

You shouldn't count on Easter eggs before they are laid," said her mother. "I am sure Auntie Brooke will understand if you take her another egg. You may colour it pink, and I let you have some gilding, so that you can mark her name on it. It will be a beautiful Easter egg." Molly tried to smile. All day she kept going out to where Red Top was, to see whether the expected egg had been laid. That, and the work of colouring eggs for the family, kept her busy all the day. The pink eggs were beautifully coloured, but she would not gild Auntie Brooke's name on one.

"I have a plan," she said. "I believe I'll have an Easter egg for Auntie Brooke, after all, mother."

On Easter morning Molly ran out into the hen-house before any one else was awake. After breakfast she slipped away; she carried a covered basket and walked very fast. First she went through the green lane that led from their house to the road, and then along the road until she came to Auntie Brooke's. The lane was all trimmed with beautiful spring flowers for Easter, and the trees beside the road were full of birds, all singing Easter songs.

She went through Auntie Brooke's squeaky gate and along the gravel path to the side door. An old lady with a sweet face sat out on the doorstep.

"Auntie Brooke," said Molly, a little out of breath, "I've brought you an Easter egg, only it isn't laid yet. You may keep Red Top until she lays it, and then you can give her back.

You'll have to excuse there not being any pink on it and your name in gilt letters, but Red Top didn't lay it in time for that."

"Thank you, dear," said Auntie Brooke, trying not to laugh. "I'm sure I shall like it just as well as if it were pink with gold letters on it." (*Short Easter Story by Annie Willis*

McCullough)

Fr. Michael Carey

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 10.00am Easter Mass Bouquets

Tues 10.00am Bridie Mulhall

Wed 10.00am Muriel Harford

Thurs 10.00am Nancy Savage

Fri 10.00am Stephen Farrell

Sat 6.30pm Niamh Sheridan

Jane O'Gorman

Sun 8.30am Barney O'Rourke

Sun 11.15am Eileen & Andrew Downey

At our Masses next weekend we also remember: Josie & Billy Ryan, Michael Griffin, Barry O'Rourke

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

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

Happy Easter to all! St Vincent de Paul will have their monthly collection for Drynam area after Mass next Sunday.

One of the Parish initiatives this year for was to start a Parish Book Club.

Over the past six weeks we read **Pope Francis Book, Rejoice and be Glad (Gaudete Et Exsultate)** We would like to thank everyone who took part.

We read one chapter each week. It was very enjoyable, sometimes challenging!! , but great to share thoughts and learn from each other

There are a few copies of the book on the book shelf at the back of the Church on sale for €5



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



Easter Sunday

The Power of Love

"The Lord is truly risen, alleluia"

Newsletter, Sunday 21st April 2019



Love reveals the resurrection; the resurrection reveals love. Easter is our encounter with the love of God revealed in the resurrection of Jesus. This is eternal love, exceeding any earthly estimation or evaluation we can even imagine. Obedient to the Father's will in the offering of himself on the cross, the Father is faithful to his beloved Son, bringing him back from death and bestowing him upon the world as its Lord and Saviour forever.

The love that goes between Father and Son gives us the Spirit, who generates the energy for us to become evangelisers and gathers us into the holiness of God.

The contrast between Christ's 'powerful life' and 'our fragile lives' is the cause of our Easter joy. The risen life of the Lord Jesus is not predicated on the political way of doing things in the world. His resurrection is not a prize and Jesus is not a victor in a winner-takes-all game. The resurrection is the noonday of the Good News, the Gospel of God's reign whose power which possesses and oppresses is repudiated and replaced by the presence of 'the risen Lord' who remains with us to share, serve and save. This is the power of love, God's love and not some general principle that of goodness that guides life. As eternal Son and earthly brother the risen Jesus holds out the hope that that faith can fashion 'our fragile lives' into forms of holiness in the Spirit even here and now. Having immersed himself in our fragility, we can imitate his glory because, as Pope Francis states, 'in the end, it is Christ who loves in us'. Easter reminds us that, today and every day, this is the reason to **REJOICE AND BE GLAD**. (*Source: Journeying in Joy and Gladness, by Kevin O'Gorman SMA – the Sacred Heart Messenger*)

Molly's Easter Hen

When Molly came in from the chicken house, she looked very sad.

"O dear me!" she sighed. "I'm so disappointed!"

"What is it, sunny girl?" asked mother.

"Red Top hasn't laid an egg, and to-morrow is Easter. I shut Red Top in all by herself, so I should know that it was her very own egg, and she hasn't laid any."

"But the other hens have. We shall have plenty of Easter eggs to colour," said mother.

"But I was going to take one of Red Top's eggs to Auntie Brooke for Easter," said Molly, dismally.

"Wouldn't any other egg do?" asked mother.

"It wouldn't be half so nice," replied Molly. "Auntie Brooke gave me Red Top, and this is the first Easter since I had her. I told Auntie Brooke I was going to bring her one of Red Top's eggs for Easter."

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*



Resurrexit sicut dixit

'He has risen as he said'. Risen Lord, kindle again in our hearts the fire of faith. May we be bearers of the light and joy of Easter faith to all whom we meet. The Lord is risen – he is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Easter Sunday

Our Easter celebration calls us to seek to strengthen our belief that new Life comes from an empty tomb. Our Easter celebration calls us to seek encounters with the risen Lord and believing that we in turn can be that presence of new Life for others. Our Easter amazement does not centre so much on whether or not we believe in Jesus' resurrection – we do! Our amazement is over the fact that we can encounter the risen Lord ourselves, that Jesus' new life is our own Life, and that he works through us to bring his risen Life to others

Easter Blessing

On behalf of myself, the Priests of the Parish, the Parish Sisters, the Parish Staff and the Parish Pastoral Council, I would like to extend to all Parishioners of St. Colmcille's Swords and Our Lady of the Visitation, Drynam and readers of this newsletter, the grace and blessings of the Easter Season. Happy Easter – the Lord is Risen. Alleluia

Easter Cards

A sincere thank you to all who helped with the packing and the distribution of the Easter Cards. It is a 'big job' with over 1000 cards to be distributed – so again. Thank You!

Easter Dues

A sincere thank you to all who have returned their Easter Dues envelopes. Your continued generosity is very much appreciated. *If you did not receive an Easter Card from the Parish containing a dues envelope, there are some available at the back of the Church. If you are not a regular contributor to the Parish and would like to do so, please leave your name and contact details with myself or in Sacristy or Parish Office.*

Thank You

Thank you to the so many Ministry Teams and parishioners who volunteered their time and energy to help prepare the Church's for the Easter Ceremonies and to all who exercised a Liturgical Ministry during these self same ceremonies. Thank you also to all who attended the ceremonies during this Easter/Paschal Triduum

Holy Week Penitential Liturgy

Thank you to the priests from Brackenstown and River Valley who assisted us with the Holy Week Penitential Liturgy last Saturday in St. Colmcille's. Thank you all to all who came to either this liturgy or attended confessions in preparation for Easter.

Easter Week

From Monday 22nd until Friday 26th Mass will be celebrated at 10.00am ONLY in St. Colmcille's. there is no 8.00am Mass this week

Saturday 27th April

This is the last Saturday of the month and Morning Prayer will be celebrated at 10.00am. please do come along

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Every Sunday is a celebration of Easter Sunday. Every Eucharist is a commemoration and a realisation of the Easter Mystery of the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord. On this day of days the community of the Church shows how seriously it takes the words of Saint Paul that if Christ is not raised from the dead then our faith is in vain. In other words, the resurrection of the Lord is the reason for the existence of Christianity.



Reflection - Last night we heard the words, 'What good would life have been to us had Christ not come as our Redeemer?' This is not to denigrate the gift of life which we have been given. Rather it directs us where to search if we want to find a meaning to life. It is God who gives us life. It is Christ who gives life its primary significance, namely, the opportunity to embrace discipleship of the Father. Today we celebrate God's vindication of the choice Jesus made. The same choice is also ours. (Source: St. Paul's Missal)

An Evening in 'the Valley'

Gary Kehoe from the 'Child Protection and Safeguarding Office' of the Diocese will give an information session in **River Valley Parish on Tuesday 30th April at 7.30pm**. I invite ALL volunteers, ministry team and choir members to attend this information session – yep that is what I have written – ALL. Obviously if you cannot attend then you cannot!

Gary is an engaging speaker and his talk among other things will make clear as to why all involved in ministry etc. have to be 'Garda Vetted'.

As Pope Francis said "*Families need to know that the Church is making every effort to protect their children. They should also know that they have every right to turn to the Church with full confidence, for it is a safe and secure home*".

This evening is for the Swords Grouping of Parishes and if all volunteers, ministry team and choir members from the 3 parishes attend we would have upwards of 300 people

God's Housekeepers

The next date for cleaning the Church is next **Friday 26th April** after the 10.00am Mass. Can cleaning group 2 for this Friday please turn up! Also if anyone has a half hour to spare you would be most welcome

We have a core team of cleaners but it dwindling very quickly – two or three people are turning up each fortnight. **The Parish Needs You!** The Church is cleaned twice a month – the first and third Friday after the 10.00am morning Mass. Can you help? Can you pick one of those Friday's and help with this vital ministry so that we always have a clean and welcoming Church. **IT IS ONLY 30 MINUTES ONCE A MONTH.** You can leave your name Jeanette in the Sacristy or with Colette in the Parish Office. For clarification the next few cleaning dates are **Friday 26th April; 10th May; 24th May** This ministry is open to men and women.