

The sacredness of the church building is important. Coming to Church, to Mass is not another social gathering. But when we realise that the church is a holy place, a place of encounter with God, with one another and with oneself, then we bring a certain disposition of mind and body to church service which helps make worship an uplifting rather than boring experience. This weekend's Mass as indeed at all weekends, invites us to renew our faith in the church as a house of prayer and to cultivate habits and practices that make it easy for God to encounter us whenever we go to church. *Fr Michael Carey*

**Mass intentions for Next Week**

<b>Mon</b> 8.00am Harry Sheridan	
<b>Mon</b> 10.00 Holy Souls	<b>Sat</b> 10.00am Paddy McKitterick
<b>Tues</b> 8.00am Breda Kissane	<b>Sat</b> 6.30pm Richard Dillon (1st An)
<b>Tues</b> 10.00am Maura Donovan	Lily Markey (1st An)
<b>Wed</b> 8.00am Nick Halligan	<b>Sun</b> 8.30am Annie McDonnell
<b>Wed</b> 10.00am Har & Maureen Donnelly	
<b>Thurs</b> 8.00am Gus Hatch	<b>Sun</b> 11.00am Mary Flynn
<b>Thurs</b> 10.00am Dec members of Legion of Mary	Fergus O'Toole (MM)
<b>Fri</b> 8.00am Teresa & Seamus Fagan & grandchildren James & Michelle Mehan	
<b>Fri</b> 10.00am Elizabeth Curran	<b>Sun</b> 6.30pm Fran Hearty

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



**We will have a Pastoral Team Meeting on Tuesday 26th at 8:00PM..**

We are still looking for volunteers such as a carpenter who may be able to assist in ongoing work such as widening the doors in the church. We hope to move back by the end of November. This year we will not distribute Christmas Dues envelopes and Mass timetable cards to all houses in the Drynam area. These will be available for collection at the back of the church.

**RECENTLY DECEASED**



Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

**Thomas Daly Coldriona Court, Swords**

**Saints for the coming week**

**All the Saints of Ireland – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November.** Ireland, especially in the early Christian centuries, was known as an isle of saints and scholars. Many of these combined pastoral care with observance of the monastic life. The Irish also did much to bring the faith to other parts of Europe and, if we are to believe the story of St. Brendan, even further afield.

**The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November,**

The Church of St John Lateran in Rome is, 'Mother and Head of all the churches of the City and the World'. It is the cathedral church of the Bishop of Rome, and was called 'St John' after the two monasteries once attached, dedicated to St. John the Divine and St. John the Baptist. It is, however, dedicated to the Most Holy Saviour.

**St. Leo the Great, pope and doctor of the church – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November,** became Pope in 440 and died 461. He taught the two natures, human and divine, of Christ at the Council of Chalcedon, 451, and the primacy of the See of Peter

**St. Martin of Tours, bishop – Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November,** 316-97, Bishop of Tours, apostle of rural Gaul, founder of monasteries. At the age of eighteen, he was baptised France, soldiers, beggars and innkeepers.

**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**

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

**The Church - a 'spiritual edifice' built by God with 'living stones'.**

*"Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me"*

Newsletter Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Our Parish Church built in 1827, a temple of bricks and mortar, and is a symbol of the living Church, the Christian community. In their Letters the Apostles Peter and Paul understood the church building as a 'spiritual edifice' built by God with 'living stones', which are Christians, upon the one foundation which is Jesus Christ, Who in His turn is described as the 'cornerstone'. Why have I introduced this weekend's newsletter with this paragraph? Because on Thursday next, November 9<sup>th</sup>, the Church celebrates an important feast day in its calendar and that is the 'Feast of St. John Lateran' or the feast of 'The dedication of the Lateran Basilica'.

The Church of St. John is located on the Lateran hill in Rome, and is described as the 'Mother and Head of all the churches in the City and the World' (*Urbi et Orbi*). It is the cathedral church of the Bishop of Rome, and was called 'St John' after the two monasteries once attached, dedicated to St John the Divine and St John the Baptist.



*Inside the Lateran Basilica*

The beauty and harmony of churches, which are intended to give praise unto God, also invites us, to gather together to celebrate the Liturgy as the community of the baptised, which comes together to hear the Word of God and to draw nourishment from the Body and Blood of Christ. And each community, in fact, has the duty to protect its own sacred buildings, which constitute a precious religious and historical heritage".

We know that God is everywhere. Yet when the people of God build a building, a church and dedicate it totally to God's service, God's glory comes to dwell in that building in such a way that the building can now be called the house of God.

And that's why when we enter a church we do some little things: dressing in a decent manner for church; signing/blessing oneself with holy water on entering the church; genuflecting or bowing to the altar or the tabernacle before taking one's seat or before leaving the church; not chatting in church, and lowering one's voice when one has cause to talk in church.



## ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

*How much better our family life would be if we used the words....  
Please. Thank you...and I'm sorry. Pope Francis*



### Confirmation Classes

The Parish based Confirmation Programme begins next week-end. Too often Confirmation is seen as a 'rite of passage' from the church. The Catholic Christian faith offers a powerful support to young people as they struggle with the great pressures of modern life. But they need every encouragement to hold on to and cherish their faith. The school and the Parish are making special efforts to prepare for and to celebrate our young people's Confirmation. In order to begin to understand the Sacrament of Confirmation they and indeed ourselves must first understand what it means to belong to a Community of Faith, and that takes time. That in part is what this Parish initiative is about. We hope to rekindle and remind the young people and their families of the experience of being at a Mass where we hope that they will feel at home in the Church, to feel that they belong and are welcome. To that end next weekend the boys and girls and their families will be present at the **Saturday 6.30pm Vigil Mass** as part of their Parish based preparation programme for the Sacrament of Confirmation. I know you will make them welcome and we look forward to seeing them and praying with them.

### Diary

I am delighted to announce that the diary for the coming year 2018 Mass Intentions is open from **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November**.

### Garda Vetting

If you missed the meeting and still have the 'form' to complete, then you leave the completed form in the Parish Office along with the two photocopied 'proof of identity and address documents'. These of course can be photocopied in the Parish Office. Thank you.

### Mass of Remembrance

On Thursday next, **9<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm**, the Parish will celebrate Mass to remember and pray for all parishioners and friends who died during the past year. During this Mass each person will be remembered by name. All welcome especially family and friends.

### The Month of November

*We remember our own dead and our own sadness this November. Tears speak out our grief, but they also witness to our love and we are glad to have loved so much that we can cry. May those we have loved rest in your embrace, O Lord.*

Anam Cara, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its next monthly Parent Evening on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> of November from 19:30 to 21:00 in the Carnegie Court Hotel, Swords. This event is open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether the death was recent or not.

### Altar List of the Dead

These lists are available at the back of the Church. All Masses on the First Friday of the month will be offered for the names on the Altar List of the Dead. The completed envelopes can be returned to the Sacristy or Parish Office.

**Why not** – prepare a small sacred memorial space in your home for the month of November. When preparing the list say a prayer together as a family or by yourself along the lines of 'we continue to love them now that they are elsewhere. They can no longer be physically present to us, yet for all death's power, "love is as strong as death" (Song of songs 8:6).' More suggested prayers at the back of the Church

**Thank You** – a sincere thank you to all who have returned their completed 'altar lists of the dead'

### Swords Senior Citizens

The annual ecumenical memorial service to remember and pray for our deceased members, relatives and friends will take place on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 2.30pm.**, in the Swords Senior Citizens' Centre, Chapel Lane. **All are welcome**

Vocations Ireland Network Hello, we are the Vocations Ireland NET (*National Evangelization Teams*) Team! We are so excited to be working in Brackenstown, Swords and Rivervalley Parish Grouping for the next 6 weeks. During this time we will be ministering in schools doing day retreats and confirmation classes. These days will include music, drama, games, and will create a space for an encounter with Jesus through faith sharing and prayer time. We also will be starting youth events to integrate the young people into parish life. Our team is from all over the world. We have two Canadians, two American girls, a Scotsman, and a lad from Donegal. We can't wait to get to know the community and share with you in this exciting journey. Please keep our team and our ministry in your prayers. God Bless!

Swords CFR -Defibrillator for Swords: We aim to have our defibrillator in a housed coded unit in Swords available to all members of the public should a person go into cardiac arrest. This is a fully voluntary group who respond to 999 calls of cardiac arrest, stroke, choking and heart attacks in Swords in conjunction with NAS. Volunteers (resident in Swords, vetted, over 18yrs and full clean licence) are sought. See Facebook page or email [swordscfr@gmail.com](mailto:swordscfr@gmail.com). Full training provided.

Award Winning, OLV Gospel Choir will sing for St Francis Hospice on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 8.00pm in St Brigid's Church, Blanchardstown. Tickets €10 available from Paul at 085 2896562, Laura 086 0747551 or online @ [www.sfh.ie/online-shop](http://www.sfh.ie/online-shop)

Miscarriage Association of Ireland Annual Service of Remembrance: will take place on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 3.00pm in St Teresa's Church, Donore Ave, off South Circular Road, Dublin 8. All parents, siblings, grandparents & others affected by the loss of a baby are very welcome to attend regardless of whether the loss was recent or long ago.