

‘When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated’ (Mt 28:17). In other words, they were not easily convinced, nor were they caught up in some kind of mystical self-delusion or hysteria. Some of them even died as martyrs rather than deny what they had witnessed. In this light, their testimony that the Resurrection was a historical event is more convincing. (CCC 643-644). (Source: *Irish Catholic Catechism for Adults*)

Fr. Michael Carey

**Mass Intentions for this coming week: St Colmcille’s:**

<b>Mon</b> 10.00am Easter Mass Bouquets	
<b>Tues</b> 8.00am David McDonnell	<b>Sat</b> 6.30pm Tom Noctor
<b>Tues</b> 10.00am Mary Stafford	Brian Doyle
<b>Wed</b> 8.00 am Holy Souls	<b>Sun</b> 8.30am Michael Dunphy
<b>Wed</b> 10.00am Mary & Michael Vesey	<b>Sun</b> 11.00am Frank McCarthy
<b>Thurs</b> 8.00am Special Intention	Ellen Farrell
<b>Thurs</b> 10.00 Miriam Nulty	
<b>Fri</b> 8.00am Joseph & Ann Walsh	<b>Sun</b> 6.30pm Peter Gannon
<b>Fri</b> 10.00am Jim McGuire	
<b>Sat</b> 10.00am Bridgid Barry	

**Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM**  
**Mass Times for Drynam: Mon & Fri: 9.20am. Sun, 10.00am 11.00am (Irish) & 12 noon**  
 Tea and coffee after Mass today, Easter Sunday. There will be no 9:20AM Mass during this week, Easter Week, in Drynam.



**RECENTLY DECEASED**

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

<b>Ita Mongey</b>	<b>Main Street Swords</b>
<b>David McGee</b>	<b>Melrose Park</b>
<b>Alexander Stanley</b>	<b>Formerly of Broadmeadows</b>



**Moments of death and resurrection**

As we go through life we all experience little deaths. We get a foretaste of death when we live in bitterness, loneliness, sadness and despair. In times like these the world closes in on us, and we seem to have one foot in the grave. But we also experience little resurrections. When we know love, acceptance and forgiveness; when we open our hearts to others and to life, the world opens us and we emerge from the tomb. Lord, may the splendour of your resurrection scatter the shadows of death, and enable us to walk in radiant hope towards the kingdom where there are no more shattered hopes or broken dreams. (Source: Flor McCarthy, SDB)

**Vocation-Baptism**

There are many vocations in the Church. But the most important vocation of all is the vocation we received at baptism, namely, the vocation to be a disciple of Jesus. Every time we enter a church and sign (bless) ourselves with holy water, we are reminding ourselves of our baptism, and committing ourselves to live up to it. (Source: Flor McCarthy SDB)

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)  
 Sacristan: Stephanie Byrne-8400547 (Mon –Sat 9.30am-10.30am)  
 Website: [www.swords-parish.com](http://www.swords-parish.com) Email: [stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com](mailto:stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com)



Easter Sunday

**Christ is Risen! Alleluia!**

“I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia”

Newsletter Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2015



*Christ’s Resurrection is an object of faith in that it is a transcendent intervention of God himself in creation and history*  
 (CCC 648)



When we speak of the Paschal Mystery, we refer to Christ’s death and Resurrection as one inseparable event. It is a mystery because it is a visible sign of an invisible act of God. It is paschal because it is Christ’s passing through death into new life. For us it means that we can now die to sin and its domination of our lives, and we pass over into divine life already here on earth and more completely in heaven. Death is conquered in the sense that not only do our souls survive physical death, but even our bodies will rise again at the end of time at the Last Judgement and resurrection of the dead.

The Resurrection narratives in all four Gospels – though differing in details because of varying viewpoints of the different authors – maintain a similar structure in the narration of the events. At dawn on the Sunday after Christ’s death, Mary Magdalene and a companion go to the tomb to anoint the dead body of Jesus. They find the tomb is empty. They meet an angel who proclaims the Resurrection of Jesus: ‘He is not here, for he has risen’ (Mt 28:6). They are told to bring the Good News to the Apostles. Mary Magdalene leads the way and is celebrated in the liturgy of the Church as the first witness to the Resurrection.

Next come the appearance narratives when Jesus appears to the Apostles and disciples in a number of instances. Saint Paul summarises these appearances in the first Letter to the Corinthians (1 Cor 15:3-8). Finally, the disciples are commissioned to bring the Gospel to the world.

While the empty tomb of itself does not prove the Resurrection, since the absence of Christ’s body could have other explanations, it is an essential part of the proclamation of the Resurrection because it demonstrates the fact of what God has done in raising his Son from the dead in his own body. When St. John entered the empty tomb, ‘He saw and he believed’ (Jn 20:8).

**Historical Event**

The Resurrection is historical in that it actually took place at a specific time and place, and therefore there were witnesses to its impact. Mary Magdalene met the Risen Christ and embraced his feet. Thomas the Apostle saw Jesus and the wounds and said, ‘My Lord and my God’ (Jn 20:28). Two disciples walked with Jesus on the road to Emmaus and recognised him in the Breaking of the Bread (Lk 24: 13-35). All the Apostles saw him (Jn 20:19-23). Saint Paul tells us he met the Risen Lord on the Road to Damascus (Acts 9:3-6). He also writes that five hundred people saw Jesus on a single occasion (1 Cor 15: 3-8).

None of the witnesses to Jesus’ Resurrection expected it. In fact, they were demoralised by the execution of Jesus. Even when they did see him, some had lingering doubts.

## ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

*Antiphon – “ Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia ”*

### Easter Blessing

On behalf of myself, the Priests of the Parish, the Parish Sisters, the Parish Staff and the Parish Pastoral Council, I would like to extend to all Parishioners of St. Colmcille's Swords and Our Lady of the Visitation, Drynam and readers of this newsletter, the grace and blessings of the Easter Season. Happy Easter – the Lord is Risen! Alleluia!



### Thank You

Thank you to the so many Ministry Teams and parishioners who volunteered their time and energy to help prepare both our Churches for the Easter Ceremonies and to all who exercised a Liturgical Ministry during these self same ceremonies. Thank you also to all attended the ceremonies during this Easter/Paschal Triduum

### Easter Penitential Liturgy

Thank you to the priests from Brackenstown and Rivervalley who assisted us with the Easter Penitential Liturgy last Monday in St. Colmcille's. Thank you to the Choir for their beautiful singing and the Ministers of the Word who read. Thank you all to all who came to either this liturgy or attended confessions in preparation for Easter.

### Easter Dues

A sincere thank you to all who have returned their Easter Dues envelopes. Your continued generosity is very much appreciated. *If you did not receive an Easter Card from the Parish containing a dues envelope, there are some available at the back of the Church. If you are not a regular contributor to the Parish and would like to do so, please leave your name and contact details with myself or in Sacristy or Parish Office.*

### Parish Holiday

There are posters on the walls and information in the newsletter regarding our Parish Holiday to the Krakow, Poland. Many parishes run pilgrimages and some holidays. Both are I believe worthwhile. A Parish holiday is a lovely and safe way of travelling (especially if you are looking for someone/group to go with on holiday) and seeing a part of the world. Everything is organised to a very high standard. There are organised trips and time for people to do their 'own thing'. ***We have twelve people booked at the moment – why not consider it!***

**A REFLECTIVE SENTENCE:** Do not weep, for I shall be more useful to you after my death, and I shall help you then more effectively than during my life..... St. Dominic (1170-1221 founder of the Dominicans)

### **St Finian's Church, Rivervalley -HEALING SERVICE**

An evening of prayer and healing including Mass will be held in St. Finians Church, Rivervalley on Friday 17th April at 7p.m. Led by Eddie Stones

**Msze Swieta w Jeryku Polskim** w Niedziele 12 Kwiecien o godz 18.45pm w St Cronan's Church, Brackenstown Road, Swords. (Spowiedz 18.15 - 18.40 pm)

## Parish Tour to Poland - Based in Krakow

**Monday 29th June – Saturday 4th July 2015**

*Krakow largely escaped wartime damage, and remains one of Eastern Europe's most architecturally beautiful cities The Old Town centre round the Grand Market Square, is full of fine buildings including the twin Towered Gothic St. Mary's Church, the Cloth Hall and on the hill overlooking the Vistula River stands the Renaissance Cathedral and Wawel Castle. Our tour to Poland will give you a bird's eye view of **Pope John Paul's home country** and the Province where he was born and reared. We will visit his hometown **Wadowice** and stay in **Krakow** where he spent his adult life before going to Rome. We will make a pilgrimage to **Auschwitz** and remember all those who suffered or died there and also visit the shrine of **St. Faustina**.*

**Accommodation: Atrium Hotel 3\*** [www.hotelatrium.pl](http://www.hotelatrium.pl) Centrally located in the Old Town and just a short walk from the Market Square. The hotel has a bar and restaurant serving local cuisine.

**Price per person sharing:- €725.00**

**Price includes:**\*Return flights Dublin/Krakow\*5 night's accommodation, twin sharing on a bed and breakfast basis + 2 dinners\* Guided walking tour of the medieval city \* Day excursion to Wadowice – birthplace of Pope John Paul 11 \* Visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau \* Visit to the world famous Salt mines of Wieliczka

**Extras:** *Baggage fee (currently €50.00 – 15 kg)\* Insurance: €28.00 (65 yrs+: double insurance premium applies)\* Single room supplement: €30.00 per person per night (limited availability) Deposit €250.00 per person – Book early!!*

**A Date for your Diary:**We are very proud of the Parochial House and I am aware of the fact that many of you have not seen the inside of it. To that end there is an 'Opening Evening' on *Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April from 7.00pm to 9.00pm.* Why not drop along?

### **Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**

Every Sunday is a celebration of Easter Sunday. Every Eucharist is a commemoration and a realisation of the Easter Mystery of the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord. On this day of days the community of the Church shows how seriously it takes the words of Saint Paul that if Christ is not raised from the dead then our faith is in vain. In other words, the resurrection of the Lord is the reason for the existence of Christianity.

### **St Cronan's Parish Brackenstown**

The second module of our New Testament Scripture Study will begin in St Cronan's Parish meeting room on Tuesday 14th April. We will be reading Luke's Gospel & the Acts of the Apostles over seven weeks. You are invited to register your interest by emailing [brackenstownparish@gmail.com](mailto:brackenstownparish@gmail.com) or by phone; tel. 8401188. All most welcome, please come along.

**Mass times for Easter Monday in St Colmcille's 10.00am. & Tuesday - Friday 8.00am & 10.00am**