

the 'yes' of someone prepared to be committed, someone willing to take a risk, ready to stake everything she had, with no more security than the certainty of knowing that she was the bearer of a promise. I ask each one of you: Do you see yourselves as bearers of a promise? What promise do I bear within my heart to take forward? Mary's would undoubtedly be a difficult mission, but the challenges that lay ahead were no reason to say 'no'. Things would get complicated, of course, but not in the same way as happens when cowardice paralyses us because things are not clear or sure in advance"

On this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, let us join in prayer and ask the Lord to help us discover his plan of love for our lives, and to grant us the courage to walk in the path that, from the beginning, he has chosen for each of us. **Fr. Michael Carey**

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 8.00am Miriam Harvey

Mon 10.00am Jimmy Wall

Tues 8.00am Noel Gargan

Tues 10.00am Ann Yorke

Wed 8.00am Joe Rodgers

Wed 10.00am Mary Brady

Thurs 8.00am Bridie Kearney

Thurs 10.00am Danny Byrne

Fri 8.00am Billy Harrington

Fri 10.00am In Honour of Thanksgiving of Our lady

Sat 6.30pm Martin McTiernan

Johnny Fitzsimons (MM)

Harry Sheridan

Sun 8.30am Angela Hall

Sun 11.15am Margaret Prendergast

At our Masses next weekend we also remember: Billy Harrington

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

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

We wish Fr. John all the best as he starts his Camino walk today for the next 7 days in northern Spain in aid of funds for the parish

Fifth Sunday after Easter

At the Last Supper, Jesus announces and promises the Holy Spirit to the disciples. He calls the Spirit 'the paraclete', literally 'the one who is called to be at your side'. Sometimes the word is translated as 'consoler'. What greater consolation can anyone give than the consolation of their presence through thick and thin.

Reflection - One of the ancient poems of the Christian tradition offers a rich understanding of the Holy Spirit. In it the Spirit is referred to as father of the poor, giver of gifts, light of hearts, greatest consoler, kind guest of the soul, pleasant coolness, relaxation in labour, moderate temperature in the summer heat, consolation in grief, most happily received light.

(Source: St. Paul's Missal)

Parish Pastoral Council - PPC

The PPC will meet on Monday 20th May at 8.00pm in the Parochial House

Fundraising Committee

This Committee will meet on Wednesday at 2.30pm in the Parochial House

The Annual Blessing of the Graves will take place on Sunday 30th June at 4.00pm

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



Fifth Sunday of Easter

There can be no greater joy than to risk one's life for the Lord!

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

Newsletter Sunday 19th May 2019

This week's newsletter concludes Pope Francis' homily for Vocations Sunday 2019.

The Christian life thus finds expression in those decisions that, while giving a precise direction to our personal journey, also contribute to the growth of God's kingdom in our world. I think of the decision to marry in Christ and to form a family, as well as all those other vocations associated with work and professional life, with the commitment to charity and solidarity, with social and political responsibilities, and so forth. These vocations make us bearers of a promise of goodness, love and justice, not only for ourselves but also for our societies and cultures, which need courageous Christians and authentic witnesses of the kingdom of God.

In encountering the Lord, some may feel the attraction of a call to the consecrated life or to the ordained priesthood. It is a discovery that can excite and at the same time frighten us, since we feel called to become "fishers of men" in the barque of the Church by giving totally of ourselves in commitment to faithful service of the Gospel and our brothers and sisters. Such a decision carries the risk of leaving everything behind to follow the Lord, to devote ourselves completely to him, and to share in his work. Many kinds of interior resistance can stand in the way of making this decision, especially in highly secularised contexts where there no longer seems to be a place for God and for the Gospel. Places where it is easy to grow discouraged and fall into the "weariness of hope"

And yet, there can be no greater joy than to risk one's life for the Lord! I would like to say this especially to you, the young. Do not be deaf to the Lord's call. If he calls you to follow this path, do not pull your oars into the boat, but trust him. Do not yield to fear, which paralyses us before the great heights to which the Lord points us. Always remember that to those who leave their nets and boat behind, and follow him, the Lord promises the joy of a new life that can fill our hearts and enliven our journey.

Dear friends, it is not always easy to discern our vocation and to steer our life in the right direction. For this reason, there needs to be a renewed commitment on the part of the whole Church – priests, religious, pastoral workers and educators – to provide young people in particular with opportunities for listening and discernment. There is a need for a youth ministry and a vocational promotion that can open the way to discovering God's plan, above all through prayer, meditation on God's word, eucharistic adoration and spiritual accompaniment.

As was made clear several times during the World Youth Day in Panama, we should always look to Mary. Also in the story of this young woman, vocation was both a promise and a risk. Her mission was not easy, yet she did not allow fear to prevail. "It was



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*



Congratulations - 1st Holy Communion

Congratulations to the girls from **St. Colmcille's GNS** who received their First Holy Communion on **Saturday 11th May**. I thank all involved - Sr. Margaret, Parish Sister and Mr. David Begg, Chairperson of the Board of Management and the Principal and Teachers: Mrs. Karen Bourke-Logue (Principal), Ms Orlagh Campbell and Ms. Ann Mills (Class Teachers) and the Music teachers Ms. Anne Marie Keenan (Choir Director), and Organist Ms. Trish Enright and the school choir. Again well done to all. It was a lovely occasion and congratulation to the girls' parents and families and to the Parents Association for the lovely reception held in the School Hall immediately afterwards.

Congratulations to the boys from **St. Colmcille's BNS** who received their First Holy Communion on **Saturday 18th May**. I thank all involved – Sr. Mary, Parish Sister and Ms. Brid Nic Ghearilt, Chairperson of the Board of Management and the Principal and Teachers: Ms. Ciara Brangan (Principal), Ms. Rebecca Newbanks; Ms. Lisa Hoey and Ms. Carol Barrett (Class Teachers) and Ms. Teresa McCarthy (Resource Teacher). The 5th class Choir were excellent. Thank you to their class teachers, Ms. Maria Moore and Ms. Ciara Reynolds and to Ms. Blaithin White (Choir Director) and organist Mr. John Burke.

1st Holy Communion

Next Saturday 28th May at 11am, the boys and girls from Scoil an Duinninigh 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.

Golf Classic – St. Colmcille's Parish

Our annual Golf Classic will take place in Forrest Little Golf Club on **Friday 7th June** to raise funds for the Parish. Again I thank you for your support in previous years which raised the funds necessary for the Painting of the Church which has delighted us all in the Parish. 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.

Golf Classic – Bumper Raffle

Tickets on sale at the church **NEXT** weekend after all Masses – also on sale in sacristy. **TICKETS €5.00 A STRIP OR 3 STRIPS FOR €10.00**

ALL FUNDS TO GO TOWARDS PARISH
MAINTENANCE FUND.

Raffle will be held at our annual Golf classic Friday June 7th. Great Prizes!



Ministry Sunday Collection

This weekend, 18th /19th May, for the first time we are holding a new collection which will be called the Ministry Sunday Collection.

This new annual collection will replace the Share Collection and will be devoted to support the building up of new forms of lay ministry in our parishes. The work of spreading the Gospel of Jesus in our changing religious culture will require more lay men and women working in various ways alongside our priests at the heart of parish communities.

The Ministry Sunday Collection is about ensuring that we will have the people we need - men and women who will be to the fore in making our parishes vibrant faith communities into the future.

While many of those involved will be volunteers, we will have to equip and train leaders and provide facilities for formation. We want to work towards a situation where all parishes in this Archdiocese benefit from their gifts and expertise. The new collection is one-step in that process.

Camino Walk by Fr John for the Parish's of Swords and Drynam.

Fr John is **NOW** walking a stage of the Camino Frances from Caldazillo de la Cueva to Astorga, a distance of 148 kms. If you would like to make a donation of sponsorship towards parish funds for Swords and Drynam then fill in donation leaflet in Sacristy or Parish Office



Vacancy for Part-Time Pastoral Area Secretary The Pastoral Area of Garristown, Naul & Rolestown is currently recruiting a Secretary. This role is offered initially on a one-year fixed term and part-time basis, 15 hours per fortnight, and is based in the Pastoral Area Office in Garristown. Letters of application should be made by email to the Moderator, V. Rev. Derek Farrell at pagnr44@gmail.com attaching an up-to-date CV, no later than Tuesday 28th May 2019. A full job description is on notice board

A Nine Day Novena to Saint Padre Pio began on Friday 17th May and will finish on St Pio's birthday. Prayers leaflets are at the back of the Church

God's Housekeepers

The next date for cleaning the Church is next **Friday 24th May** 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

Fingal Senior Citizen's Forum invite you to 'Changing Gears Conversation Workshop' in Emmaus Retreat Centre Swords on Thursday 23rd May, 9.30am - 3.15pm. Special guest, Christy Kenneally. Details of workshops are on the notice board at back of Church. To book contact :8905097