

'Let me dress your wounds.' 'What wounds?' I asked, puzzled. 'I'm the one who has wounded others.' But then in a flash I saw he was right. I too was wounded, for to sin is to suffer. Astonished by his mercy, I let him dress my wounds. Afterwards I went away airborne with joy. His sheer goodness made me feel that I too was good, and made me want to be like him. (source: Fr. Flor McCarthy, SDB).

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

Mon 8.00am Special intention

Mon 10.00am Joseph Tully

Tues 8.00am Ronan Walsh

Tues 10.00am Selina Cronin

Wed 8.00am Kathleen O'Reilly

Wed 10.00 Ann Wherity

Thurs 8.00am O'Connell Family

Thurs 10.00 Nuala Ryan

Fri 8.00am Dec members of McLoughney Family

Fri 10.00am Betty Leonard

Sat 10.00am Bridget Gargan

Sat 6.30pm Patrick Flynn

Sun 8.30am Patricia Hennelly

Sun 11.00am Patrick Grimes

Sun 6.30pm Paddy Barker

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

**Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am/11.00am(Irish)& 12 noon, Mon & Tues 9.20am**

Drynam Pastoral Team was delighted to announce last Sunday that after several years of work we have got the go ahead from Archbishops House to start planning for a new church here in Drynam to replace our ageing porto-cabin. Outline plans for the new church are on display at the back of the church. We are now preparing to obtain all necessary regulatory permissions and launch a fundraising project.



#### **Who is this strange woman?**

Who is this strange woman? Why does she choose to anoint the feet of Jesus? And why is this relatively unimportant episode, or a very similar episode, told in great detail by all four Gospel writers? Who could show such love? To whom does Jesus speak the words – your faith has saved you, go in peace? We who are gathered here around this altar, imperfect and sinful though we may be – we are that woman. What she has done in her act of worship, we hope to do in ours. Are we not meant to recall another room at another time where the Lord himself kneels and washes feet? This is a new bath, a new kind of washing and anointing. This is the language of the early Church, attempting to express what is almost impossible to express: the love of Christ for his Church and the love of the Church for her Master. This is what we have come here to express in those same age-old ways and it is to us that those words are addressed – your faith has saved you, go in peace! (Source: Glenstal Sunday Missal)

#### **A Student's Prayer**

*The following is a prayer for students to help them through the stress of their exams.*

Lord, I have knowledge, so will you show me how to use it wisely and find a way to make the world I live in a better place, and make life with its problems a bit easier to face. May I ever be aware in all that I do that knowledge come from learning and wisdom comes from you.

#### **St. Vincent de Paul**

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

**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**



11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### **Reclaiming a person**

*"Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!"*

#### **Newsletter Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

Simon was a Pharisee, one of the 'separated ones' who would have nothing to do with sinners. Consequently, he was scandalised to see that Jesus allowed a sinner, not only to approach him, but to actually touch him.

*(The Pharisees was a religious and political party that had its origin in the second century before Christ. During a time when it seemed as if the whole world was embracing Greek culture, the Jewish group known as the Hasidim arose to combat this influence and to preserve Jewish ways. Eventually, one branch of the Hasidim broke off and formed their own community. Others however, who remained a part of regular Jewish life, formed the group that later became known as the Pharisees ("separate ones"). They so esteemed the "letter" of the law of Moses (more so than the "spirit" of the law), and so esteemed the oral traditions that were said to have sprung from the law, that they developed strict applications of the law for everyday life. The most famous Pharisee in all the Bible - although few people realise that that's what he once had been - is the Apostle Paul (Phil. 3:5).)*

In Simon's mind the woman was beyond redemption: she was a sinner, and would always be a sinner. Therefore, he didn't want anything to do with her. You might have thought that Jesus too would have been repelled by someone like her. Yet he allowed her to approach him and to touch him. There wasn't a hint of condemnation.

There are many in our society who won't accept the possibility that people can't change? They are not willing to give people a second chance. A culture that doesn't believe in redemption is a culture without hope.

Jesus knew well that the woman was a sinner. But he saw that there was another and better side to her. He saw that she was thirsting to be seen as a person and not as an object. By graciously accepting her humble and loving service, he helped her to believe in that side and to let it unfold. It is marvellous to feel that somebody has confidence in us, that we are not judged or condemned, but loved.

We have to learn to see the goodness in one another, and affirm that. People's faults can be cured only by loving them. We cannot change anyone unless we accept them as they are. Condemnation does not liberate; it oppresses. Jesus did not condemn the woman. He saw her sorrow, her humility, her courage and her love. He affirmed this side of her.

The woman had never experienced anything like this before. Jesus was the best person she had ever met. She was not only forgiven, but loved by Jesus. She was so happy that she was almost frightened of her happiness. When she went away, she was, as the Africans say, walking again with the moon and the stars.

#### **Jesus, the healer**

I had a dream that I came to the Lord trembling, ashamed, fearful and sad. And I told him my tale of betrayals. When I had finished, I continued to kneel there, waiting for the punishment I felt I richly deserved. But what did he do? He rose from his chair, took some ointment, and said,



## **ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN**

*Year of Mercy – “Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful” (Lk.6:36)*

### **St. Colmcille's BNS**

The boys' school are celebrating their golden jubilee this year and I'm delighted that Archbishop Diarmuid Martin will visit the School tomorrow Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June at 11.00am. He will visit the classrooms and say a prayer of blessing for the school. I congratulate the Chairperson of the Board of Management Mrs. Veronica McDermott and the School Principal Mr. Kieran Lyons and trust that the day will go very well for them and the school community.

In July 1966, two new primary schools were opened on Chapel Lane. Previously, the Infant and Senior Boys had gone to the school on Seatown Road and the Infant and Senior Girls went to the school on North Street. There was also a school called St Patrick's NS at Cloghran (opposite Kealy's Pub), and it was closed. The new schools were called St Colmcille's Girls' National School and St Colmcille's Boys' National School. An increase in the population of Swords meant that the Boys' School had some classes in North Street from 1972 until 1986 when the Girls' School re-located to a new building on the same site. The Principals who have served in the schools since 1966 are: Ms Alice Kavanagh; Ms Kathleen O' Connor; Mrs Anne McDonagh; Mrs Bernadette Murtagh; and Ms Karen Burke-Logue. (Girls' NS) Mr Brendan Kavanagh; Mr Denis A Connolly; Mr James Bennett and Mr. Kieran Lyons. (Boys' NS)

### **The Parish Pastoral Collection- next weekend**

Two collectors for each weekend Mass are required. Please give 5 minutes after Mass. If you volunteer for this task please take a basket from the Sacristy before Mass. This is the second of four collections this year. This fund will provide for the training and requirements of all the Pastoral Teams. It also provides for all art and décor, banners and flowers etc. There are other expenses throughout the year, such as the printing of booklets, prayers, candles, postage stamps etc. As a Parish we are very lucky to have so many dedicated and committed volunteers; they give their time freely for the benefit of us all. Please give what you can to this fund to help us ensure that they have the best possible support in their ministries. This collection takes place in St. Colmcille's only. The next three dates are w/end 18<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> June; 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> August and 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Year of Mercy**

The sixteenth paragraph of the Papal encyclical – ‘Misericordiae Vultus’ continues - In the Gospel of Luke, we find another important element that will help us live the Jubilee with faith. Luke writes that Jesus, on the Sabbath, went back to Nazareth and, as was his custom, entered the synagogue. They called upon him to read the Scripture and to comment on it. The passage was from the Book of Isaiah where it is written: “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and freedom to those in captivity; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour” (Is 61:1-2). A “year of the Lord's favour” or “mercy”: this is what the Lord proclaimed and this is what we wish to live now. This Holy Year will bring to the fore the richness of Jesus' mission echoed in the words of the prophet: to bring a word and gesture of consolation to the poor, to proclaim liberty to those bound by new forms of slavery in modern society, to restore sight to those who can see no more because they are caught up in themselves, to restore dignity to all those from whom it has been robbed. The preaching of Jesus is made visible once more in the response of faith which Christians are called to offer by their witness. May the words of the Apostle accompany us: he who does acts of mercy, let him do them with cheerfulness (cf. Rom 12:8).



### **Cemetery Sunday – Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 4.00pm**

This Mass (with the participation of the Choir) will take place in the Church - followed by Blessing of the Cemetery. If you want to ‘hear’, celebrate the Mass I invite you to come into the Church, or at least gather around the front door. There will be no use of a sound system that will reach the ‘four corners’ of the cemetery. The blessing of the Cemetery will take place immediately after Mass. As there is only Fr Pat and I, you will I hope understand, that, we will not be sprinkling individual graves – just sections of the graveyard. There will be large containers of ‘Blessed Water’ at the gates. You are invited to bring a small bottle/ container and fill it with this water and when the Cemetery is blessed you can sprinkle your family grave. *A request has gone out for Ministers of the Eucharist so we will be able to distribute Holy Communion around the Cemetery.*

### **Cemetery Sunday – Help Needed**

As we prepare for Cemetery Sunday we need your help. At the moment Paddy Gerrard, Domnic Temple, and Noel Markey are doing all the grass and hedge cutting. It is a huge task and becoming too much for them. Can you help? It is an ideal Corporal Work of Mercy. Please consider and if you can assist you can ring Paddy at 01-8401466.

### **Church Cleaners**

The next date for cleaning the Church is next **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June** after the 10.00am Mass. Can the cleaners for this second Friday of the month please turn up! Also if anyone has a half hour to spare you would be most welcome

### **RECENTLY DECEASED**

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

**Eileen Kavanagh**

**The Crescent, Seatown Park**

**Patrick Gahan**

**Greenwood Cloghran**

**Patrick Feehan**

**Castle Avenue**



### **We welcome the following recently Baptised to our Parish Community:**

Brook Danielle Murphy-Willmount, Louis David Coulson-Donnell, Blake Thomas, McCann, Isabelle Sarah Murphy, Mason Tommy Murtagh, Conor Desmond Erdin, Lucy Jane Ellis, Gerry Conor Loughran, Dáire Bernard Donnelly, Arin Simon Hyland, Lola Rose Bathe, Nicholas Benjamin Moore, Odhran Denis Mitchell, Julia Kate Moody, Seamus Michael Moody, Taylor Christine Murphy-Bourke, Charlotte Speer, Jonah Daniel James Martin, Sienna Elizabeth Coates, Amelia Thelma-May Collins-Keogh, Ann Jeneesh Pulickal



- **The Bethany Bereavement Support Group** will meet in the Parochial House on Monday 13th June at 7.30pm. All Fingal residents welcome