

Living Liturgy

If we focus only on the cost of discipleship – dying to self; losing one's life for the sake of another; daring to be a countercultural sign in a culture overtaken with more and better possessions, constant entertainment, self-indulgence – we'll become as disillusioned as discouraged as Jeremiah in the firsts reading. We always need to hear Jesus' *whole* message about the paschal mystery: we must lose our life in order to find it. The suffering and death *always* lead to new life. We know this because Jesus has already shown us the way. His prophecy about his passion and death *includes* his announcement of being raised to new life. This is what is central to who we are as Christians, what is to be all-absorbing in our lives

Authentic discipleship doesn't require us to hunt for suffering. Being faithful to Jesus will bring enough as it is. This is so because living and witnessing to gospel values challenges so many values that society touts as ones that will bring us happiness. Ultimately, though, we find that only living gospel values brings us lasting happiness, even though we must die to self in the process. All who wish to be faithful to Jesus' call to gospel living must be prepared to suffer – and also be prepared to receive new life. The life Jesus offers is worth any price! (*Source: Living Liturgy-Liturgical Press USA*)

Fr. Michael Carey

Mass Intentions this Sunday

Sun 8.30am Stephen Farrell

Sun 11.15am Nick Bates

Thomas Corbett (1st An)

Willie Abbott

Ellen McGrane, Mary & Thomas McGrane & Mary & James Stafford



Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 10.00am Brenda Cahill

Tues 10.00am Geraghty & McGreevey Families

Wed 10.00am Maura Donovan

Ann McGuire (MM)

Thurs 10.00am Joe & Peggy Savage

Fri 10.00am Altar List of the Dead

Sat 10.00am Bartle McDonnell

Sun 8.30am

Sun 11.15am Marie Corby

Joe Prendergast

Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM

Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am

Congratulations to the children from Holywell ETNS will made their First Holy Communion in Drynam church yesterday. A big thank you to all who worked with the children and prepared the church. Wishing all the children best of luck now as they restart their school life.



The Sunday Obligation

In the current emergency, all are dispensed from the obligation to physically attend Sunday Mass. You may fulfil your obligation by attending Mass on any day of the week.

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: o: stolmcilleschurch@gmail.com

Facebook: St. Colmcille's Church, Swords & Church of the Visitation, Drynam



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Cost of discipleship!

“O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.”

Newsletter Sunday 30th August 2020



Peter found it difficult to accept that the mission of Jesus would end with the cross and crucifixion. He did not see why pain and suffering were necessary for discipleship, and was anxious that the Lord avoid this course of action. He was outraged at the idea that such happenings should take place. Like most of us, he failed to grasp the role of suffering in God's plan. He thought that being part of the kingdom was a matter of power and success. Words were powerless to rid him of the idea of a Messiah of earthly splendour and glory.

Peter had to learn that the standards of Christ were not those of prosperity and privilege. The outcome was a reprimand from Jesus who cautioned him against adopting the standards of the world, 'The way you think is not God's way but man's.' The gospel ends with a challenge from Jesus to welcome hardship and to embrace pain and personal suffering, for to hold on to life is to lose eternal life and everlasting values.

In the grand scheme of things we are set a whole series of tests. The road is never a straight one and suffering is a reality of human life. In the world greed, cruelty and sickness are the order of the day. Our earthly pilgrimage is so beset with trials and tribulations that it is aptly named a 'valley of tears'. We have all experienced our share of hardship in the form of sickness, loss of job or death in a family. Down the ages the problem of pain has been the debating ground of so much human thought and the torment of so many noble souls. When things go wrong and affliction comes our way we cry out and protest in bitter rebellion. It's a natural tendency to turn's one's back on trouble but running away from pain can never bring joy, for to hide from it is to pretend that it does not exist.

Being a Christian is a demanding honour because God's way of doing things is contrary to human expectations. In the gospel, Christ tells us plainly that discipleship involves denying ourselves, taking up the cross in trust and confidence and following his footsteps across the hill of Calvary. It's a hard teaching but the measure of greatness in the kingdom of heaven is the standard of the cross.

This is an occasion to reflect on our own commitment to Christ because it's easy to lose sight of our final goal in life. Our hearts are tempted to seek comfort in material things to avoid hardship. *Heavenly Father, look with mercy upon our feeble efforts. Give us the strength and courage necessary to model ourselves according to the commands of your Son.*

(Source: Voicing a thought on Sunday – Desmond Knowles)

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*



Saturday Evening Vigil Mass

The Parish Pastoral Council and myself would like to recommence the celebration of the Saturday Vigil 6.30pm Mass in the coming weeks. In order to do so we obviously need Volunteer Stewards. Can I again sincerely thank the Volunteers for their wonderful commitment during July and August. Colette has sent out an email indicating that Stewards will be needed for the coming months as long as the Covid Pandemic persists. Can I ask that you respond to this email with the magnificent generosity that you have shown to date. Thank you!

Saturday – 5th September

Next Saturday is the First Saturday of September. Mass will be celebrated in St. Colmcille's at 10.00am.

FACE-COVERINGS

The WEARING OF FACE COVERINGS IN CHURCH'S IS NOW MANDATORY

Can I ask that everybody at Mass please HAVE YOUR FACE COVERED – *It is now legally necessary to do so.* We can all sing quietly through them and speak through them so really it should not be an issue. I know that face coverings can be uncomfortable and become quite hot but please keep your face covered for the duration of the Mass, that way we only have to sanitise the benches that were used during Mass and not the 'blocked off' benches

Bethany Bereavement Support Group

The Parish Bethany Bereavement Support Group is available to parishioners providing telephone support during the COVID-19 pandemic. We offer our sympathy to anyone bereaved during these very difficult months. If you would like to talk to a Bethany member please phone **Bridget 085 2812985 (between 6.00pm and 8.00pm) from 30th August - 5th September** If there is no reply please leave your first name and phone number. Or you can email the parish office stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com and your message will be forwarded to Bethany Group. This is a free and confidential service.

Making Others Happy

Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is... Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you. *Pope Francis*

World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation – 1st September

Today, the *World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation*, offers to individual believers and to the community a precious opportunity to renew our personal participation in this vocation as custodians of creation, raising to God our thanks for the marvellous works that He has entrusted to our care, invoking his help for the protection of creation and his mercy for the sins committed against the world in which we live. The celebration of the Day on the same date as the Orthodox Church will be a valuable opportunity to bear witness to our growing communion with our orthodox brothers and sisters. We live in a time where all Christians are faced with identical and important challenges and we must give common replies to these in order to appear more credible and effective – *Pope Francis*

1st and 2nd Collections

At every Mass, weekday and weekend there will be collection boxes situated around the Church. If you cannot make the Sunday Mass, but are able to go to the weekday Mass, you can make your weekly contribution during the weekday Mass. Thank You. *One contribution per week and not one every day!!!*

My name is Gideon. I am a regular visitor of Sunday 11.15 am mass.

As a professional and qualified tour guide I have guiding experience for several years.

Do you want to know more about Swords, its history and some facts and figures? Do you want to hear some stories about Swords? Then this is for you: I offer walking tours through Swords. When?

- 29 August 2020 at 3 pm.
- 5 September 2020 at 3 pm.

You can find more information on the website: <http://dublinja.ie/swords>.

Please book via website by clicking on "Contact Us". Under "Desired Tour" write "Swords Walking Tour". I'll confirm by email your place. If you have any questions, please email to info@dublinja.ie or contact me on WhatsApp / SMS (087 098 2329). Looking forward to your participation!

Brackenstown Bible Study group invite you to join us in our reading of the letters of St Paul. Our Autumn Scripture Study classes will commence on Monday 5th October and over the next 3 weeks we will read Paul's early letters, 1 & 2 Thessalonians. This will be followed by a 4 week study of St Paul's letter to the Romans, which has long held pride of place in Paul's writings to the early Christian churches. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic the study will be home based. There will be an optional Zoom, on-line group discussion/questions and answers facility available from 7.30 to 8.30pm each Monday night. We will have one or two trial runs on Zoom beforehand for those who are not familiar with the technology. The current difficult situation may be an opportunity for you to deepen your relationship with Christ through becoming more familiar with the Word of God. There is no charge to take part so why not give it a go? For more details please email Paddy at pobyrne50@gmail.com