospels, insisting on every page that Jesus fulfils the promises of the Old Law. With habitual Jewish reverence he avoids using the name 'God', speaking of 'the Kingdom of Heaven', rather than 'the Kingdom of God'. Jesus is the

second David, adopted by Joseph into the house of David (Mt.1:18-25), addressed frequently as ‘Son of David (Mt.1.1;9:27;15:22), and hailed as the messianic king of David’s line (Mt.21.9). Matthew also depicts him as a second Moses (Mt.2:20, compare Ex.4:19), who forms a new people of God, just as Moses formed the People of God in the Old Testament (Mt.16:18). Like Moses, Jesus comes into Israel from Egypt (Mt.2:13-22) to lead the people out of slavery. Like Moses, He goes up on a mount to give people new rules of behaviour - the Beatitudes (Mt.5). *To be Continued* **Fr. Michael Carey Adm**

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

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| Mon 8.00 am People of the Parish | Sat 6.30pm Adrienne Kinsella
Florence Bourke (MM) |
| Mon 10.00am Sean Melia | Sun 8.30am Bartle McDonnell |
| Tues 8.00 am Judith Hamill & Dec Family Mem | Sun 10.00am Richard Madden |
| Tues 10.00 am Patricia Treacy | Sun 11.30am Desmond Walsh & Dec family
members |
| Wed 8.00am Margaret Byrne | Sun 7.30pm Elizabeth Ivors |
| Wed 10.00am Patricia O’Reilly | |
| Thurs 8.00am Kathleen Phelan | |
| Thurs 10.00am Deirdre Byrne | |
| Fri 8.00am Linda Wilson | |
| Fri 10.00am Harry Boland | |
| Sat 10.00am Declan Hanratty | |

The Visitation of the BVM



Church of the Visitation Drynam

Sunday the 2nd February is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Fr Peter will bless candles at 10:00 and 12:00 Masses. Please bring along a candle if you wish it to be blessed in accordance with the tradition of this Feast Day.

Healing the wounds of the heart

All of us are wounded by sin.
 The part of us which is most deeply damaged by sin is the heart.
 The heart is so beautiful, so innocent, but it can be betrayed, scorned, and broken.
 Darkness of heart is the blackest night of all.
 Emptiness of heart is the greatest poverty of all.
 A heavy heart is the most wearisome burden of all.
 A broken heart is the most painful wound of all.
 Only love can heal the wounds of the heart.
 Lord, send your Holy Spirit to us,
 to heal the wounds of our hearts, so we may produce the fruits of love . (Source: Flor McCarthy)

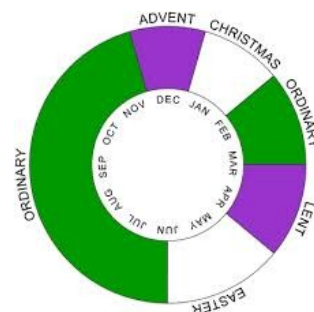


ADMINISTRATOR’S COLUMN

Antiphon - “All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!”

Ordinary Time

We are now in what the Church calls Ordinary Time. The term "Ordinary Time" may be misleading. In the context of the liturgical year the term "ordinary" does not mean "usual or average." Ordinary here means "not



seasonal." Ordinary Time is that part of the Liturgical Year that lies outside the seasons of Lent-Easter and Advent-Christmas. In Ordinary Time, the Church celebrates the mystery of Christ not in one specific aspect but in all its aspects. The readings during the liturgies of Ordinary Time help to instruct us on how to live out our Christian faith in our daily lives.

DO THIS IN MEMORY

Next weekend the boys and girls and their families will be present at the 6.30pm Vigil Mass and the 10.00am Sunday Mass as part of their Parish based preparation programme for the Sacrament of First Eucharist. We look forward to seeing them and praying with them.

Week of Christian Unity

Every year from the 18th to the 25th January (Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul), the Christian Churches celebrate the week of Christian Unity. In his letter 1.Cor.1:1-17, Paul appeals that his readers come together and "be united in the same mind and the same purpose" A reflection on this in the 'Liturgical Ordo' says that this is not a call to worship and doing things in the same way. Rather it states that "Rooted in Christ, we are called to give thanks for the gifts of God that others outside our group bring to the common mission of the Church. Honouring the gifts of God in others draws us closer in faith and mission, and leads us towards that unity for which Christ prayed, with respect for authentic diversity in worship and life"

A REFLECTIVE SENTENCE

The Bible is God's love letter to us....Soren Kierkegaard

B.E. - BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

B.E. is a support group for those coping with the pain of loss of their life partner, through Death, Separation or Divorce. Few people are able to cope alone with the pain of loss. Do you find that you need more support than family and friends can provide? Seeking help is a sign of strength and self-knowledge – not weakness. This is a healing ministry, which helps to resolve the grief that goes with the end of a marriage or relationship. Coping effectively with bereavement is a skill we can all learn. A team, who are themselves widowed, separated or divorced share their experiences with you.



Next Coping Programme will commence on Wednesday 5th February, for 7 Wednesday evenings, at 7.15pm in White Friars Community Centre, Aungier St. ,Dublin 2 For further information phone 01-6790556 or email bedublin@gmail.com

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: €795.00 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 (€150 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*

Reflection-the Lamb of God

In John's Gospel, the first thing that any human being says of Jesus is found on the lips of John the Baptist: Look, there is the Lamb of God. We think naturally and correctly of the Passover lamb and of the Passover, the feast which marks the liberation of Israel. To be set free is a wonderful experience and we could reflect on how I experience my freedom in Christ. From what have I been set free? (For example, fear of death, the risk of absurdity, sins and false directions in life...). Even



more important, for what have I been set free?

Prayer

Jesus, Lamb of God, help me to recognise whatever in me is holding me back from life in abundance. Give me your life, your forgiveness, your healing. In you I put my trust. (Source: St. Paul's Missal 2014)

Enrolment for St Colmcille's Girls & Boys Schools

An 'Open Day' will take place in St Colmcille's Girls' School on Wednesday 22nd January from 9am – 11 am. All welcome. ***Enrolment St. Colmcille's Girls School***
Enrolment for girls starting school in September 2014 takes place from January 27th – 31st, 9am – 10.30am each morning. **Baptismal & Birth Certificates must accompany all forms**



Enrolment St. Colmcille's Boy's School.

Application forms for enrolment for boys starting school in September 2014 are available from the school, 9.00am – 4.00pm daily. Completed forms must be returned by January 31st.

Baptismal & Birth Certificates must accompany all forms

Volunteers Needed

Are you a good listener? Would you like to help bereaved people? St Colmcille's Parish **Bethany Bereavement Support Group** seeks new members. Full training will be provided by professionals. Enquiries to - Terri - 8403243 or Sr. Mary (5-7pm) 8404323