

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 8.00am Maureen O'Keefe	Sat 6.30pm Leo Callis
Mon 10.00am Ann Yorke	
Tues 8.00am John Pentony	
Tues 10.00am Phyllis Boyle	Sun 8.30am John & Vera Kelly
Wed 8.00am Adrian Dillon	
Wed 10.00 Bernadette McGonagle	Sun 11.00am Billy Harrington
Thurs 8.00am Ann Fennelly	Victor Geddes (1st An)
Thurs 10.00am Thomas Noctor	
Fri 8.00am Jerome Bechinor	
Fri 10.00am Irene Greeley	Sun 6.30pm Tom, Mary & Sharon Conway

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

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

We would like to thank you sincerely if you have recently set up a standing order by completing the form sent out with the Easter Card. Please contact a member of the Pastoral Team so we can acknowledge and complete the Revenue Form for you which will allow us to claim up to 31% of your contribution back from Revenue.



Come and Pray:

The Annual Gathering of Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist will take place in Clonliffe Church at **8.00 p.m.** on Monday 29 May 2017. This will be an opportunity to pray, reflect and sing together as we give thanks for the grace of this important ministry. Music will be led by the Dublin Diocesan Music Group. If interested contact Colette at the Parish Office. Bring a cushion!!

Sixth Sunday of Easter

The following words, attributed to Pedro Arrupe SJ, may uplift and inspire. "Nothing is more practical than finding God, that is, than falling in love, in a quite absolute, final way. What you are in love with, what seizes your imagination, will affect everything. It will decide what will get you out of bed in the morning, what you will do with your evening, how you will spend your weekends, what you read, who you know, what breaks your heart, and what amazes you with joy and gratitude. Fall in love, stay in love and it will decide everything."

Prayer - Jesus, you love the human race: let your love of us strike so deep a chord within us that our lives may resound to the music of that Gospel, drawing others to the leap of faith and the dance of joy. (Source: St. Paul's Missal)

Swords CFR (Community First Responders) are hosting a TABLE QUIZ Friday May 26th 8pm in Graingers Pub Swords Manor. Table of 4 €40. All proceeds go directly to purchasing a housed coded outdoor public access Defibrillator. It will save a life in Swords. Please support. Raffle also on night.

We are seeking new volunteers so if over 18, full clean licence, reside in Swords and can offer minimum 12hrs/month please email swordscfr@gmail.com for further information. SWORDSCFR on Facebook

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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

I will not leave you as orphans

"The Lord has freed his people, alleluia"

Newsletter Sunday 20th May 2017



A deeply personal moment is recorded when Jesus speaks in the privacy of the upper room where he is celebrating the Last Supper with his closet friends. His conversation centres around his own personal life and he speaks to the Father, with whom he is in closet union in the most intimate terms. He refers to the apostles, who are his friends, as children with the consoling promise that on his departure he will not leave them orphans but will send them his spirit. This is a remote preparation for Pentecost and the foundation of the church, when the breath of the Spirit will transform them into fearless preachers entrusted with a mission of spreading the gospel. What Jesus is intent upon doing is building up the shattered faith of his disciples for the work facing them after the resurrection.

Jesus did not leave the apostles to struggle with the Christian life without the help of the Spirit and he won't leave us either, we have his word for this. The outpouring of the Spirit was not reserved exclusively for those who lived in the time of Jesus. The Holy Spirit is a real person who loves and cares for us and is our strength and encouragement in times of trial, just as much as he was for the apostles.

There is a great mystery of hope contained in today's gospel and we should take courage from it. The church has never been deprived of the truth of God. In the Holy Spirit we have a helper and a comforter who makes Jesus present in each generation to every person in their individual situation. But remember, the Holy Spirit will not arrive unannounced or force an entry into any person's heart.

Jesus can only free and save those who seek to be saved. We will receive the Lord's spirit and grow in our awareness of Jesus only if we request it in prayer and follow the law of God by keeping the commandments.

On at least four occasions during the Last Supper Christ said: 'If you love me keep my commandments.' Jesus invites us to show our loyalty by remaining faithful. Only those who are obedient in carrying out his will are capable of experiencing the fullness of the Spirit. The gospel is not about easy victories. In the struggle to build a better world we are his instruments charged with opening ears, eyes and hearts to what is good, true and beautiful in his kingdom. We do this by living lives of remarkable goodness in unspectacular ways. If we are willing to place our lives in his hands, he will accept and bless them and make such use of them as will be beyond our greatest expectations. (Source: Desmond Knowles – *Voicing a thought on Sunday*).

Loving Jesus doesn't require that we pray all the time or that we are consciously aware of Jesus' presence. Loving Jesus is a simple matter of keeping his commandments – being gentle and reverent toward others, having a clear conscience, doing good (second reading). Most of us are already doing what we need to do to be good Christians; but we also need to recognise that these good actions are the way to keep his commandments. In other words, his commandments are pretty simple to know: love as he loved, be self-giving as he was, receive others as he did, do the Father's will as he did. Most of all, keeping his commandments means opening ourselves to the Spirit who dwells within us and makes us like him.

Fr. Michael Carey

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Antiphon – If you love me, keep my commandments says the Lord, alleluia

Scoil an Duinnigh

The celebration of 1st Holy Communion took place last Saturday, in St. Colmcille's Swords and it was a lovely occasion. The school choir was brilliant and the children for their 1st Holy Communion were excellently and prayerfully prepared by their class teachers Clodagh Ni Chonchuir and Ide Nic Gearailt under the care and guidance of the School Principal Noirin ni Laighan. Well done to one and all and I trust that the families had a lovely day.



1st Holy Communion

Next Saturday, 27th May at 11am, the boys from St. Colmcille's BNS will receive their 1st Holy Communion. I wish the school well in all their preparation this coming week, and I hope the weather is fantastic on the day.

Exam Mass

This takes place this **Sunday 4th June at 6.30pm**. Students will be invited write their names on a piece of paper and place it in the identified basket. This basket will be left in front of the Altar for the duration of the exams. If you have a family member or friend or just know someone who is preparing for exams please feel free to put their name in the basket. Also a special candle will be lit and kept lighting for the duration of the exams. Scoil

Golf Classic – St. Colmcille's Parish

Our annual Golf Classic will take place in Forrest Little Golf Club on Thursday 8th June to raise funds for the re-decoration 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.

Tenders have gone out for the painting of the Church, so we are aiming, all being well to begin this coming September

Tickets on sale :Outside the church next weekend after all weekend masses – also on sale in Sacristy

TICKETS €5.00 A STRIP OR 3 STRIPS FOR €10.00 *Raffle will be held @ our annual Golf classic Thursday 8th June. Great Prizes !*

- **Parish Pastoral Council** (PPC) The PPC will meet on Monday 22nd May at 8.00pm in the Parochial House
- **Liturgy Group**: The Liturgy group will meet next Tuesday, 23rd May at 8.00pm in the Parochial House
- **Saturday 20th May**: As the Parish is celebrating the Sacrament of 1st Holy Communion this day, there will be no 10.00am Mass on this day
- **Blessings of the Graves** will take place on Sunday 25th June commencing with Mass at 4pm.

Ecumenical Bible Week – 4th to 11th June

This is an exciting and successful venture which is now on its fourth year. It includes parish based events around Dublin and surrounding areas. For 2017, the topic is 'Faith comes from hearing the Word of Christ' (Rom 10.17).

St. Colmcille's Swords is hosting this event over three days:

- **The Bible and your 'Other' – Faith beyond Frontiers**

Tuesday June 6 @ 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm Presenter: Jools Hamilton (Methodist Chaplain to Trinity College. Founder of YouthSpirit and so-founder of The Good Summit he travels widely as a preacher, speaker, teacher and facilitator)

- **Christianity – A Beautiful Insanity!!**

Wednesday June 7 @ 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm Presenter: Frank Brown (Parish Pastoral Worker in the Clondalkin area)

- **Listening to Hear**

Thursday June 8 @ 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm Presenter: Éibhlís NicUaithuas DC (A Daughter of Charity and Spiritual Director. Co-ordinator of biblical studies in the Archdiocese of Dublin)

There is no cost, or pre booking required– **just turn up!**

The other events during this week are as follows:

- **Special Launch Event.** Sunday 4th June at 7.30pm. Venue: Lutherhaus, 24 Adelaide Rd., Dn. 2. Holden Evening Prayer – sung Lutheran Vespers with music by Marty Haughen and directed by Ian Callanan. Free entry
- **The 2017 Symposium** – Friday 9th June 2.00-5.00pm at Holy Cross College, Clonliffe Road. Prof Tony Lane – the joint declaration on Justification: its significance and Potential. Prof Salvador Ryan – How should we remember the Reformation?. This symposium is chaired by Archbishop Michael Jackson (CoI). Online registration is required for this event at www.bibleweek.ie Cost €10
- **Closing Event.** Sunday 11th June. 7.30 – 9.00pm. Venue: Lutherhaus, 24 Adelaide Rd., Dn. 2. Film and Reflection – 'Martin Luther: Heretic (BBC 1983). Following the viewing of the film reflection and discussion will be led by Dr. Kieran O'Mahony OSA.

Parish Holiday-Rome, the Eternal City –

Thursday 28th September – Tuesday 3rd October

Cost: €799.00 per person sharing on a bed and breakfast basis. This price is subject to availability. Extras: baggage fee; * Insurance: * Single room supplement €30 per person per night (limited availability)* Entrance fees where applicable.

This holiday is organised through **MAP Travel** 36 Upper O'Connell Street, Dublin 1. **Tel: (01) 8783111.** MAP Travel is licensed and bonded with the Commission for Aviation Regulation Licence No. T.A. 0474. **Deposit €250 per person.** Can be booked through Colette at the Parish Office or direct with MAP

- **Swords Parishes Pilgrimage walk**

We will have our annual pilgrimage walk on Saturday 10th June at 2.00pm. The route is:

Start at St. Finian's Church River Valley at 2.00pm, St. Colmcille's Church, St. Colmcille's well, St. Columba's Church, St Cronan's well and will conclude in St. Cronan's Church Brackenstown. This should be a very pleasant walk for all and will take about two hours.

