

spouses, our community, our society – showing what it means to be the Church, what it means to witness to the love and the mercy of God revealed in Jesus Christ.
 Jesus shows us the way; he is the one who really experienced poverty and affliction; he was mild, humble of heart; he showed what it means to hunger and thirst for justice. He is the one who shows us what it means to be merciful, pure in heart and to work for peace. The way to holiness is the way that was led by Jesus Christ himself; he himself is the way.

The Eucharist is the place where Church community is formed. Eucharist is the food which nourishes us. Eucharist is the place where we are brought together in unity by the Holy Spirit, into that deeper unity of the one Body of Christ, and with the Father who is the source of all holiness. (Source: Archbishop Diarmuid Martin)

Change of heart

It is only with the heart that we can repent rightly. Repentance must involve a change of heart. Anything less won't produce a new being. It will be like decapitating weeds while leaving their roots intact. But if we change our hearts, then we will change our lives too. After his encounter with Jesus, Zacchaeus' heart burst into life like a desert landscape after a rainfall. Fear can't produce a conversion of heart; only an encounter of love can. Zacchaeus' conversion was a conversion of goodness. All of us stand in daily need of such a conversion. We need to move from a closed heart to an open heart, from a heart of stone to a heart of flesh. (Source: Fr. Flor McCarthy, SDB)

Fr Michael Carey

Mass Intentions this Sunday

- Sat 6.30pm** Richard Dillon(An)
- Sun 8.30am** The Sisters in Brackenstown Intentions(An)
- Sun 11.15am** Patricia O'Reilly (1st An)



Mass intentions for Next Week

- Mon** 8.00am John & Breda Kissane
- Mon** 10.00am In Honour of the Holy Souls
- Tues** 8.00am Martin Bradley
- Tues** 10.00am Christopher & Carmel Morgan
Gloria O'Brien (MM)
- Wed** 8.00am Brede Moyles
- Wed** 10.00am Christopher & Ann Farren
- Thurs** 8.00am Anna Faughey
- Thurs** 10.00am Michael Savage
- Fri** 8.00am Dec members of Legion of Mary
- Fri** 10.00am Ethel Nulty & Family

Next Sunday

- Sat** 6.30pm Theresa & Seamus Fagan & Michelle & James Meehan
- Sun** 8.30am Kathleen Doyle & Mary Flynn
- Sun** 11.15am Margie Markey & Catherine & Eugene Callaghan
Noel Garrigan (1st An)

Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM

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

The relocation of the portacabin adjacent to the church has now been completed and reinstatement works on the area has been completed with new fencing and a new gate erected.



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
Facebook: 
St. Colmcille's Church, Swords & Church of the Visitation, Drynam

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
The Feast of All Saints is not just about the next world.



“Forsake me not, O Lord, my God”

Newsletter Sunday 3rd November 2019

On Friday last the Church celebrated the Feast of All Saints. The eve of this feast day is ‘all saint’s eve’ or ‘all hallows eve’. I think it safe to say that the festivities associated with Halloween have overtaken the church holiday from which it derives. With that in mind I thought that I would devote this newsletter to a comment/homily on the Feast of All Hallows or All Saints.

“We celebrate the Feast of All Saints. At this time in autumn when the harvest has been collected, the Church celebrates and reminds us of another harvest, the great harvest of goodness and holiness which is represented by the saints who have gone before us, the harvest of the fruits that have sprung from the presence of the love and the grace of the Lord among us, in the lives of those who have remained faithful over the centuries.

We can think of the Church as a building, but it is also the community of those who make up the living Church. The bricks and mortar, the stained glass and the art works of a Church are worth little if they are not accompanied by the concrete works of Christian charity and care, of transmitting from generation to generation what it means to do good to and avoid sin, to be truly loving people and to build up a believing community that is caring.

The same can be said of our own lives: our lives come to fulfilment only when they are open to the path of life reflected in the Gospel reading we have heard: The Gospel of the beatitudes. The logic of the Beatitudes is different to the logic of the world where personal success, celebrity and wealth are so often looked on as the face of achievement. We all know that personal success is important and satisfying; but we also know that there are many moments in our lives when we need to be helped and supported and carried.

The Feast of All Saints therefore is not just about the next world. It is about the way we are called to live today. The Beatitudes do not encourage us to sit back and do nothing. Being a Christian means belonging to a communion; you cannot be an isolated Christian, just caring for and thinking about yourself.

The Communion of Saints is about the link with those who have gone before us, but the doctrine of the Communion of the Saints also demands that we look towards those who are beside us. It demands that we become saints to those around us – our children, our

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*



Confirmation Classes

The Parish based Confirmation Programme begins next week-end. Too often Confirmation is seen as a 'rite of passage' from the church. The Catholic Christian faith offers a powerful support to young people as they struggle with the great pressures of modern life. But they need every encouragement to hold on to and cherish their faith. The school and the Parish are making special efforts to prepare for and to celebrate our young people's Confirmation. In order to begin to understand the Sacrament of Confirmation they and indeed ourselves must first understand what it means to belong to a Community of Faith, and that takes time. That in part is what this Parish initiative is about. We hope to rekindle and remind the young people and their families of the experience of being at a Mass where we hope that they will feel at home in the Church, to feel that they belong and are welcome. To that end next weekend the boys and girls and their families will be present at the **Saturday 6.30pm Vigil Mass** as part of their Parish based preparation programme for the Sacrament of Confirmation. I know you will make them welcome and we look forward to seeing them and praying with.

Diary 2020

The booking of Mass intentions for 2020 can begin next weekend of November 9th/10th when the Diary will be available. Please note as there is no morning Mass the diary will open at the 6.30pm Saturday Vigil Mass

Mass of Remembrance

This coming Wednesday 6th 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.



November

We remember our own dead and our own sadness this November. Tears speak out our grief, but they also witness to our love and we are glad to have loved so much that we can cry. May those we have loved rest in your embrace, O Lord.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently
Catherine Moore Oaklands Ave



Family Mass

This is an initiative of the Parish Pastoral Council. St. Colmcille's Church are planning to celebrate a Family Mass, **once a quarter**. A Family Mass is not a 'Children's Mass'. Rather it is a Mass that would involve volunteers, parents and children in the preparation for this Mass which would be at the Saturday 6.30pm Vigil Mass. It is not the 'Do This in Memory Mass' that we have for the First Communion Children. As to what it would be like – think of a combination of the 'Confirmation Masses and the 'Do This in Memory Masses'. We have the leaders for this new initiative but we need as I said volunteers, parents and children to get involved.

If interested, then please talk to me or leave contact information in the Parish Office. As it will involve working with children, Garda Vetting will be required for all adult volunteers. We are planning to have the first Family Mass in January 2020.

Swords Parish Bethany Bereavement Support Group.

Have you suffered the loss of someone special in your life through bereavement? Are you suffering the pain of that loss? Would you like to talk to a trained bereavement support person who will listen and help you understand your grief and distress? You are welcome to attend our bereavement support meetings on the second and last Mondays of every month at - The Parochial House, Seatown Road, Swords. Start time 7.30pm. This is a free, confidential service and is offered to all Fingal residents." **Date of next meeting 4th November** - Further information please phone Terri 8403243.

Meals on Wheels - Drivers needed

Do you have an hour to spare each week. We are looking for drivers to deliver meals to people in the Swords area around mid-day. This is a great opportunity to help out in the community. The role is purely voluntary, unpaid. Please contact Paul Mc Cormack on **0877699084**

Altar List of the Dead

If you have not completed one, there are some available at the back of the Church. They were not delivered to every house in the Parish, so if you have a housebound neighbour who you believe would like to complete one please drop in an envelope and arrange for collection and delivery to the Sacristy. These lists are available at the back of the Church. The new lists are now in front of the altar. All Masses on the First Friday of the month will be offered for the names on the Altar List of the Dead

Fundraising Committee

This Committee will meet on Friday 8th November at 11.00am in the Parochial House