

The hope of the gospel is not something alien to us. It is what we long for, something that promises to transform and fulfil us so fully that no human heart can fully grasp it. It requires us to go deeper than the shallow waters in which we normally paddle and to entrust ourselves to the infinite ocean which is the love of God that speaks in our hearts.

(Source: Extract from Chapter 1 of 'Where the Heart is', (Veritas) by Bishop Donal Murray)

You cannot be the slave of both God and of money

Just as the steward was decisive in how he used his master's possessions to gain his favourable end, so are we to be decisive in our use of possessions and which God we serve in order to gain our eternal end. Eternal life, then, is dependent upon two things: we are to be prudent and decisive in this life, and do all we can to gain eternal life; we are to constantly monitor which God it is we serve.

Fr. Michael Carey

Mass Intentions this Sunday

Sat 6.30pm Tommy Mongey (An)

Sun 8.30am Rosanna Casciani (An)

Sun 11.15am Alice & Tim Kane (An)

Lorraine McGauley (MM)

Sean Colclough (MM)



Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 8.00am Special Intention

Mon 10.00am Darren Sower

Tues 8.00am John O'Brien

Tues 10.00am Ann Reilly

Wed 8.00am Andy Whelan

Wed 10.00am Bridie & Joe O'Donnell

Thurs 8.00am John Farrell

Thurs 10.00am Gerald Ryan

Fri 8.00am Special Intention

Fri 10.00am Special Intention

Next Sunday

Sat 6.30pm Brendan & Mollie McGarry

Sun 8.30am John & Thomas McGrane

Sun 11.15am Rose Howard

At our Masses this Sunday we also remember: Anthony Cervi, Martin Bradley

Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM

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

Next Sunday St Vincent de Paul will have their monthly collection for Drynam outside the church.

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

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

What makes sense of it all?

"I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord"

Newsletter Sunday 22nd September 2019



Life is full of choices. There always seem to be decisions waiting to be taken; many of those already taken are not yet implemented; we never know when a crisis will bring us to a new crossroads. Among the choices we face, and underlying all of them, is a more fundamental decision about the meaning of our lives.

There is a danger that, overwhelmed by so many other calls to our attention, we might lose sight of the fundamental questions: 'What makes sense of it all?'; 'What gives my life an overall direction?' The unrelenting demands of life today can squeeze out deeper reflection. Vaclav Havel wrote to his wife: 'The tragedy of modern man is not that he knows less and less about the meaning of his own life, but that it bothers him less and less.' Not paying attention to the underlying meaning can impoverish the life of individuals and can eat away at the foundations of human society. If we don't think it important to reflect on what life means, how can we make wise decisions about the direction of our own life and that of our community?

From the point of view of Christian faith, the failure of attention to fundamentals is a failure to see the joy and wonder of life in God's world. The gospel offers a meaning for human life that, as St. John Paul put it, leads us not only to adoration of God, but to wonder and amazement at our **own worth and dignity**. Pope Francis begins his *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel) by pointing out the tragedy of losing sight of the wonder of the Good News:

'This is a very real danger for believers too. Many fall prey to it, and end up resentful, angry and listless. That is no way to live a dignified and fulfilled life; it is not God's will for us, nor is it the life in the Spirit which has its source in the heart of the risen Christ'. (EG 2)

The seriousness of the choice that faces us is not properly understood unless it is seen as being about responding to the restlessness of our own hearts and about the search for the only goal that can fulfil all our yearnings. It is about accepting the promise of fulfilment beyond human imagining. It is about learning the always reliable truth that sets us free.

In both Old and New Testament times, there have been occasions when trust in God's love was weakened and the promise was misunderstood. Some lose hope in that unshakeable love, and become disheartened; some get diverted by the pursuit of goals that could never satisfy their longings; some feel threatened and seek to defend or advance their faith by methods incompatible with Christian love.....

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*



Schools

This week we celebrate the Opening Year Masses for our Parish Schools.

St Comcille's BNS – This Mass will be celebrated on Thursday 26th September at 11.15am in the Parish Church

St. Colmcille's GNS – This Mass will be celebrated on Friday 27th September at 9.00am in the Parish Church. We will have our normal 8.00am and 10.00am Masses on both these days.

Scoil an Duinninigh

I was delighted last week to bless the opening of the new all-weather sports track. The day itself was lovely and sunny. The entire School Community was present for the blessing and the paisti sang a beautiful catchy song specially composed for the day. Well done to Principal Noirin Ni Laighin, the muinteoiri and all the buachailli and cailini

The Liturgical Office, Dublin Diocese

Autumn Liturgy Seminar will take place in Clonliffe College on Saturday 5th October 2019 (9.30am to 1.30pm) Registration 9.00 to 9.30am.

1) **Walking With - Patricia Carroll and Donal Harrington** will continue to explore the important journey of accompaniment to which Baptism teams are called. Their themes will include the sponsoring community, prayer walk and the role of Godparents.

2) **Read Al About It- Dr Jesse Rogers** has a way of bringing scripture to life for those who hear her inspirational talks. A research topic of interest to hers is 'Scripture and Justice' which will be woven into her presentation.

3) **How Beautiful- Fr Damian McNiece** has a very good sense of art and colour. He will open up the possibilities for creating beautiful liturgies with a biblical and theological underpinning.

4) **Feasts and Seasons- Dr John O'Keefe** published the second collection of Feasts and Seasons which he will share in a interactive workshop. He will include references to Canaimís, the new collection of material for Irish Masses. Bring your choirs with you

5) **Another Idea- Pat O' Donoghue** will share community Prayer Services when a Priest is not available to celebrate the Eucharist. His approach will outline how such a service can be conducted by way of contemplative prayer and scripture reflection

Please contact Colette in Parish Office to book (chosed two workshops)

EVENTS AROUND THE DIOCESE

Activ 8: The Office of Evangelisation and Ecumenism present a new course called Activ 8. This course involves 8 practical sessions in Holy Cross Diocesan Centre, Clonliffe Road, Dublin 3. This course is aimed at people between 30-55 years of age so they can help to build the capacity of parishes to share our faith.

Dates: 2 October / 6 November / 15 January / 12 February / 11 March / 1 April / 6 May / 10 June. Time: 7.30 -9.30pm / Price: €80 (places are limited).

For more information about this course and to register your interest contact: Mary Dent of the Office of Evangelisation and Ecumenism by email: mary.dent@dublindiocese.ie

September on Lough Derg: Standard One Day Retreats in September: Sat 21, Sun 22 & Sun 29. Special Living with Suicide Day Retreat, Sat 28 September. Advance booking is essential for any of these dates. Tel 071 9861518 or email: info@loughderg.org

Faith for Life: is an adult faith course designed to help you to discover new ways to live out your faith in the reality of today's world, within relationships, family, home, workplaces and the events of daily life. It aims to help you to be more active, open, faithful, confident, trusting and willing to work for change. The course is experienced as a journey of four 'Movements' inviting you to explore the call you received in Baptism. The process for each weekend includes teaching, personal and group reflection, prayer and liturgy. Participants are required to attend all four weekends. This course has taken place in Dublin Diocese for the past six years and is designed and delivered, through a partnership agreement between the Archdioceses of Dublin and the Archdiocese of Liverpool. The course will take place again this year starting in October or require more information please email: rlavelle@dublindiocese.ie or evangelisation@dublindiocese.ie

God's Housekeepers

The next date for cleaning the Church is next **Friday 27th September** after the 10.00am Mass. Can cleaning group 1 for this Friday please turn up! Also if anyone has a half hour to spare you would be most welcome

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

At every Mass we recite the Lord's prayer. The liturgy of the Church uses this prayer also each day at morning prayer and evening prayer. It is Jesus' response to the request of his disciples to teach them how to pray. In Matthew's account it contains seven petitions and in Luke's five. The Church has used Matthew's version in its liturgical celebration.

Reflection - From a very early stage the Church completed the Lord's prayer with a special formula giving glory to God. One of the most ancient of Christian documents the Didache which may go back to the First Century contains the ending: 'For yours are the power and the glory for ever.' 'The kingdom' was added by another ancient document The Apostolic Constitutions from the Fourth Century and this is the formula which is retained today in inter-Church prayer. (Source: St. Paul's Missal)

**The Parish Office and will re-open on Tuesday 24th
September**