

that they allow themselves to be interiorly transformed in the spirit of that merciful love towards neighbour.

Mercy establishes a relationship based on human dignity and a loving respect for the other person. While justice is limited to objective goods, mercy causes people to encounter one another with the dignity proper to people. And so, our prayer during the Year of Mercy is that the merciful love of the Triune God may be made manifest through us in our reaching out to others and in our work for the spread of God's kingdom. (Source: Fr. Maurice Hogan, National Director of World Missions Ireland). **Fr. Michael Carey**

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 8.00am Veronica McKeogh	Sat 10.00am Gerry Loughran
Mon 10.00am Special Intention	Margaret Kerrigan 1st An
Tues 8.00am Betty Stokes	
Tues 10.00am Mary McCaffrey	Sat 6.30pm Michael Barry
Wed 8.00 Parish Sisters	Margaret Kerrigan 1st An
Wed 10.00 Joe Prendergast	
Thurs 8.00am Dec members of Maher Family	Sun 8.30am Kathleen Callis
Thurs 10.00am Michael Kilbride & Phil, Jack & Frances McDonnell	Sun 11.00pm Margie Markey
Fri 8.00am Robert Barr	Sun 6.30pm Nellie Clune
Fri 10.00am Christopher Barnwell	

Church of the Visitation Drynam *The Visitation of the BVM*

Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am, 11.00am (Irish Mass) & 12 noon, Mon & Tues 9.20am
There will be a Drynam Church Fundraising Committee meeting tomorrow night at 8PM in the hall.

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The community of the Church strongly recommends that the faithful celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least once every year. It is called the Sacrament of Reconciliation because it makes present to the recipient the love of God who reconciles. To live by this merciful love is to be prepared to be reconciled with one's sister and brother.

Reflection - Every sincere act of worship or devotion revives the spirit of conversion and repentance within us and in this way contributes to the forgiveness of our sins. Conversion is a daily challenge and a life-long project. Reading sacred scripture, joining in the prayer of the Church, especially the Our Father, all are indications of a humble desire to receive God's forgiveness. (Source: St. Paul's Missal.)

B.E. - BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

B.E. is a support group for those coping with the pain of loss of their life partner, through Death, Separation or Divorce. Few people are able to cope alone with the pain of loss. Do you find that you need more support than family and friends can provide? Seeking help is a sign of strength and self-knowledge – not weakness. This is a healing ministry, which helps to resolve the grief that goes with the end of a marriage or relationship. Coping effectively with bereavement is a skill we can all learn.

Next residential weekend will be held **18th – 20th November** in Emmaus Retreat Centre, Swords, Co Dublin. For further information please contact 086 0877379 or email bedublin@gmail.com. www.beginningexperience.ie

Fr. Michael Carey-8403378: Fr. Peter McCarron-8405948, 087 1621662
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

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mission Sunday

“The Lord is great and highly to be praised”

Newsletter Sunday 23rd October 2016

Every Christian is a missionary of Mercy. Pope Francis says that we need Christians who make God's mercy and tenderness to every creature visible to people today. There is a pressing need for mercy in our world today where even the very idea of a gracious and merciful God leaves many people indifferent and cold. The Church's pastoral mission is to profess and proclaim the mercy of God and help people embody it in their lives.

In the fullness of time, God the Father sent his Son into the world to reveal his love/mercy for human beings in a definitive way. Whoever sees Jesus sees the Father (Jn 14:9). Jesus Christ in his entire person, by his words and actions reveals the mercy of God. Mercy is the bridge that connects God with human beings, opening our hearts to a hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness. The core of the Good News is that God the Father through his Son is close to sinners, loving them and saving them in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus not only proclaimed the Father mercy, he lived it himself. He opened up access to God for everybody; no one is excluded. His mission was to reveal divine love in its fullness for “God is love” (1 Jn.4:8,16). This love was made visible and tangible throughout his entire life in relationships he formed, in the parables he spoke, in the signs he worked for broken human beings. One of the outstanding features of his public life was Jesus' feelings of sympathy and compassion for human misery. To the leper who pleaded with him on his knees, Jesus ‘moved with compassion,’ stretched out his hand and touched him saying; “Of course I want to! Be cured” (Mk 1:41). Seeing the distress of the crowds who followed him, Jesus “felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd” (Mt 9:36). He showed sympathy towards the sick and suffering and healed them (Mt 14:14).

On Calvary, Jesus' revelation of divine love reaches its climax when he lays down his life for love of us. Jesus is “the merciful High Priest” (Heb 2:17) who wished to be like us in all things so that he too might experience the misery from which he came to save us.

The example of Jesus prompts us his followers to have compassion and reach out to those in temporal or spiritual need, concretely through the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. In exercising mercy, Jesus tells us, we should take the Father as model: “Be merciful,” he says, “as your heavenly Father is merciful” (Lk 6:36). Like the Good Samaritan (Lk 10:10-37) who showed mercy to the dying man as he lay by the roadside, we are asked to show similar concern to the needy we meet on our journey through life. We will be judged according to the mercy we have shown, perhaps unknowingly, to the person of Jesus himself. “I tell you solemnly, insofar as you did this to one of the least brethren of mine, you did it to me” (Mt 25:40). “Blessed are the merciful, they shall have mercy shown them” (Mt 5:7) to the extent



ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Year of Mercy – "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful" (Lk.6:36)

Commitment ceremony

This week the boys and girls from St. Colmcille's BNS and GNS will celebrate their first liturgy on their journey to receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation next year. The liturgy is a beautiful and simple Ceremony of Commitment. The boys will celebrate theirs on Tuesday 25th October at 1.30pm and the girls on Wednesday 26th October at 1.30pm _



Bible Read-athon

A lovely occasion - thank you to all who read and to the supervisors. The day started off very well with a fantastic contribution and group of readers from both the girls and boys school - the Confirmation classes. There were 22 boys and 16 girls-one would normally expect it be the other way around, but there you go! I was in and out of the Church during the afternoon and evening and everything went off smoothly. It was lovely to hear the different voices and accents ALL proclaiming God's Word and I know that the readers found the experience rewarding. In the six and half hours the Gospels of Luke and John were read along with thirty-three Psalms. A special thank you to Louise Donnelly for the lovely Certs which were presented to all who took part.

Do This in Memory

Next weekend, the boys and girls and their families will be present at the 6.30pm Saturday Vigil Mass and the 6.30pm Sunday evening Mass as part of their Parish based preparation programme for the Sacrament of First Eucharist. We look forward to seeing them and praying with them.

Altar List of the Dead

These lists are now available at the back of the Church. The new lists will be placed in front of the altar on Wednesday 2nd November – The Feast of All Souls. All Masses on the First Friday of the month will be offered for the names on the Altar List of the Dead. The completed envelopes can be returned to the Sacristy or the Parish Office.

Drynam - The Church of Our Lady of the Visitation will make its own arrangement for the celebration of Mass for the 'altar list of the dead'.

Mass of Remembrance

On Wednesday 2nd November at 7.30pm, the Parish will celebrate Mass to remember and pray for all parishioners and friends who died during the past year. During this Mass each person will be remembered by name. All welcome especially family and friends. If you have a family member who died during the past year and would like their name called out, please contact Colette in the Parish Office (01-8407277) before Friday 21st October

First Holy Communion Rosary Beads are now available in the Parish Office



Mission Sunday

This Sunday is World Mission Sunday. There is a special collection at all Masses this weekend replacing Share.

Theme – 'Every Christian is a Missionary' fits in with the pope's call to the Whole Church to become involved in evangelisation. Each of us is asked to leave our comfort zone and reach out to others to spread the joy of the Gospel

We welcome the following newly Baptised to our Parish Community:

Fiona Ann Clinkscales, Michael Bry Vaughan, Dillon James Smith, Ethan Michel Clarke, Emily Aideen O'Leary, Cillian Liam Davis



The Bible's Most Important People

Judas Iscariot – The disciple who betrayed Jesus, usually identified as Judas Iscariot. He was given his position by Jesus and was put in charge of the money, but he was not honest with it (John 12:6). Judas went to the chief priests and promised to betray Jesus for forty pieces of silver. At the Last Supper, Jesus predicted Judas' betrayal and even handed him a morsel of food to indicate his identity as the betrayer. Sorrowful at his betrayal, following Jesus' death, Judas returned the money to the priests and hanged himself.

Service of Remembrance: The Board, Master and Staff of the Rotunda Hospital invite you to a Service of Remembrance for people who have lost a baby through miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, stillbirth, neonatal death or fetal anomaly. The Service will be held in the Pro-Cathedral on Sunday, 6th November at 3.00pm. Afterwards light refreshments will be served in the Gresham Hotel. If you have any queries please contact the Hospital Chaplain on Tel: 01 8171700.

A little whitewashed cottage

The Scottish biblical scholar, William Barclay, told the following story: He was on a train journey from Scotland to England. As he was passing through the Yorkshire moors he spotted a little whitewashed cottage. Its radiant whiteness shone out against the drab moors. A few days later he passed that way again. Meanwhile snow had fallen and covered the ground. He came again to the little whitewashed cottage. But now its whiteness actually seemed drab against the virgin whiteness of the snow.

If we should be tempted to compare ourselves with others, let us compare ourselves only with Christ himself. When we lay our imperfect lives beside his sinless life, all we will be able to say is: 'Lord, be merciful to me, I am a sinner' (*Fr. Flor McCarthy, SDB*)