

- The best incentive for sharing the Gospel comes from contemplating it with love, lingering over its pages and reading it with the heart (264)
- Sometimes we are tempted to be that kind of Christian who keeps the Lord's wounds at arm's length (270)
- There is no greater freedom than that of allowing oneself to be guided by the Holy Spirit, renouncing the attempt to plan and control everything to the last details, and instead letting him enlighten, guide and direct us, leading us wherever he wills (280)
- (In Mary) we see that humility and tenderness are not virtues of the weak but of the strong who need not treat others poorly in order to feel important themselves (288)

We were created to celebrate and be messengers of joy in this world, a world which has gradually become obsessed with gloom. Only an experience of Christian peace and joy can counteract this negativity, and this is why the risen Jesus commanded his friends and us to bring peace and joy to others (Mt.28:18-20). This can only be obtained through prayer such as we will hear in the sixth week of Easter: "Grant, almighty God, that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion, these days of joy, which we keep in honour of the risen Lord"

Fr. Michael Carey Adm

Mass Intentions for this coming week: St Colmcille's:

Mon 8.00 am Bernadette Greenan **Sat 6.3pm** Jim Mulcahy

Mon 10.00am Sheila & Michael Golden
Ellen Horsefield

Tues 8.00 Health Intention

Tues 10.00am Rabie Higgins

Wed 8.00am Anne Yorke

Wed 10.00am **NO 10.00AM Mass**

Thurs 8.00 am John Flynn

Thurs 10.00am Janet Brock

Fri 8.00am Bill Kovax

Fri 10.00am Monica & James Reidy

Sat 10.00am Dec members of McCabe, Coyle & McAdam Family

Sun 8.30am Tom Thompson

Sun 10.00am Tom, Mary & Sharon Conway

Sun 11.30am Margaret Prendergast

Sun 7.30pm Des O'Neill

Church of the Visitation Drynam

The Visitation of the BVM

Mass Times for Drynam: Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri: 9.20am. Sun, 10.00am 11.00am

(Irish) & 12 noon

At our Pastoral Team meeting on the 6th May we welcomed Eileen Rossiter and Áine Ní Bhrolcháin onto the committee. Áine steps in for our dear Lena McMyler who's untimely death occurred on 27th April.



We welcome the following newly Baptised to our Parish Community: **Bella Connolly, Rose-Marie Devers, Clodagh Purcell, Eve Walsh, Charlie Roestoff**



Site on Seatown Road

I am pleased to advise you that the Parish have agreed the sale of the site adjacent to the Parochial House on Seatown Road. The site will be purchased by Rhonellen Developments who intend to complete a residential development. Rhonellen Developments will apply for planning permission shortly and we hope to conclude the sale in the Autumn. The completion of the sale will be a major step forward in the process of reducing the Parish debt

Fr. Michael Carey-8403378: Fr. Peter McCarron-8405948

Parish Secretary: Colette Stokes at 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 Email: stcolmcilleschurch@eircom.net



5th Sunday of Easter

A Spirituality of Joy

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



Newsletter Sunday 18th May 2014

Joy, which is the fruit of the Holy Spirit, permeated Jesus' mortal life and transformed the humble, human joys of life into something much deeper: he found joy in the birds of the air (Mt 6:26,28), the flowers of the field, a man finding a treasure (Mt 13:44), a father embracing a son returning from a prodigal life (Lk 15:22-24), a woman bringing a child into the world (Jn. 16:21-22). For Jesus these are spiritual joys of the kingdom of God (Jn. 1:3). He accepted and experienced human joys as a gift from his Father. Can we not do likewise? Pope Francis in his encyclical "The Joy of the Gospel", has comments on joy throughout the document. Below are some of those observations with the paragraph number in brackets:

- There are Christians whose lives seem like Lent without Easter (6)
- An evangelizer must never look like someone who has just come back from a funeral (10)
- Evangelization with joy becomes beauty in the liturgy as part of our daily concern to spread goodness (24)
- The biggest threat ... a grey pragmatism of the daily life of the Church, in which all appears to proceed normally, while in reality faith is wearing down and degenerating into small mindedness (83)
- Our challenge is not so much atheism as the need to respond adequately to many People's thirst for God, lest they try to satisfy it with alienating solutions or a disembodied Jesus who demands nothing of us with regards to others. (89)
- We should appear as joyful messengers of challenging proposals, guardians of the goodness and beauty which shine forth in a life of fidelity to the Gospel (168)
- An authentic faith which is never comfortable or completely personal always involves a deep desire to change to change the world (182)
- (faith) involves working to eliminate the structural causes of poverty and to promote the integral development of the poor, as well as small daily acts of solidarity (188)
- This is why I want a Church which is poor and for the poor. They have much to teach us (198)
- The dignity of the human person and the common good, rank higher than the comfort of those who refuse to renounce their privileges (218)
- Without prolonged moments of adoration, of prayerful encounter with the word, of sincere conversation with the Lord, our work easily becomes meaningless...The Church needs the deep breath of prayer... The prayerful reading of God's word... and the perpetual adoration of the Eucharist are growing at every level in ecclesial life (262)
- Let us not say that things are harder today; they are simply different (263)

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Antiphon - "I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord, alleluia."

Fundraising Concert – Garry O'Meara and Guests

It was a marvellous evening and I thank all who supported the concert. The organising and fundraising for this evening was a tremendous and dedicated undertaking - I am in awe and delighted with the commitment and generosity of all involved. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the many people involved.



I thank:

- The ticket sellers for making this night the success that it is, and give a special thank you to **Paddy and Alice Gerrard** who sold approx. 220 tickets
- **Susan Rallo** and **Bernie Campbell** for their extremely hard work in organising the Raffle.
- **Swords Credit union**, and all the business people and individuals who sponsored and donated prizes. I invite you to support their businesses when you can. Thanks to the **Senior Citizens Centre** for use of their facilities during the concert.
- **Leo Levins** of Levins Print who did all the marvellous and high quality printing.
- **Noel Murray** for the lights and Sound. Noel is a true professional and had been working in the Church since 2pm on the day of the concert.
- To all who helped out in the Church on the evening, on the doors and selling raffle tickets. Thank you to all who supported the raffle and congratulations to the prize winners. Thanks also to **Ann** and **Paddy Farrell** who arranged for the autographed football by the Dublin 2014 football team
- **Colette Stokes** Parish Secretary and **Stephanie Byrne** the Sacristan and the hospitality team
- A very special thank you to our fundraising committee:
**Maria O'Connor; Mike Walsh; Bronagh Snow; Pat Lynch
Bernie Campbell; Susan Rallo & Noel McLoughlin.**

It was a truly wonderful and memorable event. Please do acknowledge all involved.

1st Holy Communion

Congratulations to the girls from St. Colmcille's GNS who received their First Holy Communion yesterday. I thank all involved - Sr. Margaret, Parish Sister and Mr. David Begg, Chairperson of the Board of Management : Ms. Mary Downey (Principal), Ms. O'Flaherty & Ms. McMonagle(Class Teachers) and the Music teachers Ms. Mills, Ms. Daly, Ms. Howard, Ms. O'Regan, Ms. Collins & Ms. Cushen and the 5th & 6th class choir. Again well done to all, it was a lovely occasion and congratulation to the girls' parents and families.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Next Wednesday 21st May, the boys from St. Colmcille's BNS will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at 11am. On behalf of the Parish I am delighted to welcome Bishop Raymond Field will administer the Sacrament. I wish the school well in all their preparation these coming days.

The Parish Pastoral Collection. This outdoor collection takes place after all Masses this Sunday. Please support, as all funds go to the Parish

A REFLECTIVE SENTENCE Wherever there is life, fervor and a desire to bring Christ to others, genuine vocations will arise.... Pope Francis

After Mass

It would be a great help if the missalettes could be put back in the trays on the table after Mass or left on the edge of the seat. It looks awful when people coming into the next Mass see leaflets scattered throughout the Church. Also please take the newsletter home with you, *even if you have read it.* Maybe someone at home might be interested. We do print off enough of them.

THANK YOU

Youth Services

The annual collection for CROSSCARE, Youth Services – Social Support Agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Dublin will take place at all Masses next weekend 24th/25th May. The collection will replace the usual Share collection

Exam Mass

This will take on **Sunday 1st June at 7.30pm.** 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

Golf Classic - St Colmcille's Parish

Our annual Golf Classic will take place in Forrest Little Golf Club on Friday 6th June to raise funds for the Parish Development Fund. 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 0879079245, Bernie Campbell 0861519562 or Susan Kenna 0868152255.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Jesus is our Way, our Truth and our Life. As the Gospel says, to have eternal life is to believe in him whom God has sent (Jn 5:24; 17:3). This is a reality for us now and it guides our life, in matters great and small. At the core of this reality is trust, that is, the capacity to entrust all that we have and are to the living God and to his Son, raised from the dead. It is not an accident that the verb "I believe" occurs no fewer than ninety-eight times in the Fourth Gospel.

Prayer - Lord God, you gave us Jesus, the Word made flesh as Mediator, and he has spoken your words to us and called us to follow him. He is the way that leads us to you, the truth that sets us free, the life that fills us with gladness.