

*Third Sunday of Advent  
Newsletter 12th December 2021*

**Fr. Colin Rothery -8404546: Fr John Collins 8405948**  
**Parish Secretary: Colette Stokes - Parish Office, Seatown Road-8407277**  
*(Mon to Fri 9.15am-12.30pm*  
**Sacristy: -8400547 (Mon –Sat 9.30am-9.55am and 10.30am to 10.50am)**  
**Website: Website: www.swords-parish.com Email:**  
**stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com**  
**Facebook: St. Colmcille's Church, Swords & Church of the Visitation, Drynam**



***Mass Intentions this Weekend***

**Sat 6.30pm** Celestino Bingill  
**Sun 8.30am** Martin Bradley  
**Sun 11.15am**



***Mass intentions for next Next Week***

<b>Mon</b> 10.00am Sarah & John Doherty	<b>Sat</b> 6.30pm Peggy Dillon William Parker (MM)
<b>Tues</b> 10.00am Bridie Cronin	
<b>Wed</b> 10.00am LDonal & Mary Scanall	<b>Sun</b> 8.30am Paddy & Vera Barker
<b>Thurs</b> 10.00am Fiona Burke	<b>Sun</b> 11.15am Des Becton Gerard Walsh (1st An)
<b>Fri</b> 10.00am Thomas Hamilton	
<b>Fri</b> 10.00am Aileen Stapleton	

***Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM***  
***Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am, 11.00am (Irish Mass)***



**RECENTLY DECEASED**

***Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:***

Alice Ryan Malahide Road  
Francis McCarthy Coventry UK (late of Swords)



**Carol Service – online only**

The annual Carol Service with St Colmcille's Choir takes place in St. Colmcille's Church on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 5.00pm**. This will be a **webcam only** event but Morgan and the choir have put a lot of work into it and it will be beautiful. If you cannot watch it on the day we will record it so that it can be viewed at any time



• **Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards**

Christmas Mass bouquet cards are now available from the Sacristy. All Masses on Christmas Day and St. Stephens Day will be offered for the intentions of the donors of these cards.

**Part 2 of a Pastoral Letter for Advent 2021 by Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin**

As we prepare to celebrate the overwhelming gift of love that was the Incarnation, we are invited to take stock of how well prepared we are, not only to celebrate the Nativity of the Lord at Christmas, but to live the kind of life we are meant to live, loving one another and the whole human race as much as we are loved. The Gospel reminds us that the Christian life is rooted in prayer; we are urged to pray at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, so that we can stand with confidence before the Son of Man. We have been living through a very testing time. Sickness and death resulting from the Covid-19 virus have taken a heavy toll. The necessary restrictions on everyday life have at times been very hard to bear. The continuing pressure on healthcare staff and other vital workers has increased our admiration for their commitment and care. Our gratitude for the remarkable success of those developing vaccines and treatments has been tempered by a growing realisation that there is no easy or simple solution for this crisis. We are living through dark days. We confront immense challenges, not least that the dominant culture is hostile to faith, while there is much in our story that discourages and even repels many people. Yet as Christians we are called to bring Good News to the whole world, to accompany those at all stages of life's journey towards an encounter with Jesus Christ. Despite the immensity of these challenges, some of which have become even starker as a result of the coronavirus crisis, we are hopeful. [Part 3 next week...]

**Prayer for Synod**

We stand before you Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.  
With you alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.  
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life  
And not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time,  
In the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever . **Amen**

**St Vincent De Paul Annual Collection**

The Annual St Vincent De Paul collection will be taken up at all Masses this weekend - December 11th /12th .It will replace the Share collection. Donations can also be made online at [www.svp.ie/stcolmcillelesswords](http://www.svp.ie/stcolmcillelesswords) or phone 0818176176. All money donated in Swords will be distributed locally. There will also be envelopes at the back of the Church. *Thank you for your generosity to date*

• **Planned Giving/Family Offering Envelopes**

New planned Giving/Family Offering Envelopes are now ready for collection from the Sacristy

• **Christmas Cards and Timetable**

These are at the doors of the Church. Please take one home with you and if you can, please take some for your neighbours