

He does not hide or conceal those wounds; instead, he invites Thomas to touch his pierced side and to see how those very wounds can be the source of Life in (cf. Jn 20:27-29).

Over and over again, as a spiritual guide, I have been able to witness how “a person who sees things as they truly are and sympathizes with pain and sorrow is capable of touching life’s depths and finding authentic happiness. He or she is consoled, not by the world but by Jesus. Such persons are unafraid to share in the suffering of others; they do not flee from painful situations. They discover the meaning of life by coming to the aid of those who suffer, understanding their anguish and bringing relief. They sense that the other is flesh of our flesh, and are not afraid to draw near, even to touch their wounds. They feel compassion for others in such a way that all distance vanishes. In this way, they can embrace Saint Paul’s exhortation: ‘Weep with those who weep’ (Rom 12:15). Knowing how to mourn with others: that is holiness” (Gaudete et Exsultate, 76).

“As the Father has sent me, so I send you” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them: “Receive the Holy Spirit” (Jn 20:21-22)(Concludes next Week)

Fr. Michael Carey

Mass Intentions this Sunday

Sun 8.30am

Sun 11.15am Christy Dignam & deceased family members
Charlie Clarke (An)



Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 10.00am

Tues 10.00am

Wed 10.00am

Thurs 10.00am Holy Souls in Purgatory

Fri 10.00am

Sun 8.30am Victor Geddes

Sun 11.15am Anthony McQuillan
Bridget & John McNulty

Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM

Sunday Mass in Drynam continues at 10:00AM. All went very well last Sunday with fewer than normal numbers. Thank you to all for observing the HSE guidelines.



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: stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com

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



15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In no situation is God’s grace ever lacking

“I shall be filled with the vision of your glory”

Newsletter Sunday 12th July 2020



Continuing extracts from the Pope’s letter to priests. As I said last week I will quote sections of the letter which I feel will appeal to everyone and not just priests. In place of the priest you can place yourself or someone who you know and love or indeed the stranger doing his/her ‘bit’ during the pandemic

Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, “Peace be with you. When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you!” (Jn 20:19-21)

The Lord did not choose the perfect situation to appear suddenly in the midst of his disciples. Certainly we would have preferred that what happened did not have to happen, but it did; and like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we too can continue to speak sadly and in hushed tones along the way (cf. Lk 24:13-21). Yet by appearing in the Upper Room behind closed doors, amid the isolation, fear and insecurity experienced by the disciples, the Lord was able to surpass all expectations and to give a new meaning to history and human events. Any time is fitting for the message of peace; in no situation is God’s grace ever lacking. Jesus’ appearance in the midst of confinement and forced absence proclaims, for those disciples and for us today, a new day capable of challenging all paralysis and resignation, and harnessing every gift for the service of the community. By his presence, confinement became fruitful, giving life to the new apostolic community.

So let us say with confidence and without fear: “Where sin increased, grace has abounded all the more” (Rom 5:20). Let us be fearless amid the messy situations all around us, because that is where the Lord is, in our midst; God continues to perform his miracle of bringing forth good fruit (cf. Jn 15:5). Christian joy is born precisely of this certainty. In the midst of the contradictions and perplexities we must confront each day, the din of so many words and opinions, there is the quiet voice of the Risen Lord who keeps saying to us: “Peace be with you!”

It is comforting to read the Gospel and think of Jesus in the midst of his people, as he welcomes and embraces life and individuals just as they are. His actions embody Mary’s moving song of praise: “He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly” (Lk 1:51-52). Jesus offers his own hands and his wounded side as a path to resurrection.

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



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We've increased it slightly

FACE-MASKS

The National Public Emergency Team strongly recommend that people wear cloth face coverings when in an indoor public space

Can I ask that everybody at Mass please wear a face-mask. If you don't want to wear one, then please do so out of consideration for others. We can all sing quietly through them and speak through them so really it should not be an issue.

A big THANK YOU (Swords and Drynam)

In reading this newsletter we are now almost two weeks into the re-opening. The volunteers have been amazing and I want to say a big thank you to you all. You are amazing and without this corporal work of mercy on your part the Parish would not be able to celebrate the Mass

Seating

St. Colmcille's has been marked out to observe social distancing. With the 2 metre rule the Church can only accommodate 48 people.

More than 48

What happens when we reach the 48 limit? When that happens the volunteer stewards will inform you that the Church is full, that it has reached the limit demanded by Government regulations.

It will be awful to be informed that you cannot come in to participate and celebrate in the Mass. It will also be awful for the volunteer who informs you of this!

Your Financial support

When parishioners make donations to the parish either through the planned giving method or other ways such as a one off donation via a letter etc. I thank them and the Parish sends out an annual acknowledgement of thanks and appreciation. Some donations are anonymous and I want to take this opportunity of saying thank you also to the anonymous benefactors.

Mass Schedule for July and August

The Mass Schedule for July and August in St. Colmcille's will be as follows:

Monday to Friday – 10.00am only

Sunday – 8.30am and 11.15am

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

Mass Intentions

Mass times have changed for July and August.

If you have booked a Mass for 8.00am Monday - Friday for July and August, this intention will be moved to the 10.00am on the day.

If you have booked the 6.30 Saturday Vigil Mass for July and August, this intention will be moved to 11.15am on Sunday

All Masses can be viewed on the Webcam

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 **Kay 0086 2209297 from 12th July . - 18th July** 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.

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm, by calling [0818 222 024](tel:0818222024). Hours may be extended to meet the demand.

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The parable of the sower is told twice, in an original form and in a later, Church interpretation. The explanation tends to dominate our reading; but it might be worthwhile allowing the original parable to "speak". It tells of small, even careless, beginnings – the sower scatters all over the place. As we see in nature, tiny seeds have an astonishing, miraculous effect. Go back over your own experience and recall something which began modestly but which in the end grew surprisingly. The reign of God is like that – the modest beginnings of Jesus' own preaching had tremendous effect.

Prayer - God of every harvest, it can be hard today to be confident about the Good News and yet we know that it is you who give the growth (1 Cor 3:7). *(Source: St. Paul's Missal)*