

St Teresa's Prayer

Christ has no body now on earth but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours.

Yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion is to look out to the world.

Yours are the feet by which he is to go about doing good. And yours are the hands by which he is to bless us now.

Fr. Michael Carey

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 8.00am May Jennings

Mon 10.00am George & Ann & George Jnr McGrane

Tues 8.00am Margaret Whelan

Tues 10.00am John Gallan

Wed 8.00am Betty Stokes

Wed 10.00am Annie Darcy

Thurs 8.00am Annie Darcy

Thurs 10.00am Alice Hurley

Fri 8.00am Martin Bradley

Fri 10.00am Special Intention

Sat 10.00am Christopher Barnwell
Anthony Cervi (MM)

Sat 6.30pm Thomas Byrne
Martin Bradley (MM)

Sun 8.30am Bridget O'Toole

Sun 11.00am Michael Barry
Peadar Connolly (MM)

Sun 6.30pm Catherine Cochon

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

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

Many thanks to Scoil an Duinnigh for continued permission to use the school hall for Sunday Masses.

We have started works to bring our own church back into fire regulation compliance. We are still looking for volunteers who may be able to assist in some of this work.

We will have a Drynam Pastoral team Meeting on Tuesday 24th October at 8pm.



Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time - (Mission Sunday)

The relationship between religious faith and public life is perplexing. In some societies, even today, there is virtually no difference between the two. In other, more secular societies, any expression of religious conviction is unacceptable in public. It is true of course that there is an appropriate distinction and even separation to be made, as indeed Jesus does make today in the Gospel. But on at least two issues, there is bound to be some crossover. Religious faith informs our values and in society today policies and laws must be grounded, not in a particular faith certainly, but in values nevertheless.

Prayer - Lord, we need your wisdom to tell what belongs to God and what belongs to Caesar. Send your Holy Spirit into the heart of all believers that we may be true to ourselves and tolerant towards people with whom we disagree. (Source: St. Paul's Missal)

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

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mission Sunday

"Father, I pray for those who will believe in me, that they may be one in us"

Newsletter Sunday 22nd October 2017

As we celebrate this Mission Sunday I have two short stories which in different ways reflect the theme of mission. I have sourced them in a book called 'A world of stories', by William J. Bausch.

The Blacksmith

Once upon a time there was a blacksmith who worked hard at his trade. The day came for him to die. The angel was sent to him, and much to the angel's surprise, he refused to go. He pleaded with the angel to make his case before God, that he was the only blacksmith in the area, and it was time for all his neighbours to begin their planting and sowing. He was needed. So the angel pleaded his case before God. He said that the man didn't want to appear ungrateful, and that he was glad to have a place in the kingdom but could he put off going for a while? And the blacksmith was left.

About a year or two later the angel came back again with the same message: the Lord was ready to share the fullness of the kingdom with him. Again the man had reservations and said: "A neighbour of mine is seriously ill, and it's time for the harvest. A number of us are trying to save his crops so that his family won't become destitute. Please come back later." And off the angel went again.

Well, it got to be a pattern. Every time the angel came, the blacksmith had one excuse or another. The blacksmith would just shake his head and tell the angel where he was needed and decline.

Finally, the blacksmith grew very old, weary, and tired. He decided it was time, so he prayed: "God, if you'd like to send your angel again, I'd be glad to come home now." Immediately the angel appeared, as if from around the corner of the bed. The blacksmith said: "If you still want me to take me home, I'm ready to live forever in the kingdom of heaven." And the angel laughed and looked at the blacksmith in delight and surprise and said: "Where do you think you've been all these years?" he was home.

No other plans

Upon Jesus' arrival in heaven, a vast host of angels greeted him. After the formalities, they asked him whom he had left behind on earth to finish the work he had begun. Jesus replied, "Just a small group of men and women who love me." "That's all?" asked the angels, astonished. "What if this tiny group should fail?" Jesus replied, "I have no other plans."



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*



Commitment ceremony

This week the boys and girls from St. Colmcille's BNS and GNS will celebrate their first liturgy on their journey to receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation next year. The liturgy is a beautiful and simple Ceremony of Commitment. The boys will celebrate their ceremony on Wednesday 25th October at 1.30pm and the girls on Thursday 26th October at 1.30pm.

Do This in Memory

I welcome the boys and girls and their families to the 6.30pm Saturday Vigil Mass as part of their Parish based preparation programme for the Sacrament of First Eucharist. I would also like to thank the parents who are part of the organising committee who met during the week to prepare these Masses.

Mission Month of October 2017

Today is World Mission Sunday Today is Mission Sunday and the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection. Every person in every parish in every country where the Church is present will be celebrating together and sharing what they have, no matter how little. It is the one Sunday in the year when the Mass is celebrated exclusively for missionary activity. Donations are collected at these worldwide Masses and they go to support churches, hospitals, schools and vocations in countries where the Church is new, young or poor. It is also the one Sunday in the year when your generosity goes directly to help mission parishes overseas and reach out with Jesus' message of hope and love. World Missions Ireland is the Holy Father's official charity for overseas mission. It is responsible for coordinating Mission Sunday in Ireland and, through local bishops, churches, and missionary congregations around the world ensures that resources are distributed equitably and justly on the basis of need. In offering our prayers, we join with missionaries everywhere in communion and compassion to support them in spreading the Good News, and by giving a donation we respond to Christ's call to feed the hungry and clothe the naked so please give what you can. Thank You.

Mass of Remembrance

On Thursday 9th 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. If you have a family member who died during the past year and would like their name called out please contact Colette in the Parish Office (01-8407277) before Thursday 26th October

The Legion of Mary, a lay apostolate organisation was founded by Frank Duff. Come to hear an inspiring talk in St Colmcille's Church on Sunday 22nd at 11am mass. Bring Christ to people from all over the world, new members welcome. Meeting on Mondays at 7pm, the Parochial House, Seatown Road, Swords.

Altar List of the Dead

These lists are available at the back of the Church. The new lists will be placed in front of the altar on Thursday 2nd November-the Feast of All Souls. 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).'

Safeguarding

Most if not all involved in Parish Ministry will have received a letter by now. The Parish Pastoral Council have put a lot of work into this endeavour. I kindly ask for your co-operation. The PPC are undergoing this exercise to comply with Diocesan best practice and also with the legislative requirements of the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act 2012. Thanking you in anticipation

Garda Vetting Evening

All involved in Ministry are invited to the Parochial House this coming **Tuesday evening 24th October at 7.30pm** to complete or to avail of assistance in completing their Garda Vetting forms. I look forward to seeing you there

Crosscare

In September the Parish held the annual Crosscare special collection in replace of Share. The amount collected for Swords/Drynam was €2916 (2016: €2765). Thank you for your wonderful generosity

Swords Grouping of Parishes – St Colmcille's, St Cronan's, Brackenstown & St Finian's, River Valley were invited by Fingal Volunteer Centre to take part in a Volunteer Expo in The Pavillions Shopping Centre on Thursday 12th October from 11.00am – 3.00pm. We were delighted to be part of this event and to speak with people about volunteering opportunities in the Parishes. We had a lot of interest in our stand people stopped to chat and see what the Parishes had to offer. Photos can be seen on The Pavillions Facebook page. We look forward to taking part in the Expo again next year. If you would like to volunteer in any of our groups, ie Minister of the Word, Minister of the Eucharist, Baptism Team, Fundraising Committee, Choir, Folk Group, Cleaning Team, Grounds Maintenance etc we would be delighted, please contact Colette at the Parish Office, 8407277