

when anyone leaves to go home, in a sense he/she ceases to praise God. But provided he/she does not cease living a good life, he/she praises God continually. You stop praising God only when you turn aside from righteousness and all that pleases him. For if you never turn aside from a holy life, though your tongue is silent your life speaks aloud; God has ears for what your heart is saying. For just as we have ears for peoples voices, God has ears for their thoughts”

*Fr. Michael Carey*

**Mass intentions for Next Week**

<b>Mon</b> 8.00am John Ryan	<b>Fri</b> 8.00am Rita McBride
<b>Mon</b> 10.00am Liam Maxwell	<b>Fri</b> 10.00am George & Elizabeth Fields
<b>Tues</b> 8.00am Patrick & Catherine McCarthy & dec family members	
<b>Tues</b> 10.00am Sean Andrews	<b>Sat</b> 6.30pm John Taylor
<b>Wed</b> 8.00am Martin Kelly	
<b>Wed</b> 10.00 Gabrielle Rafferty	<b>Sun</b> 8.30am Anthony McQuillan
<b>Thurs</b> 8.00am William Masterson	<b>Sun</b> 11.00am Michael Caul, & granddaughter Andrea Patricia Caul (MM)
<b>Thurs</b> 10.00 Edel Quinn	<b>Sun</b> 6.30pm Renek Reidy Curran

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

**Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am & 12 noon, No weekday Masses until 18th July**

There will be a Drynam Pastoral Team meeting tomorrow Monday. Please let any member of the team know if you would like a topic discussed.

**The Bible’s Most Important People**

**Hezekiah** – King of Judah who did right in God’s eyes. Hezekiah removed pagan worship from the kingdom and kept God’s commandments. Under his command, the Levites cleansed the temple and restored worship. When the Assyrian King Sennacherib attacked Judah, Hezekiah gave him a large tribute. Sennacherib sent officials to confer with Hezekiah’s aides and try to convince his people to side with Sennacherib against their king and God. Sennacherib sent a message to Hezekiah belittling God and threatening Judah. Hezekiah brought the letter before God and asked Him to save Judah. Again, Isaiah prophesised the Assyrian’s fall.

**Beatitudes for carers**

The good Samaritan was someone who cared. Blessed are those who care: they will let people know they are loved.  
 Blessed are those who are gentle: they will help people to grow as the sun helps the buds to unfold.  
 Blessed are those who listen: they will lighten many a burden.  
 Blessed are those who know how to let go: they will have the joy of seeing people find themselves.  
 Blessed are those who, when nothing can be done or said, do not walk away, but remain to provide a comforting and supportive presence: that they will help the sufferer to bear the unbearable.  
 Blessed are those who recognise their own need to receive: they will be able to give all the better.  
 And blessed are those who give without hope of return: they will give people an experience of God. *(Fr. Flor McCarthy, SDB)*

**Fr. Michael Carey-8403378: Fr. Peter McCarron-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**



15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**The Praise of God**

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

**Newsletter Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2016**

St. Augustine (*Feast Day 28<sup>th</sup> August 354-430. He was converted at the age of thirty-three and baptised by St. Ambrose. He became Bishop of Hippo(Algeria), where he lived with a community until his death. His theological influence has been most significant in the Church, especially on the understanding of God’s grace. Patron of theologians*), in commenting on the Psalms in an early Easter homily has the following lovely meditation on the ‘Praise of God.’



“The praise of God should be the object of our meditation in this life, because in the life to come it will be for ever the object of our rejoicing. No one will be fit to receive the life to come unless he/she has prepared himself/herself in this life to receive it. And so in this life we do not only praise God: we make petitions with sighs. For we have been promised that we shall receive what we do not yet possess; and since he is true to his promises, we rejoice in hope; but since we have not yet received what he promises, we sigh in longing. It is good for us to persevere in longing, until the promise comes true and sighing is a thing of the past, an unalloyed rejoicing takes its place.

There are, then, two ages: the first is the present age, which consists of the temptations and tribulations of this life; the second is the future age, which consists of everlasting peace and rejoicing. So, too we celebrate two seasons, one before Easter and one after. The season before Easter signifies the tribulation in which we now live; the present season after Easter signifies the happiness which will be ours hereafter. What we celebrate before Easter, we already experience; what we celebrate after Easter signifies that we do not yet possess what we celebrate. And so we keep the season before Easter in fasting and prayer; but in the present season we relax our fast and devote ourselves to praise. This is the meaning of the Alleluia which we sing

Both of these truths are symbolised and expressed in the life of Christ our head. The Lord’s passion reminds us of our state of need in this present life, in which we have to toil and suffer and finally die; the Lord’s resurrection and his glorification reveal to us the life which is destined to be ours.

So now, my brethren, I urge you to praise God: this is what we all say to one another when we say Alleluia. ‘Praise the Lord’, you say to the one you are addressing, and he/she says the same to you; and by urging one another in this way, people so what they are urging the other to do. Praise God with the whole of yourselves; it is not only your tongue and your voice that should give praise, but your conscience, your life, your deeds.  
 We are praising God at this moment when we gathered together in the church;

## ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

*Year of Mercy – “Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful” (Lk.6:36)*

### Confessions

Whilst the Saturday Morning 10.00am Mass is cancelled for the summer, there are Confessions available on Saturday evenings from 6.00pm to 6.20pm

### Holy Water

There is a container with Holy Water on Chapel Lane at the gate where the ‘Big Tree’ was taken down. Feel free to use it for the blessing of your loved one’s grave.

### Pope Francis

In his letter read at all Masses last week the Archbishop had some lovely things to say about the mission of Pope Francis. What I consider the best ‘bits’ I am reprinting for you to ‘savour’ this weekend!

“The Church is very lucky to have Pope Francis. He is calling for renewal across the Church. That call is addressed in the first place to each of us personally. His age, style, his simplicity of life, and his boundless energy for a man of his age appeal to all.

On the other hand, Pope Francis is not afraid to upset those who have become trapped in a Church of habit. He is not attempting to change the teaching of the Church. But he wants a Church which is out in the world in service and in dialogue. He does not want a fearful Church obsessed just with the evils of the world. He does not want a Church in which we try to keep Jesus locked up within our own categories. He wants a Church which will win the hearts of men and women in our time to understand and embrace the message of Jesus Christ”

### Summer Schedule

This affects only the **Saturday 10.00am Morning Mass**. From yesterday Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June there will be no Saturday morning Mass for the summer months. It will resume on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September. All other Masses will remain as scheduled.

To that end this Mass and the morning Confessions and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament ceased on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June and will resume on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September. There are confession on Saturday evenings from 6.00pm to 6.20pm.

### St. Vincent de Paul

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

### Bethany Bereavement Support Group

Help is at hand. Bethany trained members are available to provide support to those grieving after the loss of a loved one. This is a free, confidential service. The Group meet on the second and last Monday of each month from 7.30 - 8.30 p.m. at the Parochial House, Seatown Road - Next Meeting 11th July For further information please 'phone Mary 8402652 or Brid 086 6006397 after 6 p.m. Open to all Fingal Residents - You are most welcome to attend.

### Year of Mercy – God’s anger lasts but a moment, his mercy forever.

The twentieth and twenty first paragraph of the Papal encyclical – ‘Misericordiae Vultus’ continues - The Apostle Paul makes a similar journey. Prior to meeting Jesus on the road to Damascus, he dedicated his life to pursuing the justice of the law with zeal (cf. Phil 3:6). His conversion to Christ led him to turn that vision upside down, to the point that he would write to the Galatians: “We have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified” (2:16).

Paul’s understanding of justice changes radically. He now places faith first, not justice. Salvation comes not through the observance of the law, but through faith in Jesus Christ, who in his death and resurrection brings salvation together with a mercy that justifies. God’s justice now becomes the liberating force for those oppressed by slavery to sin and its consequences. God’s justice is his mercy (cf. Ps 51:11-16).

Mercy is not opposed to justice but rather expresses God’s way of reaching out to the sinner, offering him a new chance to look at himself, convert, and believe. The experience of the prophet Hosea can help us see the way in which mercy surpasses justice. The era in which the prophet lived was one of the most dramatic in the history of the Jewish people. The kingdom was tottering on the edge of destruction; the people had not remained faithful to the covenant; they had wandered from God and lost the faith of their forefathers. According to human logic, it seems reasonable for God to think of rejecting an unfaithful people; they had not observed their pact with God and therefore deserved just punishment: in other words, exile. The prophet’s words attest to this: “They shall not return to the land of Egypt, and Assyria shall be their king, because they have refused to return to me” (Hos 11:5). And yet, after this invocation of justice, the prophet radically changes his speech and reveals the true face of God: “How can I give you up, O Ephraim! How can I hand you over, O Israel! My heart recoils within me, my compassion grows warm and tender. I will not execute my fierce anger, I will not again destroy Ephraim; for I am God and not man, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come to destroy” (11:8-9). Saint Augustine, almost as if he were commenting on these words of the prophet, says: “It is easier for God to hold back anger than mercy”. And so it is. God’s anger lasts but a moment, his mercy forever.

### St Colmcille’s Pilgrimage to Knock

St Colmcille’s Pilgrimage to Knock will take place on Saturday 13th August. Coach departs at 8.00am from The Star. Stopover for breakfast/snack en-route. Evening meal/carvery available on return at Percy French Hotel Strokestown. Cost - (coach only) €15. Please contact Mary 087 2711376 or Ita 8402268

### RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

**Noreen Behan**

**Castle Grove**