

For those whose ministry is not public, a decision needs to be made whether their work nonetheless brings them into contact with children or vulnerable persons. If it does, then they should also be vetted. If the contact is not planned, such as a situation where children wander into the church when something is happening, that contact is incidental and does not lead to a requirement for vetting. As in every situation where judgment is applied inconsistencies will arise. However, by working together in a spirit of openness and trust we will gradually bring greater clarity to this issue. (*Child Safeguarding and Protection Service, Dublin Diocese*)
Fr. Michael Carey

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 10.00am John Collins	Sat 6.30pm Kevin Leonard
Tues 10.00am Veronica Keogh	Sun 8.30am Harry Sheridan
Wed 10.00am Agnes Donovan	Sun 11.00pm Marie Corby
Thurs 10.00am Mary Gannon	
Fri 10.00am Jerry Murphy	Sun 6.30pm Mary McGrane

Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM

Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am, 11.00am (Irish Mass)& 12 noon.

We will have the last Mass in the current Drynam church structure today. From next Sunday 30th July Scoil an Duinínigh has kindly facilitated Sunday Masses to be held in the School Hall. Entrance from the rear of the school.



RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:
Patrick Kealy Carnegie Court
Kevin Byrne Formerly Hawthorn Park
Mary Cassidy Castlefarm



Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today we have two versions of a parable, the original and a later Church interpretation. Communities of faith are always “mixed,” in that some people are fully engaged, some are half-hearted and many, perhaps most, are in between. What to do? The temptation to go for a radical, purified Church has been a recurring one across history. The teaching of this parable is let things alone – it is not for us to judge. It could be that less committed believers may change and a welcoming, compassionate approach may enable that to happen.

Prayer - Jesus, your compassion to all however fractured inspires us today to recognise our own need of your grace. Help us work on the plank in our own eyes before we dare offer to remove splinter in our neighbour’s eye. (*Source: St. Paul’s Missal*)

The Annual Youth2000 Summer Festival takes place from Thurs 17th to Sun 20th August at the Cistercian College, Roscrea – Open to all aged 16-35. Excellent Speakers, Inspiring Talks & Workshops, Fantastic music, Group activities, Youth Masses, Adoration, Reconciliation, prayer, Drama, Games & plenty of time to chill out, meet new people and find out what it means to be young & Catholic today!! Meals included, free busses. For more details and links to booking etc check out: <http://youth2000.ie>”

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

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Every child is a precious gift of God

“See, I have the Lord for my help. The Lord sustains my soul”

Newsletter Sunday 23rd July 2017



I got a call from a friend who said – ‘I’m on the way to visit my daughter who has just had a baby girl, and I want to give her a huge hug’. Before the child was even seen, she was loved. Before asking anything about what she might be like, she was being hugged. She was welcomed as a gift to the family from the first moment. Every child is a precious gift of God, saying to us from the very first moment, ‘You are precious in my eyes and I love you’.

Safeguarding and protecting the children and the vulnerable of the parish is everyone’s responsibility and privilege. ‘The Church...is and should be a safe and secure home’ (Pope Francis). To that end the Diocese is requiring all to be members of Ministry Teams to be vetted so that the culture of safeguarding is imbedded within the Church. ‘There is a tendency among some to say that the Church over-reacted, perhaps understandably, but now we can get back to a regime that is somehow less robust...there is no room for complacency. We need vigilance’ (Archbishop Diarmuid Martin).

Garda Vetting

The National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act 2012, came into effect in April 2016.

Up to April 2016, Garda vetting was a matter of policy. The policy of the Archdiocese of Dublin was to vet all those who work for or on behalf of parishes and diocesan agencies. This policy was clear. The legislation, which we are now required to follow, is not quite so straightforward.

The legislation requires vetting of those who engage in ‘**relevant work or activities**’. Included in this is “**any work or activity as a priest or minister or any other person engaged in the advancement of any religious beliefs to children or vulnerable persons unless such work is incidental to the advancement of religious beliefs to persons who are not children or vulnerable persons**”.

We use the term ‘public ministry’ to refer to all those activities that people engage in in a public forum that identifies them as acting on behalf of the parish or the diocese. This extends from the priest saying mass, to the members of the choir and the person who takes up the collection at the offertory. All of these people are ministering to the whole congregation, including children and vulnerable persons. **They need to be vetted.** They comprise the majority of those working in our parishes and diocese.

There are a small number of people whose ministry is not public. Members of finance committees, for example, usually meet when others are not around and the members would not normally need to be vetted. However, it is not the case that certain roles do not require to be vetted. For example, flower arrangers generally decorate the altar when others are not around and do not need to be vetted. If, however, some young people wished to join in making the church look beautiful and worked alongside the adult flower arrangers, the arrangers would need to be vetted.

In summary, all those engaged in public ministry **must be vetted.**

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Antiphon - 'The Lord, the gracious, the merciful...gives food to those who fear him'

Garda Vetting

As you can see I have written this week's newsletter on the subject of Garda vetting. Just before the summer break, all members of the PPC underwent the Garda vetting process. In the autumn it will be rolled out for the rest of the Parish. The difference this time is that instead of writing all your addresses on a page, you will enter them into a computer. To that end all will need an email address – this can be your own or a family member's. No matter what organisation you belong to, all vetting at the stipulation of An Garda Síochána is to be submitted by a computer. There will be more information in the autumn – Don't panic, everything can be sorted!

Summer Schedule

The Saturday 10.00am is dropped for the summer and will return on Saturday 16th September

Saturday Morning Liturgies

Brackenstown – celebrates Saturday Morning Mass at 10.00am followed by confessions from 10.30am to 11.30am

River Valley - celebrates Saturday Morning Mass at 11.00am followed by confessions

Weekday 8.00am Mass

This Mass is dropped from Monday 17th July and will resume on Friday 4th August

Confessions:

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



Organist/Choir Director

As you may know Anne McDonagh is retiring from her position as Choir Director/Organist after 52 years of extraordinary service to this parish particularly in the music ministry. We wish her well and there will be an opportunity to pay tribute to her at a later date. Is there someone in our community or among a wider circle that you think might be interested in this position which will become vacant in September? Good keyboard skills, sound knowledge of the liturgy, experience of choir work and ability to work as a member of a team are some of the gifts that we would look for in reviewing applications. Diocesan Guidelines for Church Musicians are used to determine remuneration.

The Bible's Most Important People

Ruth – A Moabite woman, Ruth married Naomi's son Mahlon while the family lived in Moab during a famine. When Ruth's husband, his brother, and his father died, Ruth's mother in law decided to move back to Bethlehem. Though her sister in law, Orpah, went back to her own family, Ruth refused to leave Naomi. Together they went to Bethlehem, and there Ruth gathered the barley harvest to provide food for them. Boaz became aware of Ruth and became kinsman-redeemer for her and Naomi. Ruth married Boaz and had a son Obed, who was considered Naomi's grandson. 'Obed was the father of Jesse; and Jesse was the father of King David' (Mt 1:5-6).

Letter from Archbishop – South Sudan

At the June Bishop's Conference we heard directly from Éamonn Meehan from Trócaire of the appalling situation facing the people of East Africa, which has now reached a critical stage. There are severe food shortages in South Sudan, Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia brought about by drought and conflict. Over half the population of Somalia (6.2 million people) is experiencing food shortages and malnutrition. There have also been major outbreaks of cholera across the country. South Sudan is on the brink of famine, with drought and conflict affecting millions. Millions of people in south-eastern Ethiopia and northern Kenya are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. On behalf of Irish Catholics, Trócaire is doing all it possible can - currently helping over 150,000 people across the region with emergency food, water and sanitation. The need is enormous and the Bishops' Conference is responding by launching an emergency Church Appeal throughout Ireland to take place on **Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd July 2017.**

I have no doubt that the parishioners of the Archdiocese of Dublin will support this appeal with compassion and generosity. Can I ask you to please remember in your prayers the staff and partners of Trócaire on the frontline in East Africa, responding to this humanitarian crisis with dedication, courage and selflessness.

Yours very sincerely,

+Diarmuid Martin .Archbishop of Dublin

(The following prayer is often attributed to St Teresa of Calcutta It was more likely to have originated within the Order of the Missionaries of Charity which she founded)

*Lord, when I am hungry, give me someone in need of food;
when I am thirsty, send me someone needing a drink;
when I am cold, send me someone to warm;
when I am grieved, offer me someone to console;
when my cross grows heavy, let me share another's cross;
when I think only of myself, draw my thoughts to another*

Pathways

Pathways is a two-year one night a week course for adults who wish to explore their faith. It runs from mid-September to May each year. There are no exams and no written work. The only requirement is an openness to listening to others and to participate. The cost is €400 for the coming academic year. The programme begins in Clonliffe College on Thursday 28th September 2017 - 7.00pm - 9.30pm. For further information please visit the webpage www.evangelisation.ie, phone 8379253 ext 294, email pathways@dublindiocese.ie

“Music Ministry Together Summer school for anyone interested in liturgy and music, takes place from Tue 8th to Sun 13th August - Cistercian College, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary, including teaching sessions, workshops/masterclasses, various styles of Liturgy, celebration of the Eucharist, Sacraments and Catechises. Finally, there will also be time to have fun, with organised activities and entertainment through the week. Come for as much or as little as you like. For more details and link to booking form etc check out: <http://musicministry.ie/the-course/> or phone (087) 6790336”