

In the Gospel of John, Jesus is the new Moses who gives the living water (John 4:10) and the true manna (John 6:31).

Paul too, finds no difficulty in saying of the departure from Egypt: 'These things are examples for us ... they were written down for our instruction, upon whom the end of the ages has come' (1 Cor. 10:1-11). For him the life of the baptised Christian has to be seen as a new exodus.

Living the Paschal Mystery

Luke undertook a conscientious telling of the story of Jesus. His and other accounts have nurtured the faith of generations of Christians and brought them to take up Jesus' mission to proclaim the glad tidings of what is "acceptable to the Lord."

For our part we are to "bring glad tidings" to our families, neighbourhoods, cities and in this fulfil who we are and our mission as faithful followers of Christ. We do this in word but, even more importantly, in deed. Our challenge is to proclaim the story in a manner that is relevant for today's world in words and deeds that remain true to the original Good news. (Source: *Living Liturgy*)

Fr. Michael Carey

Intentions for Next Week

Mon 8.00am Rose Geoghegan

Mon 10.00am Charles & Noel Farrell

Tues 8.00am Jacqueline Sheehy

Tues 10.00am Tess Howley

Wed 8.00am Eddie & Mary Fleming

Wed 10.00am Mary McQuillan

Thurs 8.00am Bridget Gleeson

Thurs 10.00am Richard & Eva Kearns

Fri 8.00am Altar list of the Dead

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Sat 10.00am Patrick & Mary Kate Gallagher

Sat 6.30pm Special Intention

Mary Lowndes 1st An

Sun 8.30am Paddy & Molly O'Keefe &

Jacqueline Monaghan

Sun 11.15am Imelda McNeill

Desmond Walsh

At our Masses next weekend we also remember: Madge O'Hara, Donnie & Jennie Stapleton & daughter Jean Stapleton

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

Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am, 11.00am (Irish Mass)

Next Sunday, 3rd February, coincides with the Feast of St Blaise and we will have a Blessing for the Sick. Blessed candles will also be available for a small donation.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Today, until the end of the Liturgical Year, we hear the Gospel of Luke being read. He presents Jesus as one who has a particular concern for the poor, the sick, the weak, the suffering, those in any kind of need and those on the margins of society.

Reflection - Throughout this year as we hear the Gospel of Luke being read we cannot but be impressed by his portrait of Jesus, whose inclusive concern knows no boundaries. In his second volume, The Acts of the Apostles, he portrays Paul as building on that outlook and inviting all nations into the plan of God. God has no favourites but loves all equally.

(Source: *St. Paul's Missal*)

Property and Finance: The Property and Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday 29th January at 2.30pm in the Parochial House

Fr. Michael Carey-8403378: Fr John Collins 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

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

A New Exodus

"O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth"

Newsletter Sunday 27th January 2019



Continuing the extract on 'Baptism' from the book 'How to Understand the Sacraments'. It was printed in 1989 and is still in my opinion an excellent text book. As the book states in its introduction, 'This book invites you to make a journey. If you follow it step by step, it will lead you to discover a rich world, that of the sacraments'.

The earliest Christian text to speak of baptism appears in the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians, as does the first text on the eucharist. That was doubtless written around 56AD, more than twenty years before the Gospels. The comparison which comes quite naturally from the pen of the apostle is the departure from Egypt at the time of the exodus under the leadership of Moses. This baptism appeared as a departure on a new exodus.

The central mystery of Christianity is in the fact that of Jesus' Pasch, experienced in his death and resurrection, into which one enters by baptism. But Christian Easter has its roots in the Jewish Passover, the origins of which go back to the exodus.

The exodus is the foundation event. A new people was forged in the crucible of life in the desert. It was a long way from Egypt, the land of slavery, to the Promised Land. Forty years is a human lifetime. This way ran through two crossings of water: the Red Sea had to be crossed at the beginning and the Jordan at the end. Between the two was a long march, the time of 'trial', the time when the faithfulness of the people had to be tested. God went with his people and gave them food and drink. The covenant was concluded on Sinai and the word of God became the rule of conduct for the tribes of Israel.



The evangelists loved to draw parallels between the life of Jesus and the adventure of the Hebrews during the exodus:

- Jesus was baptised in the Jordan, at the place where the tribes entered the promised land;
- Then the Spirit drove him into the desert, where he spent forty days. That was the time of the temptation;
- Jesus spoke of the new baptism which he had to receive, alluding to his death (Mark 10:38);
- At the time of the Transfiguration he spoke with Moses and Elijah of his exodus which he was to accomplish at Jerusalem (Luke 9:31);

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*



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.

Blessing of Throats

Throats will be blessed on Sunday 3rd February (*the Feast of St. Blaise*) after the 8.30am and 11.15am Mass. The blessing of St. Blaise is a sign of our faith in God's protection and love for us and for the sick. Using two crossed and unlighted candles, blessed on the memorial of St. Blaise or on the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, the minister touches the throat of each person saying, 'Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from all ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father....'

The Presentation of the Lord - Candlemas

This Day falls on **Saturday 2nd February**. If anybody would like candles blessed on the Feast day, please leave in the Sacristy beforehand or bring on the day and place on the table in the sanctuary. If you would like a candle they will be purchased from the Sacristy at €2 each

Prayer Service

To celebrate the Week of Christian Unity there will be a Prayer Service in St. Cronan's, Brackenstown on **Monday 28th January at 7.30pm**. the address will be given by Dr. Niamh Hardiman, Society of Friends (Quakers)

God's Housekeepers

The next date for cleaning the Church is next **Friday 1st February** after the 10.00am Mass. Can cleaning group 2 for this Friday please turn up! Also if anyone has a half hour to spare you would be most welcome

Liturgy Team

The Liturgy Team will meet on Tuesday 29th January at 8.00pm in the Parochial House

Legion of Mary

"Mary, lift our spirits" One day conference on Mary. DCU All Hallows campus, Drumcondra Saturday February 2nd 2019 9.30am -5pm €20 (light lunch included)
Contact Liam (086)8888918 or Mary (087)2256833
email catholicconferencedublin@gmail.com

Parish Mass of healing and Anointing for the sick

February 11th, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes is when the Church celebrates the 'World Day of the Sick'. On **Saturday 9th February at 11am** the Parish will celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick in St. Colmcille's. All parishioners are welcome. It is an ideal opportunity to reach out to a housebound neighbour or a neighbour who has no means of transport and bring them to the church for this celebration.

'The World Day of the Sick' is a call once again to all, to see in the face of their brother or sister who is sick the face of Christ who, suffering, dying and rising, brought salvation to humanity.' *Saint John Paul II*



World day for Consecrated Life

In 1997 Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on **February 2nd**. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day – We thank and pray especially for Srs. Margaret and Mary and Winnie and of course Sr. Patrick and the Christian Brothers in Emmaus.

May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.



Catholic Schools Week (CSW)

Catholic Schools Week 2019 will run from 27th January to 3rd February 2019. The theme of this year's Catholic Schools Week is Catholic Schools: **Celebrating the Work of Our Local Catholic Schools**. The themes for the individual days very much describe the faith life of a Catholic school. This year's theme is very much a celebration of the ongoing work of our Catholic schools. We reflect on the Gospel values on which all Catholic schools are built and consider how each of us contribute to our characteristic spirit. The engagement with understanding the Mystery of Christ and the revelation that comes from Scriptures is the 'bedrock for Catholic schools' (Fr Michael Drumm). During the coming week, we invite you to join us in celebrating the contribution that our Catholic schools (St. Colmcille's GNS and St. Colmcille's BNS and Scoil an Duinninigh) make to the life of the faith community here in our parish. *More in next week's newsletter*

Swords Parish Bethany Bereavement Support Group.

Have you suffered the loss of someone special in your life through bereavement? Are you suffering the pain of that loss? Would you like to talk to a trained bereavement support person who will listen and help you understand your grief and distress? You are welcome to attend our bereavement support meetings on the second and last Mondays of every month at - The Parochial House, Seatown Road, Swords. Start time 7.30pm. This is a free, confidential service and is offered to all Fingal residents." **Date of next meeting: Monday 28th January** Further information please phone Terri 8403243".