

about our rights. We were asleep and did not understand what was happening. Now we have woken up. Now we are fighting against the logging company.'

In October 2017, Angela and her community set up a dignified encampment to protect the forest. They stopped a number of trucks by placing rocks in the road, and the police came to intervene. The community were being peaceful. The police removed the rocks that were blocking the road but Angela and the protestors refused to move. The police shot twenty-five canisters of tear gas at them. There were children, elderly people and pregnant women in the crowd. Angela said, 'As a woman, a mother of five children, I have learned a lot, to fight for the defence of our territory, of our goods, because our life lies in this forest, it lies in the rivers, it is in all nature.' *Next week we will meet Madris* (Source: *Trocaire Lenten Resource Pack for 2020*).

The Season of Lent

The season of Lent started on Ash Wednesday. It will continue for five and a half weeks, forty days traditionally, and will be followed by Holy Week. Fasting is a theme of Lent which was encouraged by the Lord by both word and example and was coupled by him with prayer. Lent coincides with springtime and in fact the word itself probably comes from the Old English 'lencten' meaning the lengthening of the days that occurs in spring. And indeed spring is not a bad image for Lent. Spring is the time of new life when the long nights of winter become a thing of the past. It is a time when the hearts of many people lift. Lent offers the possibility to renew and reawaken the life of the spirit and so is a season of joy.

Fr. Michael Carey

Mass Intentions this Sunday

Sat 6.30pm Larry Mulvihill(An)
Sun 8.30am Intentions of the Holy Souls(An)
Sun 11.15am Kevin Harford (An)
 Joseph Murphy (1st An)



At our Masses this Sunday we also remember: Eamon Weldon

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 8.00am Margaret O'Brien	Sat 10.00am Daniel Roche
Mon 10.00am Thanksgiving to the Diving Mercy	
Tues 8.00am Special Intention	
Tues 10.00am Dec members of White & Lee families & Lisa Lee	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Wed 8.00am Robert Donovan	Sat 6.30pm Peggy & Johnny Reid
Wed 10.00am Kathleen & Ernest McMahon	
Thurs 8.00am Ann Farren & Eileen Bird	Sun 8.30am Paul Burke
Thurs 10.00am Joan Leneghan	
Fri 8.00am Altar List of the Dead	Sun 11.15am Jerry & Isabelle Byrne
Fri 10.00am Altar List of the Dead	

Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM

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

Today at 10:00AM Mass in Drynam we will have the next step of the 'Do This In Memory' programme for the children of Holywell ETNS preparing for First Holy Communion.



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)
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1st Sunday of Lent

TROCAIRE

“Hold fast to love and justice (Hosea. 12:6)” – Trocaire Scripture reference for Lent 2020

Newsletter Sunday 1st March 2020

Lent is synonymous with Trocaire or is it the other way around! The Trociare boxes are in the packets at the back of the Church along with included information. **Please take a box home - it can be quite amazing how much loose change can amount to.**

Wednesday's Ashes are a memory now! Just a few days after being reminded that we are dust and unto dust we shall return or that we should turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel, nobody would know that our foreheads bore the mark of the ash and the sign of the Cross. Still though, we know it and somewhere in the depths of our Souls, we know that mark makes all the difference. It reassures us that the road we travel has been travelled before and the steps we take are taken on a well-trodden path. We strive to be faithful to the path and still, somehow, we wander and stray a little, border on being lost but remain confident that we are searched for and found.

Trócaire was established in 1973 as the overseas development agency of the Catholic Church in Ireland. The organisation was created as a response to the widening gap between rich and poor and our collective duty to reduce it. Trócaire's work is rooted in Catholic social teaching, based on the belief that God has a plan for creation, a plan to build his kingdom of peace, love and justice. Around the world, families are living under constant threat of conflict, drought and land grabs. In the face of these threats, many women hold their families together, battling enormous odds to provide for their children. **Lent 2020** highlights the different ways in which women keep their families safe and protect their futures.

During Lent 2020 we tell the stories of Madris in Kenya and Angela in Honduras as a way to celebrate the strength of women all over the world who are overcoming the odds to protect and provide for their families.

Meet Angela

Angela lives in Honduras with her husband and five children. Angela's home is on ancestral tribal land, which is held in collective title. In 2008, Angela became involved with Trócaire's partner MADJ, a broad movement for dignity and justice that fights against corruption.

Angela tells us, 'The problem we have here is the destruction of the forest. I saw that they were selling the wood (trees) and minerals and decided to intervene. Mining and logging companies have come onto our land to exploit it.'

In 2010, a logging company entered their land. Angela explains, 'We have a small stream that we use for water. We knew it was polluted when we started getting rashes, including the children. We used the water to wash clothes and dishes – it was not drinking water, thankfully. That is when I really got involved. The training I received taught me



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*



Book Club

By the time you are reading this the book club for Lent 2020 has started. I hope it got off to a good start. I want to thank Colette Stokes and Betty McDonald, the organisers/administrators of the book club who spoke so elegantly at all the Masses last weekend. If you haven't joined and would like to, that is no problem as it has only started – please Betty at 087 2328918

First Penance - Confession

This week the girls and boys from Scoil an Duinninigh will make their First Confession on Tuesday 3rd March at 1.00pm in Drynam Chapel

1st Saturday of the Month

Saturday 7th March is the first Saturday of March. Mass will be celebrated at 10.00am in St. Colmcille's followed by Confessions and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for 30 minutes.

Stations of the Cross – every Wednesday of Lent

For each of the Wednesday's of Lent, starting this **Wednesday 4th March at 7.30pm** a different group in the parish will pray the Stations of the Cross. To start the ball rolling, members of the Funeral Team will pray the stations. Please do come along and attend.

Novena of Grace

The St. Francis Xavier Novena Prayer will be recited at all Masses in St. Colmcille's from the 4th – 12th March inclusive

Advance Notice – St. Patrick's Day

The parade takes place at 11.00am in Swords, with the attendant road closures. With this in mind The Parish Pastoral Council and the Parish Liturgy Group has discussed the timings of the Masses on St. Patrick's Day, in St. Colmcille's. We want parishioners to have the option of going to either the parade in Swords and/or the parade in Dublin **AND** still be able to go to Mass and not to have to decide on which to attend. With that in mind the St. Patrick's Day masses will be at the normal weekday times of **8.00am and 10.00am** with the Vigil at 6.30pm the night before. We'll see how it goes this year!

Scripture Note - 1st Sunday of Lent

In the First Reading we have the story of the tempting of Adam and Eve, and in the Gospel the story of the tempting of Jesus. They are two very sophisticated stories, and are not meant to be taken literally.

Jesus is the new Adam, who by his obedience restores for us the gifts lost by the disobedience of the first Adam (see Second Reading). He is also the new Israel. Like the first Israel he too was tested in the desert. But whereas the first Israel was found wanting, Jesus remained faithful to God. (Source: Fr. Flor McCarthy, SDB)

Do you care for the Environment?- Lenten Book Club

Our book club began last Thursday in the Parochial House with an introduction and tips and guidelines on reading the book. You can still take part, please contact Betty at 087 2328918 for a copy of the book, ***Finding God in a Leaf*** .

Why not give it a try!! Our next session is on **Thursday 5th March at 2.00pm.**



St. Vincent de Paul

The outdoor monthly collection for St. Colmcille's Swords, VdP, will be taken up **next weekend at all Masses**

God's Housekeepers

The next date for cleaning the Church is next **Friday 6th March** after the 10.00am Mass. Can cleaning group 1 for this Friday please turn up! Also if anyone has a half hour to spare you would be most welcome

DATE FOR YOUIR DIARY

Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock

The three Parishes in Swords have arranged a bus to Knock for the Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage. on **Saturday 25th April.**
More details to follow



Parish Office

The Parish office will be closed from Tuesday 3rd March and re-open on Thursday 12th March. For urgent queries please contact the Sacristy or Fr Michael

Women's World Day of Prayer

This is an international ecumenical Christian laywomen's initiative and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. Every year, the worship service focuses on a different country and a specific theme. The theme for this year is "Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk" The Women of Zimbabwe, have prepared the service for this year. Through preparation and participation in the worship service, women worldwide learn how their sisters in other countries, languages and cultures understand the biblical passages in their context. Women's World Day of Prayer aims to demonstrate that prayer and action are inseparable and that both have immeasurable influence in the world. Men and women are warmly welcome to come to this prayer service, which will take place this year in the **St. Finian's, River Valley on Friday 6th March at 7.30pm.**

