

For nearly two hours a group that fluctuated between two and perhaps as many as twenty-five stood or knelt gazing at the figures as rain lashed them in the gathering darkness. vision of Mary was described as being beautiful, standing a few feet above the ground. She wore a white cloak, hanging in full folds and fastened at the neck. She was described as "deep in prayer", with her eyes raised to heaven, her hands raised to the shoulders or a little higher, the palms inclined slightly to the shoulders.

St. Joseph, also wearing white robes, stood at the Virgin's right hand. His head was bent forward from the shoulders towards the Blessed Virgin. St. John the Evangelist stood to the left of the Blessed Virgin. He was dressed in a long robe and wore a mitre. He was partly turned away from the other figures. Some witnesses reported that St. John appeared to be preaching and that he held open a large book in his left hand. To the left of St. John was an altar with a lamb on it with a cross standing on the altar behind the lamb.

Those who witnessed the apparition stood in the pouring rain for up to two hours reciting the Rosary. When the apparition began there was good light, but although it then became very dark, witnesses could still see the figures very clearly – they appeared to be the colour of a bright whitish light. The apparitions did not flicker or move in any way. The witnesses reported that the ground around the figures remained completely dry during the apparition although the wind was blowing from the south.



### The Queenship of Mary – 22<sup>nd</sup> August

During the middle ages, Mary was venerated as queen of the angels and saints. Pope Pius XII prescribed the memorial for the universal Church at the close of the Marian Year 1955. It is placed on this date to stress the connection of Mary's queenship and with the Assumption.

*Fr. Michael Carey*

### Mass Intentions this Sunday

**Sun 8.30am**

**Sun 11.15am** Bridie Ferris



### Mass intentions for Next Week

**Mon 10.00am** Eugene Quinlan

**Sun 8.30am** Paul Murphy & Gerry Murphy

**Tues 10.00am** Geraldine Harrison

**Wed 10.00am** James Brock

**Sun 11.15am** Ellen Donovan

**Thurs 10.00am** John & Kathleen O'Connor  
John Carroll

Sean Colclough (1st An)

**Fri 10.00am** Louise Quigley

Cora Duffy

Benedictine Monks of Our Lady of the Cenacle

### Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM

**Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am**

Congratulations to the children from Holywell ETNS who received their Confirmation yesterday 15th August and today 16th August in Drynam church. Special thanks to Renata, Susan and Sarah for all the preparation and hard work.



**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. Colmille's Church, Swords & Church of the Visitation, Drynam**



20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**All generations will call me Blessed.**

*“One day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere”*

Newsletter Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2020



In these days the Church celebrates three Marian Feasts:

### The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – 15<sup>th</sup> August

In response to Elizabeth's greeting, Mary not only proclaims the greatness of God, but also acknowledges that God "has done great things" for her. Her greatness is brought to completion in her assumption when this lowly maiden of Nazareth is "clothed with the sun" (first reading). God's greatness and Mary's greatness commingle through her 'yes' to being the mother of our Saviour. God's greatness fills us when we, like Mary, say yes to God's plan of salvation and give birth to the Son through the way we live each day. The most honest we can be with and about ourselves is to acknowledge, like Mary, the great things God has done for us.



Mary responded to God's initiatives with her whole being and life, and now "all generations well call (her) blessed". On this festival we honour Mary for her fidelity and we celebrate God's faithfulness in bringing us salvation through the divine Son. Mary's assumption of body and soul into heaven is a dogma defined by the church. It is fitting that we thus honour Mary because it was her body which was the first temple for the Son of God. She conceived, nurtured, allowed to grow, and gave birth to Jesus – all because she willingly gave her body as an instrument for God to work the wonders of salvation. This holy body now enjoys full union with her divine Son in eternal glory. By her assumption into glory, God has "shown the strength of his arm" and the greatness of his love. God will do the same for us.

### Feast of Our Lady of Knock – 17<sup>th</sup> August

The evening of Thursday, 21 August 1879, was a very wet night. At about 8 o'clock the rain beat down in driving sheets when Mary Byrne a girl of the village, accompanying the priest's housekeeper, Mary McLoughlin, home, stopped suddenly as she came in sight of the gable of the little church. There she saw standing a little out from the gable, were three life-size figures. She ran home to tell her parents and soon others from the village had gathered.



The witnesses stated they saw an apparition of Our Lady, St. Joseph and St. John the Evangelist at the south gable end of the local small parish church, the Church of St. John the Baptist. Behind them and a little to the left of Saint John was a plain altar. On the altar was a cross and a lamb (a traditional image of Jesus), with adoring angels. A farmer, about half a mile away from the scene, later described what he saw as a large globe of golden light above and around, the gable, circular in appearance.

## 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

The girls from St. Colmcille's GNS will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this week. I welcome the girls, their sponsors and their parents to these ceremonies. The Confirmation Ceremonies for the girls from St. Colmcille's GNS will take place over the five days from **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> August** inclusive and all ceremonies will be held at 1.30pm. For family members who cannot attend the celebration can be viewed on the Parish webcam

### FACE-MASKS

**The WEARING OF FACE MASKS IN CHURCH'S IS NOW MANDATORY**

Can I ask that everybody at Mass please wear a face-mask – ***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.

### Stewards

- I thank the stewards in both our churches, who are doing a fantastic job. The initial request was for the months of July and August but this is now stretching out to September and beyond. I am asking is that if you do a particular day that you might carry on for the month of September.
- If you are not a steward you might consider volunteering for one Mass/one Day per week.
- The Sunday 11.15 Mass is in need of extra volunteers if you can help?
- As I have written in the newsletter before the Stewards have proven to be caring and considerate in exercising their ministry. We could have no Mass without them!

### 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

### 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.

### RECENTLY DECEASED

**Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:**

Daniel Murray

Late of Newcourt

### Stewards at Mass

Would you be available to volunteer to help at Masses?. During the next few weeks people are on holidays and we are looking for more people to help out. It does not take too long, arrive about 30 mins before Mass to assist people to seats and sanitise the Church after Mass. Please contact Jeanette after Mass, 8400547 or Colette at 8407277 or email [stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com](mailto:stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com). **Thank You**

### 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 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**

### 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 **Denise 086 0610463 from 16th August - 22nd August (after 7pm Mon - Thurs)** If there is no reply please leave your first name and phone number. Or you can email the parish office [stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com](mailto:stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com) and your message will be forwarded to Bethany Group. This is a free and confidential service.

### DCU BA in Theology and Religious Studies - Scholarships Available

Interested in studying theology, but need a flexible programme to suit your needs? The DCU BA in Theology and Religious Studies is just for you. This part-time, flexible programme is aimed at mature students, with lectures on Thursday evenings and a number of Saturdays throughout the year. For 2020/21, the programme will feature blended learning, with online and in-person learning opportunities. Scholarships are available for new incoming students. More info at [www.dcu.ie/dc300](http://www.dcu.ie/dc300), or contact Brad Anderson ([brad.anderson@dcu.ie](mailto:brad.anderson@dcu.ie))

### Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's Gospel, Jesus changes his mind! How is that possible? Twice in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus limits his ministry to the "lost sheep of the house of Israel" (Mt 10:6; 15:24). In today's story, however, a very feisty woman, clearly not a daughter of Abraham, with her urgency and her witty retort, brings Jesus to recognise the needs of those beyond the ethnic confines of the Jewish people. They are ordinary human beings too, just as much in need of the Good News of the Kingdom as anyone else.

**Prayer** - We believe and we know, O God, that you love the human race, without any distinction of persons or rank. Inspire us to see you in everyone we meet, for all are your children and you are the father of us all. (*Source: St. Paul's Missal*)