

Christ. Mary gave Bernadette the vocation of serving the sick and called her to become a Sister of Charity, a mission that she carried out in so exemplary a way as to become a model for every healthcare worker. Let us ask Mary Immaculate for the grace always to relate to the sick as persons who certainly need assistance, at times even for the simplest of things, but who have a gift of their own to share with others.

The gaze of Mary, Comfort of the Afflicted, brightens the face of the Church in her daily commitment to the suffering and those in need. The precious fruits of this solicitude for the world of suffering and sickness are a reason for gratitude to the Lord Jesus, who out of obedience to the will of the Father became one of us, even enduring death on the cross for the redemption of humanity. The solidarity shown by Christ, the Son of God born of Mary, is the expression of God's merciful omnipotence, which is made manifest in our life – above all when that life is frail, pain-filled, humbled, marginalised and suffering – and fills it with the power of hope that can sustain us and enable us to get up again.

*Fr. Michael Carey*

#### **Mass intentions for Next Week**

**Mon** 8.00am Elizabeth O'Brien

**Mon** 10.00am Christopher McCormack

**Tues** 8.00am Patrick Devine

**Tues** 10.00am Gilbert Andrews

**Wed** 8.00am Kitty Morgan

**Wed** 10.00 Sheila Fitzsimons

**Thurs** 8.00am Muriel Kirwan

**Thurs** 10.00am Special intention

**Fri** 8.00am Janet Quinn

**Fri** 10.00am Kevin O'Rourke

**Sat** 10.00am Special intention

**Sat** 6.30pm Dick O'Connor & Peter  
& Mary Wilson

Theresa McEntaggart(MM)

**Sun** 8.30am Kathleen O'Connor

**Sun** 11.00am Mary & Eugene McKenna

**Sun** 6.30pm Bernadette Gerald & Imelda  
Donnelly

#### **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**

The Irish Mass at 11:00AM today will be broadcast on Raidió na Gaeltachta. We will have the 'Do this in memory' program for Holywell ETNS children at the 12:00 Mass today.

#### **RECENTLY DECEASED**

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

**Kay Konopka**

**Claire Leavy**

**Bernadette McGonagle**

**Late of Rathbeale Road**

**Cloghran**

**Castlefarm**



#### **Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

It is clear already in the Old Testament that it is not our misdeeds which accuse us before God, but our hearts, fractured and divided as they are. Consistent with Israelite teaching, Jesus insists that we go deeper than our external deeds. The important question is what is going on in our hearts, the source of inner thoughts and motivations? The teaching is presented using various examples, presented sometimes with great simplicity, other times with irony and wit.

**Prayer** - O God, you read our hearts and you know us even better than we know ourselves. Let us trust your knowledge of us and your call to true conversion of heart, for you desire only our good that we may be both whole and holy. (Source: St. Paul's Missal)

**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)**

**Sacristy: -8400547 (Mon –Sat 9.30am-9.55am and 10.30am to 10.50am)**

**Website: www.swords-parish.com Email: stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com**

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

### **WORLD DAY OF THE SICK 2017**

*Amazement at what God has accomplished: "The Almighty has done great things for me" (Lk 1:49)*

Newsletter Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Below is an extract from Pope Francis' message for this year's World day of the Sick

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Twenty-fifth World Day of the Sick will be celebrated throughout the Church and in a special way at Lourdes. The theme of this year's celebration is "Amazement at what God has accomplished: 'The Almighty has done great things for me....'" (Lk 1:49). Instituted by my predecessor Saint John Paul II in 1992, and first celebrated at Lourdes on 11 February 1993, this Day is an opportunity to reflect in particular on the needs of the sick and, more generally, of all those who suffer. It is also an occasion for those who generously assist the sick, beginning with family members, health workers and volunteers, to give thanks for their God-given vocation of accompanying our infirm brothers and sisters. This celebration likewise gives the Church renewed spiritual energy for carrying out ever more fully that fundamental part of her mission which includes serving the poor, the infirm, the suffering, the outcast and the

Even now, I am spiritually present at the grotto of Massabielle, before the statue of the Immaculate Virgin, in whom the Almighty has done great things for the redemption of mankind. I express my closeness to all of you, our suffering brothers and sisters, and to your families, as well as my appreciation for all those in different roles of service and in healthcare institutions throughout the world who work with professionalism, responsibility and dedication for your care, treatment and daily well-being. I encourage all of you, the sick, the suffering, physicians, nurses, family members and volunteers, to see in Mary, Health of the Infirm, the sure sign of God's love for every human being and a model of surrender to his will. May you always find in faith, nourished by the Word and by the Sacraments, the strength needed to love God, even in the experience of illness.

Like Saint Bernadette, we stand beneath the watchful gaze of Mary. The humble maiden of Lourdes tells us that the Virgin, whom she called "the Lovely Lady", looked at her as one person looks at another. Those simple words describe the fullness of a relationship. Bernadette, poor, illiterate and ill, felt that Mary was looking at her as a person. The Lovely Lady spoke to her with great respect and without condescension. This reminds us that every person is, and always remains, a human being, and is to be treated as such. The sick and the those who are disabled, even severely, have their own inalienable dignity and mission in life. They never become simply objects. If at times they appear merely passive, in reality that is never the case.

After her visit to the Grotto, thanks to her prayer, Bernadette turned her frailty into support for others. Thanks to her love, she was able to enrich her neighbours and, above all, to offer her life for the salvation of humanity. The fact that the Lovely Lady asked her to pray for sinners reminds us that the infirm and the suffering desire not only to be healed, but also to live a truly Christian life, even to the point of offering it as authentic missionary disciples of



### ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

*Antiphon - God so loved the world that he gave his only Begotten Son*

#### Do This in Memory

I welcome the boys and girls and their families to 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. I would also like to thank the parents who are part of the organising committee who met during the week to prepare these Masses.

#### First Penance

Congratulations to the girls in St. Colmcille's GNS and the boys in St. Colmcille's BNS 2<sup>nd</sup> Classes who received their First Penance last Monday and Tuesday. They were excellently prepared by Ms. O'Brien and Ms. Keenan (Girls) and Ms Clarke and Ms. Flood (Boys). I thank Sr. Mary and Sr. Margaret for their wonderful ministry in the schools. They were two lovely celebrations and the boys and girls went so well behaved and even if I may dare say it, enjoyed it!



#### Prayer of Pope Francis for World Day of the Sick 2017

Mary, our Mother, in Christ you welcome each of us as a son or daughter.  
Sustain the trusting expectation of our hearts,  
succour us in our infirmities and sufferings,  
and guide us to Christ, your Son and our brother.  
Help us to entrust ourselves to the Father who accomplishes great things.  
With the assurance of a constant remembrance in my prayers,  
I cordially impart to all of you my Apostolic Blessing.

#### Bethany Bereavement Support Group

Help is at hand. Bethany trained members are available to provide support to those grieving after the loss of a loved one. This is a free, confidential service. The Group meet on the second and last Monday of each month from 7.30 - 8.30 p.m. at the Parochial House, Seatown Road - Next Meeting **13th February 2017**. For further information please 'phone Mary 8402652 or Brid 086 6006397 after 6 p.m.  
Open to all Fingal Residents - You are most welcome to attend.

#### St. Vincent de Paul

The outdoor monthly collection for the VdP, will be taken up **this** weekend at all Masses

#### We welcome the following newly Baptised to our Parish Community:

Ethan Darragh Corr, Evie Rose Donnellan, Katie Hannah Counihan, Liv Charolette Farrell O'Donoghue, Eoghan Conor O'Brien



#### Pope Francis invites us to celebrate St.

Valentine's Day! In his document on The Joy of Love (Amoris Laetitia), Pope Francis refers directly to Saint Valentine's Day as an opportunity to make the most of traditional religious

practices, invite couples to grow in love and help their children to prepare for their future married life. This is why, as part of the preparations for World Meeting of Families in Ireland in August 2018, we invite you to mark this St. Valentine's Day in a special way. The WMOF2018 office has prepared flyers with ideas on how to mark this special day and gift tokens that you can give to your loved ones this 14th February. These can also be downloaded from the WMOF2018 website: [www.worldmeeting2018.ie](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie) The tokens include: a technology-free evening to do an activity of your choice; set aside time for prayer, go for a hand-in-hand walk together; a special dinner cooked by me, loads of tender hugs; a journey down memory lane: take time to remember how we met and have grown together; pray together as a couple. **Tokens are available at the back of the Church, please take one**

#### Accord

The annual collection for ACCORD, the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family will take place at all Masses next **weekend 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> February**. The collection will replace the usual Share collection. Accord Dublin, throughout the Diocese offers: Marriage Preparation Courses; Counselling for couples and individuals experiencing difficulties in their relationships; A relationship and sexuality programme in schools.

#### Legion of Mary

Holy mass for the Beatification of the Servant of God Alfie Lambe, Legion of Mary Envoy to South America 1953 - 1959 will be held on Sunday 26th February 2017 at 12 noon in The Church of the Three Patrons, Rathgar. Celebrant and homilist: Rev. Fr. Maurice O'Shea. All welcome

#### Konck Pilgrimage to New York

A special pilgrimage to New York from Knock will take place from 8<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> May. Flying directly from Ireland West Airport to JFK, the pilgrimage offers the chance to be part of a memorable and historic trip. Itinerary includes a Requiem Mass on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> at Old St. Patrick's cathedral for the re-interment of the remains of John Curry, the youngest of the Knock witnesses which will be celebrated by His Eminence Cardinal Dolan. If you would like to find out more or make an enquiry, please contact the tour operators Joe Walsh Tours on 01-2410800 or email: [Bronwyn.clinton@joewalshstours.ie](mailto:Bronwyn.clinton@joewalshstours.ie)