

at work ... works of peace, reconciliation and fraternity. Each one of us must carry out these acts of fraternity towards others, especially those who are suffering as a result of family tensions or disputes of various kinds. These small gestures have great value: they can be the seeds that give rise to hope, that can open up roads to and the prospect of peace". He concluded by encouraging those present to invoke Mary, Queen of Peace, "who, during her earthly life, encountered no lack of difficulties in the daily burdens of existence. But she never lost her peace of heart, the fruit of her trusting abandonment to God's mercy. We ask that Mary, our tender Mother, show the entire world the sure path of love and peace". *Fr. Michael Carey Adm*

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

Mon 8.00am People of the Parish

Mon 10.00am Joe Sharkey

Tues 8.00 am Health Intention

Tues 10.00am Edwin Corr

Wed 8.00am Margaret O'Neill

Wed 10.00 am Marie Redmond

Thurs 8.00am Jerry O'Rourke

Thurs 10.00am Caroline Hughes

Fri 8.00am Mrs Fay

Fri 10.00 am Kevin Wynne

Sat 10.00am Mary Carolan

Sat 6.30pm Richard & Eva Kearns

Sun 8.30am Kathleen O'Connor

Sun 10.00am Frank Marren

Sun 11.30am Muriel & Kevin Harford & Peter Harford

Sun 7.30pm Nancy Doyle, Alice O'Rourke
& Maura Rock

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

Stephanie Larkin

William O'Regan

Margaret O'Reilly

John Mongan

Frances Noonan

Patrick McCarthy

Dublin Road

Rockingham, Drynam Road

St Colmcille's Park

Baldoye

Fingal Nursing Home

Mountgorry Wood



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

A big thank to all who helped here in Drynam over the Christmas period including Christmas Card deliveries to over 2500 homes, dedicated musicians and church Christmas preparations including our lovely crib. Some repairs and improvements have been made to the church over the past few weeks including the electrical system and fixing a hole in one of the panels in the church wall.



We welcome the following newly Baptised to our Parish Community:

Benjamin Kevin McDonnell, Sofia Philomena McAndrew



'Wake up the World' - The Hopes of Pope Francis, with a focus on the Year of Consecrated life, with Fr Michael Paul Gallagher SJ. will take place in St Francis Xavier Church, Gardiner St Dublin 1 on Monday January 19th at 7.30pm. All welcome

Baptism Team

The St. Colmcille's Baptism Team will meet this Thursday 15th January at 7.30pm in the Parochial House, Seatown Road

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

Parish Secretary: Colette Stokes - 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@gmail.com



Feast of The Baptism of the Lord

Peace, a gift from the Lord every day

"After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: this is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased"

Newsletter Sunday 11th January 2015



At a recent Angelus prayer, the Pope spoke about Peace, being a gift of the Lord every day. As we begin 2015, we are all too well aware of the violence in our world; in our own country and city and maybe even closer to home and in our own hearts and lives. What the Pope had to say, does I believe make for interesting reflection.

"Men speak much of light, but often they prefer the deceptive tranquillity of the dark. We talk a lot about peace, but often resort to war or choose complicit silence, or do nothing to build peace.

The heart of man can refuse light and prefer the shadows, because the light lays bare his wicked works. He who does evil hates the light; he who does evil, hates peace".

"A few days ago we began the new year in the name of the Mother of God, celebrating World Day of Peace with the theme: "No longer slaves, but brothers and sisters". My hope is that the exploitation of man by man may be overcome. This exploitation is a social evil that extinguishes social relationships and impedes a life of communion characterised by respect, justice and charity. Each person and every people hungers and thirsts for peace; therefore it is necessary and urgent to build peace".

The Pope continued, **"Peace is not just the absence of war**, but a general condition in which the human person is in harmony with himself, with nature and with others. ... Nevertheless, silencing arms and stopping outbreaks of war remain the unavoidable conditions for embarking on a journey towards the attainment of peace in its different forms. I think of the conflicts that still cause bloodshed in too many regions of the planet, of tensions in families and communities – in how many families, communities, and even parish communities, there is war! – as well as the sharp divisions in our cities and towns between groups of different cultural, ethnic and religious backgrounds. We must convince ourselves that, despite all appearances to the contrary, harmony is always possible, at every level and in every situation. There is no future without proposals and projects for peace! There is no future without peace!"

The Pope commented that peace is proclaimed as a special gift from God, in the birth of the Redeemer: "Peace on earth to those on whom His favour rests". He added, "This gift must be incessantly sought in prayer and nurtured each day with commitment, in the situations in which we find ourselves. At the dawn of this new year, we are all called to rekindle in our hearts an impulse of hope, that should result in concrete works of peace ... at home, in your community,

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Antiphon – “Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God”

Church Christmas Decorations

The Christmas Crib, Tree and Christmas decorations are coming down after today's Feast Day. Can I again acknowledge how beautiful our Christmas decorations were and thank again the Parish Liturgy Teams in both churches for their hard work, dedication and artistic endeavour.

Christmas Dues Envelopes

If you did not receive Christmas Dues envelope and would like to contribute to the Priests of the Parish, please take one from the book rack at the back of the Church.

Mass Timetable Changes

Due to the ongoing shortage of priests in the Archdiocese of Dublin, our Parish of Swords/Drynam will be re-organising its Mass times and schedules early in the New Year. Discussion at the PPC is happening this Monday and there will be information in next week's newsletter

The Pope appoints 20 new cardinals

The following is a Vatican comment on the creation of new cardinals in the upcoming consistory, to be held on 14 February.

Considering the usual number of 120 electors, there were 12 places 'available' in the College of Cardinals. Although the Pope has slightly exceeded this number, he has remained very close to it, so it has substantially been respected.

Among the new electors, 14 different countries are represented, of which six did not previously have a cardinal, and some have never had one. If the non-electors are also counted, then 18 countries are represented. Among the electors, there are 5 from Europe, 3 from Asia, 3 from Latin America (including Mexico), 2 from Africa and 2 from Oceania. There are no new cardinals for North America (U.S.A. and Canada), since their number is already significant and has remained stable since last year. (There is a new Mexican cardinal).

There is a significant presence of countries that have not had a cardinal (Cape Verde, Tonga, Myanmar), and of small or minority ecclesial communities. It is notable that there is only one new cardinal from the Roman Curia, while currently the “Roman” cardinals constitute around a quarter of the electors. It is confirmed that the Pope does not consider himself bound by the tradition of 'cardinal sees', that for historical reasons in various Countries were considered almost 'automatically' linked to the cardinalate. Instead we see various appointments of archbishops and bishops from sees that have not had a cardinal in the past. This is true of Italy, Spain and Mexico.

The youngest of the new cardinals is the archbishop of Tonga, Msgr. Mafi (1961), who will become the youngest member of the College of Cardinals.



A REFLECTIVE SENTENCE: Nowhere in the world has so great a miracle occurred as in that little stable in Bethlehem; here God and man became one – Thomas A Kempis (1379-1471, German mystic and author of *Imitation of Christ*)

Parish Pastoral Council

The PPC will meet this Monday 12th January at 8.15pm in the Parochial House, Seatown Road.

Open Day – St Colmcille's Girls School

An 'Open Day' will take place in St Colmcille's Girls' School on Wednesday 21st January from 9am – 11 am. All welcome.

Enrolment St. Colmcille's Girls School

Enrolment for girls starting school in September 2015 takes place from January 26th – 30th, 9am – 10.30am each morning. **Baptismal & Birth Certificate must accompany all forms**



Enrolment St. Colmcille's Boy's School.

Application forms for enrolment for boys starting school in September 2015 are available from the school, 9.00am – 4.00pm daily. Completed forms must be returned by January 30th **Baptismal & Birth Certificate must accompany all forms**



Medugorje Evening: Portmarnock parish is hosting a special Medugorje Evening in conjunction with Marian Pilgrimages on Friday 23rd January in St Anne's Church, Portmarnock Village, Co. Dublin. The evening will begin at 6.30pm with Eucharistic Adoration until 7.00 pm, followed by a showing of the latest DVD about Medugorje apparitions. There will be time for Q & A at 8.00 pm. Admission is free of charge and by attending the evening you are in with a chance to win a free trip to Medugorje.

Week of Christian Unity

Every year from the 18th to the 25th January (Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul), the Christian Churches celebrate the week of Christian Unity. In his letter 1.Cor.1:1-17, Paul appeals that his readers come together and “be united in the same mind and the same purpose” A reflection on this in the ‘Liturgical Ordo’ says “Relations between Christians call for every possible form of practical co-operation at all levels: pastoral, cultural and social, as well as that of witnessing to the Gospel message...Unity of action leads to the full unity of faith”

Swords Men's Shed Are you male, retired or unemployed and have too much time on your hands? If so why not come and join others who have been in the same situation and help us expand the activities of our Men's Shed. You will experience a warm welcome every Wednesday morning between 10 and 12, 30 in the Riase Centre, Feltrim Road, Swords. Email: swords@menssheds.ie

Planned Giving

Thank you to all who have collected their 2015 Planned Giving/Family Offering Envelopes boxes and thanks to those who delivered them. There are still boxes awaiting collection. Please can you collect them from the Parish Office, Parochial House, Seatown Rd. If you are unable to collect your box, can you ring Colette and arrangements can be made for delivery. Thank You