

night” of body and soul. Christ did not give us prescriptions, but through his passion, death and resurrection he frees us from the grip of evil.

In your experience of illness, you certainly need a place to find rest. The Church desires to become more and more the “inn” of the Good Samaritan who is Christ (cf. Lk 10:34), that is, a home where you can encounter his grace, which finds expression in closeness, acceptance and relief. In this home, you can meet people who, healed in their frailty by God’s mercy, will help you bear your cross and enable your suffering to give you a new perspective. You will be able to look beyond your illness to a greater horizon of new light and fresh strength for your lives.

A key role in this effort to offer rest and renewal to our sick brothers and sisters is played by healthcare workers: physicians, nurses, medical and administrative professionals, assistants and volunteers. Thanks to their expertise, they can make patients feel the presence of Christ who consoles and cares for the sick, and heals every hurt. Yet they too are men and women with their own frailties and even illnesses. They show how true it is that “once Christ’s comfort and rest is received, we are called in turn to become rest and comfort for our brothers and sisters, with a docile and humble attitude in imitation of the Teacher”

Fr Michael Carey

Mass Intentions this Sunday

Sat 6.30pm Ben Geoghegan(1st An)
Audrey Harkin Mullen (An)
Nancy Savage (1st An)

Sun 8.30am James Rooney(An)
Sun 11.15am Brian O’Connor(An)



At our Masses this Sunday we also remember:Nancy Savage

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 8.00am Bridie Toner	Fri 8.00am Sheila Fitzsimons
Mon 10.00am Daniel Burke	Fri 10.00am Phyllis Doyle
Tues 8.00am Bridie Toner	
Tues 10.00am Daniel Roche	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Wed 8.00am Michael English	Sat 6.30pm Jackie Monaghan
Wed 10.00am Michael Keenan	
Thurs 8.00am Bridie Moss	Sun 8.30am Agnes Staunton
Thurs 10.00am Special intention	Sun 11.15am Thomas, Annie & James McKenna

Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM

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

The annual accord collection will be taken up next weekend at the 10am Mass and 11am Mass. It will replace share collection..



RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

Darren Martin	Balbriggan
Desmond Martin	Southbank



NCBI National Council for the Blind

NCBI would like to sincerely thank every who supported their recent collection which amounted to €560.99

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

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



5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK 2020

“Save us, O Lord our God!”

Newsletter Sunday 9th February 2020



This weekend the Church celebrates is World Day of the Sick and yesterday the Parish celebrated a Mass of healing with anointing for the sick.

To that end this week’s newsletter is an extract from the Pope’s message for the 28th World Day of the Sick 2020, which has as its theme, “Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest” (Mt 11:28)

Dear brothers and sisters,

Jesus’ words, “Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest” (Mt 11:28) point to the mysterious path of grace that is revealed to the simple and gives new strength to those who are weary and tired. These words of Christ express the solidarity of the Son of Man with all those who are hurt and afflicted. How many people suffer in both body and soul! Jesus urges everyone to draw near to him – “Come to me!” – and he promises them comfort and repose. “When Jesus says this, he has before him the people he meets every day on the streets of Galilee: very many simple people, the poor, the sick, sinners, those who are marginalised by the burden of the law and the oppressive social system... These people always followed him to hear his word, a word that gave hope! Jesus’ words always give hope!”

On this 28th World Day of the Sick, Jesus repeats these words to the sick, the oppressed, and the poor. For they realise that they depend entirely on God and, beneath the burden of their trials, stand in need of his healing. **Jesus does not make demands of those who endure situations of frailty, suffering and weakness, but offers his mercy and his comforting presence.** He looks upon a wounded humanity with eyes that gaze into the heart of each person. That gaze is not one of indifference; rather, it embraces people in their entirety, each person in his or her health condition, discarding no one, but rather inviting everyone to share in his life and to experience his tender love.

Why does Jesus have these feelings? Because he himself became frail, endured human suffering and received comfort from his Father. Indeed, only those who personally experience suffering are then able to comfort others. There are so many kinds of grave suffering: incurable and chronic diseases, psychological diseases, situations calling for rehabilitation or palliative care, numerous forms of disability, children’s or geriatric diseases... At times human warmth is lacking in our approach to these. What is needed is a personalised approach to the sick, not just of curing but also of caring, in view of an integral human healing. In experiencing illness, individuals not only feel threatened in their physical integrity, but also in the relational, intellectual, affective and spiritual dimensions of their lives. For this reason, in addition to therapy and support, they expect care and attention. In a word, **love.** At the side of every sick person, there is also a family, which itself suffers and is in need of support and comfort.

Dear brothers and sisters who are ill, your sickness makes you in a particular way one of those “who labour and are burdened”, and thus attract the eyes and heart of Jesus. In him, you will find light to brighten your darkest moments and hope to soothe your distress. He urges you: “Come to me”. In him, you will find strength to face all the worries and questions that assail you during this “dark

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*



Sacrament of Confirmation – Scoill an Duinninigh

Congratulations to the boys and girls from Scoill an Duinninigh who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last Tuesday. I want to thank the great work of their teachers. The day itself involves plenty of preparation in the lead up and the 'subject' is taught excellently. The school choir was lovely. I thank also Chairperson of the Board of Management and all the Board members for their dedication and support of the school

First Penance 2020

Congratulations to the boys in St. Colmcille's BNS who received their First Penance last Tuesday. They were excellently prepared by their class teachers.

The girls from St Colmcille's GNS will receive their First Penance next Tuesday 13th February

I also thank Sr. Mary and Sr. Margaret for their wonderful ministry in the schools

A date for your Diary - Take up Something for Lent

This year for lent we are once again holding a Book Club. The Book Club will start on **Thursday 27th February** and will be a similar format to last year. It will take place over 4 weeks

We will have more details in next's weeks newsletter.

The **ANNUAL COLLECTION** of **ACCORD Dublin**, the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family, will be made at all Masses on the weekend of **15 & 16 February**

The Collection for ACCORD will replace the usual Share Collection.

ACCORD Dublin throughout the Diocese offers:

- Marriage Preparation courses,
- Counselling for couples and individuals experiencing difficulties in their relationships.
- A Relationship and Sexuality Programme for schools.

ACCORD Dublin needs your support. Please give generously on 15 & 16 February



Swords Parish Bethany Bereavement Support Group.

Have you suffered the loss of someone special in your life through bereavement? Are you suffering the pain of that loss? Would you like to talk to a trained bereavement support person who will listen and help you understand your grief and distress? You are welcome to attend our bereavement support meetings on the second and last Mondays of every month at The Parochial House, Seatown Road, Swords @ 7.30pm. This is a free, confidential service and is offered to all Fingal residents. **Next meeting 10th February**. Further information please phone Terri 8403243.

Dublin Diocese Spring Liturgy Seminar -Saturday 15th February 9.30-1.30pm

1. 2020 Vision - Mary Clavin will offer refreshing insights on the celebration of the liturgy. Mary is full of infectious enthusiasm for the spirit of renewal inspired by Vatican II. Decades later there is much still to do.

2. 'Let Us Go To God's House' - Fr. Damian McNeice will bring you on a visual tour of Church architecture through the ages. History helps us see how we have inherited the style of liturgical space and its various components. No passports necessary but fasten your seat belts.

3. 'Reading With Authority' - Good reading at liturgy depends on both external and internal preparation. How can we better proclaim the word of God? How can we read 'with authority'? Donal Neary S.J., formerly parish priest of Gardiner St, and presently editor of Messenger, will lead a workshop to explore these aspects.

4. 'Supporting Women and Families' - The Trócaire theme for Lent 2020 is "women around the world struggling to protect their families" and the two focused countries are Kenya and Honduras. Colm Hogan and Anna Keegan from Trócaire's Church Outreach Office will guide you through their mission and resources.

5. 'Blinded By Your Grace' - Fr. Pat O'Donoghue will suggest ways of celebrating God's mercy during the season of Lent by creating various prayer moments and services. Sunglasses will come in handy.

If you are interested in going please leave your name with Colette.

Beginning Experience- Coping With Life Alone Programme

Men and women, separated or widowed? Are you coping?. No one needs to suffer alone. Beginning Experience could help you. We are a voluntary peer support group, led by trained facilitators dedicated to helping people through their grief and sorrow. We, like you have all suffered a loss and through Beginning Experience we are truly living again. We are running a One-Day Coping with Life Alone Programme on Saturday March 7th @ Carmelite Centre, Whitefriar Street Dublin 2. This programme is designed for anyone in the initial stages following a loss through separation, divorce or death. It will allow you to work through your initial grief in a safe, confidential and supportive atmosphere with others who have suffered similar losses. For more information please contact Louise at : bedublin@gmail.com or 086 0877379 or beginningexperiencegbandi.org



Anam Cara North Dublin, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 19th February at 7:20pm in the Carnegie Court Hotel, Swords. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. Please contact us on info@anamcara.ie or 085 2888 888 for any queries.

We welcome the following newly Baptised to our Parish Community:

Archie Michael Bonner, Sean Paul Bergin, Killian Patrick Howe, Hailey Shauna Lahart, Faiva Samantha Edgeworth

