

- Has someone asked you for advice? Orient your response to Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life
- Follow Christ with the witness of your life so that others may see God's love revealed in your actions
- Accompany a friend who is struggling with believing to join a parish group for service or faith formation, share a book you found useful in dealing with your friend's faith concern, and worship at Sunday Mass

Comforting the sorrowful

- Be open to listening and comforting those who are dealing with grief. Even if we aren't sure of the right words to say, our presence can make a big difference.
- Lend a listening ear to those going through a tough time
- Make a home cooked meal for a friend who is facing a difficult time
- Write a letter or send a card to someone who is suffering
- A few moments of your day may make a lifetime of difference to someone who is going through a difficult time.

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 8.00am Michael, Bridie & Frances Leydon

Sat 10.00am Pauline Gurnhill

Mon 10.00am Michael Griffin

Sun 6.30pm Niamh Sheridan

Tues 8.00am Valerie McKinny

Sun 8.30am Paddy Mahon

Tues 10.00am Joe McGuire

Wed 8.00am

Thurs 8.00am Stephen Farrell

Sun 11.00am Thomas & Eileen
O'Connell

Thurs 10.00 Barney O'Rourke

Fri 8.00am Jimmy Donoghue

Fri 10.00am Brendan O'Keefe

Nuala Ryan (MM)
Sun 6.30pm Josie & Billy Ryan

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

Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am-11.00am(Irish)& 12 noon, Mon 9.20am

Weekday Masses in Drynam for the next few weeks will be as follows:

Mon 25th April 9:20 am, Mon 2nd May no Mass (Bank Holiday), Tue 3rd May 9:20 am,

Mon 9th May 9:20 am, Tue 10th May 9:20 am, Mon 16th May 9:20 am, Tue 17th May 9:20 am



RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

Patrick Larmon

Carlton Court



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 Monday 25th April For further information please phone Mary 8402652 or Brid 086 6006397 after 6 p.m. Open to all Fingal Residents -

Wednesday 27th April

There is no 10.00am Mass this day as the Confirmation Ceremony is at 11.00am. There will be 8.00am Mass this day

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



5th Sunday of Easter

The Spiritual Works of Mercy

"O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders"

Newsletter Sunday 24th April 2016



Continuing on from last week's newsletter in which I am highlighting the 14 works of Mercy.

Works of mercy can be directed not only toward the needs of the body, but the needs of the soul as well. Indeed, the most serious form of poverty of all can be the *poverty of the spirit*, not only because it drains life of all energy, joy, and sense of purpose, but also because it is the one kind of poverty that can last forever.

That's why, in addition to the corporal works of mercy, the Church has outlined the spiritual works of mercy. Look to these works as preventative medicine for poverty of the spirit. The spiritual works of mercy are as follows:

- (1) *Admonish sinners.* (2) *Instruct the uninformed.* (3) *Counsel the doubtful.*
- (4) *Comfort the sorrowful.* (5) *Be patient with those in error.* (6) *Forgive offenses.*
- (7) *Pray for the living and the dead.*

Third and Fourth: Counsel the Doubtful and Comfort the Sorrowful

What a tremendous gift it is from The Divine Mercy when you find someone who really listens to you, who really lets you pour out your heart and share your troubles and miseries, and who then really takes your whole situation in prayer to the Lord *before* presuming to dole out advice to you. Plenty of people are quick to give out half-baked, ill-considered advice! But how many people do you know who *really* listen to you and to the Holy Spirit before they speak?

You can become that person for others if you learn to really listen to the Holy Spirit in your own life first. Why not read the New Testament every day and listen to the Lord speaking to you there. When you learned to listen (*which can take a long time!*), you will be ready and able to listen deeply to others.

Counselling the doubtful

Everyone has moments of doubt in their faith journey. Nevertheless, we should always remember that Christ is the Way, the Truth, and the Life and turn to him along our way.

- "Listen to counsel and receive instruction, that you may eventually become wise" (Prov 19:20)
- The Cross of Christ "the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength" (1 Cor 1:25)

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

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

Ceremony of Light

This is part of the Confirmation Programme. It is developed around the Pascal Candle. When children are baptised the parents/godparents receive a light to their Baptismal Candle from the Pascal Candle. In this Ceremony, the parents hand the lighted candle lit from the Pascal Candle directly to their children themselves, symbolising that their parents have fulfilled their promise to bring their children up in the faith and will continue to fulfil it and their children now make the step of confirming their faith for themselves. This ceremony was held for the boys at St. Colmcille's BNS last Tuesday and for the girls at St. Colmcille's GNS last Wednesday. Thanks to the teachers for their excellent preparation of their pupils. This newsletter will go to print before the Confirmation for the boys which happened last Thursday



Sacrament of Confirmation - GNS

Next Wednesday 27th April, the girls from St. Colmcille's GNS will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at 11am. On behalf of the Parish I am delighted to welcome Bishop Raymond Field who will administer the Sacrament. I wish the school well in all their preparation these coming days.

Year of Mercy

The twelfth paragraph of the Papal encyclical – ‘Misericordiae Vultus’ continues - The Church is commissioned to announce the mercy of God, the beating heart of the Gospel, which in its own way must penetrate the heart and mind of every person. The Spouse of Christ must pattern her behaviour after the Son of God who went out to everyone without exception. In the present day, as the Church is charged with the task of the new evangelisation, the theme of mercy needs to be proposed again and again with new enthusiasm and renewed pastoral action. It is absolutely essential for the Church and for the credibility of her message that she herself live and testify to mercy. Her language and her gestures must transmit mercy, so as to touch the hearts of all people and inspire them once more to find the road that leads to the Father.

The Church's first truth is the love of Christ. The Church makes herself a servant of this love and mediates it to all people: a love that forgives and expresses itself in the gift of oneself. Consequently, wherever the Church is present, the mercy of the Father must be evident. In our parishes, communities, associations and movements, in a word, wherever there are Christians, everyone should find an oasis of mercy.

1916 RISING COMMEMORATION: In memory of those veterans of the 1916 Rising who are buried in St Colmcille's Cemetery, a wreath laying ceremony will take place on Saturday April 30th at 2pm. A number of local people were involved in 'The Rising' and relatives are invited to come along on the day.

Liturgy Team

The Liturgy Team will meet on Tuesday 26th March at 8.00pm in the Parochial House

Property and Finance Committee (PFC)

The PFC will meet on Tuesday 26th March at 2.30pm in the Parochial House

Special Collection for Ukraine

Pope Francis has asked that a collection be taken up for humanitarian relief in Ukraine. This collection (50% of the Share collection) will be taken up this **weekend April 23rd/24th**

Fingal County Council has organised a 1916 Centenary Commemoration Event

in Swords this Sunday 24th April. As part of the day there will be a special event to commemorative the role played by the women of Fingal in the 1916 Rising with a short cycle, called “Rothaíocht na mBan”, along Brackenstown Road to Main Street Swords, starting at 3.15pm at the playing pitches on Brackenstown Road. All are welcome to come out along the route to cheer the cyclists on. There will be a parade later at 4.45pm on Main Street, followed by re-enactments and entertainment in Swords Town Park.”

Commemorating Easter 1916

An Ecumenical Service for Peace and Reconciliation will be held this Sunday 24th April 2016, at 3.00pm in **St Columba's Church(Church of Ireland)**
Speaker: Dr Johnston McMaster (Irish School of Ecumenics) **All welcome!**

Gathering for Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist:

A gathering for Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist in the Jubilee of Mercy will take place in Clonliffe College, on **Wednesday 27th April 8.00-9.30pm**. This is an opportunity to reflect on your ministry. If interested in attending please let Colette know so that she can 'ring in' the numbers and that the Parish can make the contribution per person attending.

Golf Classic – St. Colmcille's Parish

Our annual Golf Classic will take place in Forrest Little Golf Club on Friday 10th June to raise funds for the re-dorcoration of our Parish Church of St. Colmcille. The format is a 4-person Team event and the entry fee is €250 per team which includes a meal. If you think that this might be of interest to you, we would greatly appreciate your support. If you cannot submit a team, perhaps you would consider sponsoring a hole for €100 or even a prize for the event. If you wish to support this very worthy cause please contact John Campbell 087 9079245 or Susan Rallo 086 8152255

The Bible's Most Important People

Elisha – the prophet Elijah's successor and disciple. Elisha saw Eiljah carried up to heaven on a whirlwind of fire and received a double portion of his spirit. Elisha performed many miracles – he headed a polluted water source for the people of Jericho, provided oil for a widow, and caused a “great woman” of Shunem to have a child, then brought him back to life after he died. He fed a hundred people from twenty loaves of bread. At Elisha's command, Naaman, captain of the Syrian king, bathed in the Jordan and was healed of leprosy.