

Historically, some Jewish leaders handed Jesus over to Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor who condemned Jesus to death on the Cross.

It is wrong to blame the Jewish people for the death of Christ in the manner that often has been done in history. 'Neither all Jews indiscriminately at that time, nor Jews today, can be charged with crimes committed during his Passion.....the Jews should not be spoken of as rejected or accursed as if this followed from holy scripture' (CCC.597)



The Apostles' Creed professes that after his death and burial, Jesus descended into hell. In the language of the early Church, this meant that Jesus went into the realm of the dead, from which he called out all the just people who had lived before him to enter with him into the glory of the Kingdom of heaven. A popular icon of the Eastern Churches pictures the risen Jesus with his hands reaching into the realm of the dead to draw out Adam and Eve. (Source: Irish Catholic Catechism for Adults)

Fr. Michael Carey

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

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| Mon 8.00am Eileen Roldán | Sat 9.00pm Intentions of Easter Bouquet Cards |
| Mon 10.00am John & Kathleen O'Connor | Sun 8.30am Intentions of Easter Bouquet Cards |
| Tues 8.00am John & Kathleen Kelly | Sun 11.00am Intentions of Easter Bouquet Cards |
| Tues 10.00am Annie Wynne | Sun 12.30pm Intentions of Easter Bouquet Cards |
| Wed 8.00 am Special Intention | |
| Wed 10.00am JC Savage | |

Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM
Mass Times for Drynam: Mon & Fri:9.20am, Sun, 10.00am11.00am (Irish)& 12 noon
 Easter Ceremonies here are at Drynam will be Holy Thursday Mass at 7PM followed by Holy Hour, Good Friday at 12:00, Stations of the Cross and 3:00PM Passion of Our Lord; Easter Vigil at 9PM on Saturday. Confessions after Stations of the Cross on Friday.



RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:
Sean Ferris **Seatwon Villas**



A Meditation

We learn the secret of the resurrection when we learn the secret of the cross. And it is when we are called to share in some way in the suffering of Christ that we come to understand not only what he experienced but what this was leading to. For every cross leads to resurrection. I like to think of life as being prepared by God's providence, and it is in many ways the road to the cross. But it leads to greater understanding of our Lord, a greater sharing in his resurrection. Each day should see me more humble; each day more willing to accept what comes my way. This I become more closely united to the Lord-grow, as I grow in grace, in love of the Father. (Cardinal Basil Hume)

St Cronan's Church

Polish community - Blessing of Food Baskets takes place in St Cronan's Church on Holy Saturday, April 4th at 3pm

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)
 Sacristan: Stephanie Byrne-8400547 (Mon -Sat 9.30am-10.30am)
 Website: www.swords-parish.com Email: stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com



Passion (Palm) Sunday

Lift High the Cross

"Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord"



Newsletter Sunday 29th March 2015

In a number of ways, Jesus warned his followers that pain and death would be an essential part of his mission. Right after he made Peter the rock on which the Church would be built, he predicted his Passion. When Peter protested this possibility, Jesus rebuked him, 'You are thinking not as God thinks but as human beings do' (Mt 16:23). Jesus predicted his Passion again after the Transfiguration (Mt 17:22-23).

Not only would Jesus accept the Cross, he expected the same willingness from his disciples. 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him/her renounce himself/herself and take up his/her cross every day and follow me' (Lk 9:23). Jesus explained this truth further by means of an agricultural image - 'the wheat grain dying' (Jn 12:24). Jesus noted that the greatest expression of love is to die for the beloved. 'No one can have greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends' (Jn 15:13).

Because Christ's suffering and death was the instrument of salvation, **from what did he save us?** We needed to be saved from sin and its damaging effects. God's plan to save us involved having the Son of God enter into this world to be like us in all things except sin. Divine love made this possible.

Jesus, Son of God, was sent by the Father to restore the harmony between himself and humanity that had been disrupted by sin. He came to teach and show us love. Jesus was without sin, but in his human nature, he was subject to all that human beings suffer, including hatred from others, torture and death itself. He proclaimed the coming of God's Kingdom by his words and deeds in obedience to the will of the Father. He showed the full meaning of all that had been revealed in the Old Testament. But some did not want to hear his message. They opposed him and turned him over to the administration of the Roman Empire in Palestine to be put to death.

On the Cross, Jesus freely gave his life as a sacrifice. His sacrifice was an act of atonement, that is, makes us one again with God by the power of divine mercy extending to us the Father's forgiveness for our sins. His sacrifice is also called an act of **satisfaction** or **reparation** (making amends for a wrong done or for an offence, especially for sin, which is an offence against God. By his death on the cross, the Son of God, offered his life out of love for the Father to make reparation for sinful disobedience) because he lives out fully the Father's call to human beings to be faithful to his plan for them, thus overcoming the power of sin. It is also an **expiation** (the act of redemption and atonement for sin which Christ won for us by the pouring out of his blood on the cross, by his obedient love 'to the end') for our sins, which in the understanding of Scripture means that God takes the initiative in bringing about reconciliation to himself. In the words of Christian Tradition, Jesus' sacrifice merits salvation for us because it retains forever the power to draw us to him and to the Father.

Who is responsible for the death of Jesus? Every one of us from the dawn of history to the end of time who in pride and disobedience has sinned is in some way responsible.

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Antiphon – “ Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done”



Date of Easter

Easter is the major moveable feast of the liturgical year. It may fall on any Sunday between March 22nd and April 23rd. The date of Easter accords with the date of the Jewish festival of the Passover which is based upon the old lunar calendar. By this method of calculation the date of Easter is the Sunday nearest the first full moon following the spring equinox. The spring season in which Easter occurs, with its renewal of life following winter, harmonises with Jesus' death and resurrection.

Holy Week

As we enter Holy Week, I invite you to participate as much as possible in the Parish Ceremonies this coming week, especially the Triduum. The Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper is usually the least well attended liturgy and it is a beautiful Mass. On Good Friday, if for work or other reason you cannot make the 3pm Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, please make sure to visit some church and venerate the cross. You then have the option of the Solemn Vigil or the Easter Sunday Mass

The Meaning of Triduum

“Triduum” comes from the Latin words (*tres* and *dies*) which mean ‘a space of three days’. But since we have four days with special names – Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday – the ‘three’ may be confusing to some.

The confusion is cleared up when we understand how the days are reckoned. On high festival days the church counts a day in the same way as Jews count days and festivals; that is, from sundown to sundown. Thus, the Triduum consists of *three* twenty-four hour periods that stretch over four calendar days. Therefore, the Easter Triduum begins at sundown on Holy Thursday with the Mass of the Lord's Supper and concludes on Easter Sunday; its high point is the celebration of the Easter Vigil.

Easter Bouquet Cards

These cards are now available for sale in the Sacristy and Parish Office. They cost €5 each and the Mass will be offered on Easter Vigil/Sunday. They make a lovely Easter gift especially if you would like to send one abroad

Easter Cards

The Easter cards have being distributed –Thank you to everyone who helped deliver them. There is one change from last year to note in St. Colmcille's:

On Easter Sunday there will be a 12.30pm Mass

Parish Holiday

There are posters on the walls and information in the newsletter regarding our Parish Holiday to the Krakow, Poland. Many parishes run pilgrimages and some holidays. Both are I believe worthwhile. A Parish holiday is a lovely and safe way of travelling (especially if you are looking for someone/group to go with on holiday) and seeing a part of the world. Everything is organised to a very high standard. There are organised trips and time for people to do their ‘own thing’. ***We have over ten people booked at the moment – why not consider it!***

A REFLECTIVE SENTENCE: If one member suffers, all suffer together: if one member is honoured, all rejoice together..... 1 Cor.12:26

Parish Tour to Poland - Based in Krakow

Monday 29th June – Saturday 4th July 2015

Krakow largely escaped wartime damage, and remains one of Eastern Europe's most architecturally beautiful cities. The Old Town centre round the Grand Market Square, is full of fine buildings including the twin Towered Gothic St. Mary's Church, the Cloth Hall and on the hill overlooking the Vistula River stands the Renaissance Cathedral and Wawel Castle. Our tour to Poland will give you a bird's eye view of **Pope John Paul's home country** and the Province where he was born and reared. We will visit his hometown **Wadowice** and stay in **Krakow** where he spent his adult life before going to Rome. We will make a pilgrimage to **Auschwitz** and remember all those who suffered or died there and also visit the shrine of **St. Faustina**.

Accommodation: Atrium Hotel 3* www.hotelatrium.pl Centrally located in the Old Town and just a short walk from the Market Square. The hotel has a bar and restaurant serving local cuisine.

Price per person sharing:- €725.00

Price includes:*Return flights Dublin/Krakow*5 night's accommodation, twin sharing on a bed and breakfast basis + 2 dinners* Guided walking tour of the medieval city * Day excursion to Wadowice – birthplace of Pope John Paul 11 * Visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau * Visit to the world famous Salt mines of Wieliczka

Extras: *Baggage fee (currently €50.00 – 15 kg)* Insurance: €28.00 (65 yrs+: double insurance premium applies)* Single room supplement: €30.00 per person per night (limited availability)*

Deposit €250.00 per person – Book early!!

The Light is on - Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confessions for Lent: **St. Colmcille's – Holy Thursday** 12 noon to 1.00pm and after the 7.30pm Mass. **Good Friday** 10.00am to 11.30am and **Holy Saturday** 12noon to 1.00pm. **Our Lady of the Visitation, Drynam – Good Friday** after 12 noon Stations of the Cross. **Penitential Services:** – Swords-Monday 30th March at 7.30pm. Brackenstown – Tuesday 31st March at 7.30pm. These services have visiting priests

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Today we hear the account of the passion according to Mark. On Friday we shall hear John's. Mark's story of the passion is dominated by two questions: What happens to the disciples? What happens to Jesus? The disciples who were called to be with him at the beginning of the Gospel, all forsook him and fled. And Jesus in this cruel and shocking presentation is portrayed as one alone, alone in suffering and alone in power to save.

A Date for your Diary:We are very proud of the Parochial House and I am aware of the fact that many of you have not seen the inside of it. To that end there is an ‘Opening Evening’ on **Thursday 16th April from 7.00pm to 9.00pm**. Why not drop along?

Bethany Bereavement Support Group will meet in the Parochial House on Monday 30th March at 7.30pm. Open to all Fingal residents. For further information please contact Mary 8402652 or Brid 086 6006397 after 6pm