

**Mass Intentions this Sunday**

**Sat 6.30pm** Jackie Monaghan(An)

**Sun 8.30am** Agnes Staunton(An)

**Sun 11.15am** Thoms, Annie & James McKenna(An)



**At our Masses this Sunday we also remember: Tom Kennedy, Barbara Reid**

**Mass intentions for Next Week**

**Mon** 8.00am Frank Townley

**Mon** 10.00am Michael English

**Tues** 8.00am Sophia Fox

**Tues** 10.00am Patrick Farrell

**Wed** 8.00am Special Intention

**Wed** 10.00am Michael Farrell &

Special Intention

**Thurs** 8.00am Sr Marie Galvin

**Thurs** 10.00am Úna Rogan

**Fri** 8.00am Úna McKittrick Grogan

**Fri** 10.00am Úna Rogan

**Next Sunday**

**Sat** 6.30pm Nancy, Jack, Dan,&Sheila Doyle

**Sun** 8.30am June Cantwell

**Sun** 11.15am Maurice Coleman

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

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

On ash Wednesday 26th of February, we have mass at 9.20am.



**RECENTLY DECEASED**

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

Fiona Kavanagh

Windmill Ave

Patricia Greene

Foxwood

Mary Tierney

Estuary Court



**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 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**



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

**The Mysteries of our Faith**

*“Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me”*

**Newsletter Sunday 16th February 2020**



Abraham's faith. Faith is a gift from God but it is also a human act – God does not force us to believe in Him, yet He gives us the interior help of the Holy Spirit who is constantly at work within us. The late Cardinal Basil Hume had the following to say:

When we speak about ‘the mysteries of our Faith’, we mean truths about God which we cannot discover for ourselves, and which we can never fully understand. It is not a question of stumbling into darkness, but rather of walking into the light – a light, however, which is too bright for us to gaze at directly with our weak eyes – just as it is impossible to look directly into the sun. It is too bright and dazzling to see properly. God is like the sun, we cannot see Him as He is. We need someone to tell us about Him, someone who knows and who can be trusted to speak the truth. Our Lord knows, and He has spoken to us. We can say, in our own words, that Our Lord is speaking to us like this: “Listen to me. Trust me. What I have told you is true. You cannot see it for yourself. Stay with me. You have the Holy Spirit. He is in the Church. Stay with me”.

The deep conviction we have that Jesus is truly God and truly man is a precious gift from God. So, too, is the conviction that the bread which we receive in Holy Communion, and which we can see and taste as bread, is in fact the Body of Christ. And there are, of course, many other truths which we have made our own, because we have learned to believe in the word of Jesus Christ.

Our lives are greatly enriched by this gift from God, this faith in Jesus Christ. We begin to learn how to cope with all kinds of problems in everyday living by listening to what Our Lord tells us by seeing what he did or how he reacted to situations. ‘Suffering’ and ‘death’ are two clear examples. Such problems, which agonise the minds of so many people, are given new meaning; they are not solved. In Our Lord's suffering and death we find the meaning of ours. Furthermore, we can go through life deriving deeper insight and greater help from those truths of our faith on which we have been nourished from childhood days. For instance, the fact that God became man and dwelt among us, died and rose again from the dead – these great facts and many others provide us with food for constant thought. And ‘thoughts’ will make us want to praise and thank God. Thinking about the truths revealed to us by God in Christ helps us to pray

As Our Lord said to Thomas when He appeared to him after His resurrection in the upper room’ “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe”

**Fr. Michael Carey**

### 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*



#### Do This in Memory – Bridge Programme

I welcome the boys and girls and their families to the 6.30pm Saturday Vigil 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 2020

Congratulations to the girls in St. Colmcille's GNS and the boys in St. Colmcille's BNS who received their First Penance this past fortnight. They were excellently prepared by their class teachers: Ms. Mills and Ms. Aherne (Girls) and Mr Coyne and Ms. McKenna (Boys). I also thank Sr. Mary and Sr. Margaret for their wonderful ministry in the schools

#### Accord

The annual collection for ACCORD, the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family will take place at all Masses **THIS weekend 15th/16th February**. The collection will replace the usual Share collection. 'Marriage, the union of a man and a woman, is a unique sacrament in that its essence is not about a special additional blessing, marriage is about a human reality. It is about a human relationship which is so vital for the good of humanity that it is raised to the level of a sacrament. The human reality of marriage becomes a witness to the love Christ has for his Church and draws its strength from that love of Jesus Christ' (Archbishop Diarmuid Martin – Accord letter)



#### God's Housekeepers

The next date for cleaning the Church is next **Friday 21st February** 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

#### Saints in the Church's calendar

**The Chair of St. Peter, Apostle - Saturday 22nd February** This ancient feast relates to the early Roman custom at this time of year of remembering the ancestors of the family, those who presided over the family fortunes. The feast celebrates Peter as bishop of Rome and the focus of unity in the communion of one faith

#### Do you care for the Environment?

If so you might be interested in this year's Book Club for Lent. The book this year is **Finding God in a Leaf** by Fr Brian Grogan, which is based on Pope Francis' book *Laudato Si. (Care of our Common Home)*



*Take a journey with Brian Grogan SJ into nature, and heed God's invitation for us to love and care for his creation.*

The Book Club will start with an introduction on **Thursday 27th February @ 2.00pm** and will be a similar format to last year. It will take place over 5 weeks, on Thursday afternoons. There will be an additional session on Tuesday 31st March at 7.00pm for anyone who would like to read and discuss the book but can't attend the afternoon sessions.

Why not give it a try!! For more information and tips on reading the book, come along to our introduction session on **Thursday 27th February at 2.00pm**. Books will be distributed on the day or from the Parish Office. For further information contact Colette at the Parish Office

#### Beginning Experience- Coping With Life Alone Programme

Men and women, separated or widowed? Are you coping?. No one needs to suffer alone. Beginning Experience could help you. We are a voluntary peer support group, led by trained facilitators dedicated to helping people through their grief and sorrow. We, like you have all suffered a loss and through Beginning Experience we are truly living again. We are running a One-Day Coping with Life Alone Programme on Saturday March 7th @ Carmelite Centre, Whitefriar Street Dublin 2. This programme is designed for anyone in the initial stages following a loss through separation, divorce or death. It will allow you to work through your initial grief in a safe, confidential and supportive atmosphere with others who have suffered similar losses. For more information please contact Louise at : [bedublin@gmail.com](mailto:bedublin@gmail.com) or 086 0877379 or [beginningexperiencebandi.org](http://beginningexperiencebandi.org)

#### NCBI Needs You!

NCBI has been lucky in securing a Bag Pack in Dunnes Stores, Pavilions on Friday 28th and Saturday 29th February, from 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. If you, family members or friends can help us over the two days we would love to hear from you..please contact Angela Levins at 8307033 Monday to Thursday 8.00 a.m.- 4.00 p.m. or [angela.levins@ncbi.ie](mailto:angela.levins@ncbi.ie). Your support would be greatly appreciated.

#### PPC

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) will meet on Monday 17th February at 7.45pm