

Each parish and parish community can find its own path of reflection, with the help of the Parish Pastoral Council. The aim is not to provide instant answers but at least to begin to set out a realistic agenda for renewal of the Church in the years to come.

For me the questions that should be addressed are the deeper questions about faith in Jesus Christ. Why are we no longer captivating so many of our young people for the message of Jesus Christ? Which models of pastoral activity and reflection are most likely to win the hearts of young people for the message of Jesus? How do we teach young people about prayer? How can our parishes respond to these challenges? Which aspects of our dominant culture make it harder for people to understand the message of Jesus? I am thinking, for example, about a widespread individualism that invades everything from personal life to our economic vision.

I was very much struck by the gathering in this Pro-Cathedral of young couples preparing for or who had recently celebrated the sacrament of matrimony. It was a unique sign of a future of faith, of goodness and of love. This was a unique vision of a Church for the future, as these young couples reflected on the Pope's vision of lifelong commitment and on the beauty of passing on faith in Jesus Christ to the next generation.

Our Gospel reading calls on each one of us to allow the teaching of the Gospel to liberate us and to empower us to recognise our failings and to allow our hearts to be purified through the at times painful yet liberating truth and mercy of the God revealed in Jesus Christ. Only in this way will the Church in Ireland be authentically Church in a changing Ireland.

Fr. Michael Carey

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 8.00am Special Intention	Sat 6.30pm Donal O'Toole
Mon 10.00am Rosana Casciani	Philip Markey
Tues 8.00am Michael McEvoy	
Tues 10.00 Gerald Ryan	
Wed 8.00am Special Intention	Sun 8.30am Patrick Moore
Wed 10.00am Bob McGonagle	
Thurs 8.00am Andrew Fottrell	
Thurs 10.00am Michael Quinlan	Sun 11.15am Rose Howard
Fri 8.00am John O'Brien	Peadar Connolly (1st An)
Fri 10.00am Eamon Weldon	

Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM

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

Today at 10:00 AM Mass, children from the Holywell Educate Together NS will enrol for the 'Do this in Memory Programme' in preparation for their First Holy Communion next June.

Young Church Dublin www.dublindiocese.ie/diary-of-a-young-church

The Encounter - Join other young adults for a night of live acoustic music, reflective prayer and guest speakers on life, faith and purpose. Followed by social, pizza and refreshments. Our next Encounter will be Friday 21st September at 8pm. Email st.pauls@dublindiocese.ie and www.facebook.com/theencounterdublincity

Week of Guided Prayer - St Paul's Arran Quay invites you to take time for yourself by joining us for our Week of Guided Prayer from 7-13 October. This is a retreat with a difference – sometimes called a 'Retreat in Daily Life', or a 'Busy Person's Retreat', as you don't have to go away to a quiet, beautiful place to find God. If you are interested in participating please download the registration form available at www.evangelisation.ie. Closing date for registration is Wednesday 26th September.

Fr. Michael Carey-8403378:

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

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Where should we be going in the years to come?

"I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord"

Newsletter Sunday 23rd September 2018



The Archbishop in reflecting on the Pope's visit said, "Some weeks ago, I posed the question: what would Pope Francis leave as a legacy to the Church in Ireland after his short yet intense thirty-six hour visit for the *World Meeting of Families*? My answer was simple: My hope is that Pope Francis "will challenge the Church in Ireland to be more authentically the Church of Jesus Christ in a culture that is different."

I was and am very much aware of the fact that Pope Francis could not provide all the answers himself. The future of the Church in Ireland remains very much the responsibility of the entire Church community in Ireland. Now we must be asking ourselves: where should we be going in the years to come?

I am not advocating, as some seem to be saying, that we establish a sort of Irish Catholic Church separate from a Roman Catholic Church. There is one Church, the Church of Jesus Christ, built on apostolic succession and the unity of the bishops with and under the Bishop of Rome. We belong to a single yet diverse faith community, united through pondering the word of God and the teaching of the Apostles, through prayer and the Sacraments and through the life of charity.

What then does being more authentically Church mean? We can see here one challenge facing the Church in Ireland in the years to come, that of discerning where the essentials of the Christian life lie and how our institutions, in their daily life, witness to what is essential. There are those who still today believe that the Christian life is about protecting ourselves from a complex world through a going back to the safe and protective norms and traditions of the past. There are those, on the other hand, who end up throwing away the superficial norms of the past and many other dimensions of what the Church must be, and feel that all that is necessary is to follow the instincts of our own hearts and of contemporary thought. The logic of Jesus challenges each of these temptations. Jesus teaches us that we must discern what is right and just and true and loving, and that this is not just an external ritual nor is it just the fruit of our own feeling of goodness, much less the fruits of a public opinion survey.

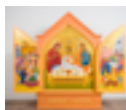
The Christian message is not just a message of comfort or conformity. Every generation has thought in various ways that progress would permit or even demand that believers throw aside faith, judged to be no longer relevant to the thought patterns of the day.

Human progress however has shown itself to be ambiguous and human reason can indeed deceive itself under pressure from strong cultural undercurrents that seem to be attractive, but can be dangerously deceptive. True faith in Jesus Christ allows us rather to be purified through the liberating truth of the Gospel.

I would like to invite every parish in the diocese of Dublin to find concrete ways of reflecting on this challenge.

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-Enrolment Mass-

Today at 10.00am in Drynam the boys and girls from Holy Well Educate together who will be receiving their first Communion next year will celebrate their Enrolment Mass. Fr. John Collins will celebrate this Mass and I am sure that it will be a lovely occasion. Next weekend, Saturday 29th September, we welcome the boys from St. Colmcille's BNS, the girls from St. Colmcille's GNS and their class teachers to the 6.30pm Saturday Vigil Mass, in St. Colmcille's for their enrolment. The Bridge/Do This in Memory Programme, is part of their Parish based preparation 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 for these Mass

Diocesan Safeguarding Day-2018

This Sunday is Diocesan Safeguarding Day. I'd like to take this opportunity to assure all parishioners that diocesan safeguarding policies and practices are followed in this Parish. Safeguarding is all things we do to ensure that children are protected from harm. We need to constantly remind ourselves of the importance of following safeguarding procedures and good practice guidelines. Everyone understands that you must get a driving licence, tax and insure your car before taking it out on the road. In the same way the diocese requires that no person can have access to children through the Church without certain safety measures being put in place such as: adopting a child centred approach, which involves valuing children and demonstrating our respect for them; obtaining the consent of parents for the involvement of their children in parish activities; choosing carefully those who work with children in our parish. Our parish Child Safeguarding policy is available on the Church Notice Boards and in the Parish Office

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently

David Dunne

Rathbeale Court

Kenneth Slye

Rathbeale/Balbriggan



Opening Year Mass

St. Colmcille's BNS will have their Opening Mass of the School Year Mass in the Church this coming Wednesday 26th September at 11.15am

Irish Hospice Foundation are holding an information evening, 'Living with Loss' on Thursday 1st November from 5.30pm - 8.00pm in The Alex Hotel, 41-47 Fenian (off Merrion Square) Street, Dublin 2. This event aims to provide information about grief and the range of supports available to bereaved people. All are welcome

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 : **24th September** Further information please phone Terri 8403243".

We welcome the following newly Baptised to our Parish Community:

Seán Kieran D'Arcy, Oluwatomiwa Emmanuel Joseph Abidoye, Olivia Mary Therese Ogle, Niall Dean Ela, Martintom Pío Maughan, Lexi Kate Murray Doyle, Isla Cabrini Ní Thuairisg, Georgia May Stimpson, Aaron Marco Andreucetti, Ben Michael Kennedy, Fia Margaret Walsh, Billie Cole O'Reilly Fanning, Jonah Charlie Ellis



EVE Plantmarket is a programme within the HSE for adults who experience mental health difficulties, it helps to give them a new sense of self-esteem, new skills, opportunities and confidence. All programmes are QQI certified and run on behalf of DDLETB. Three programmes on offer our: **QQI Level 3 Employability Skills – 18 months, QQI Level 4 Horticulture – 24 months, QQI Level 5 Retail Practice – 24 months**

EVE Plantmarket will be having their open day on the **25th of September between 10am and 2.00pm** Eve Plantmarket Vocational Training Centre, Blakescross, Lusk, Co Dublin. It will be an opportunity to meet with staff and trainees and get a proper insight of the programmes on offer and the environment which we operate in. Refreshments will be provided; demonstration and presentations will take part throughout the day.

COMPUTERS FOR THE TERRIFIED! - 1 TO 1 TRAINING FOR OVER 55's

Are you frustrated by your lack of computer skills? Do you feel that the digital age has passed you by? Are you confused by well meaning family instruction (i.e. no patience with you!) **LEARN HOW TO:** Search the Internet, Send & receive emails, Shop and book flights Use your own device or use computers available at some venues. **Age Action** runs beginner courses in **Computers, iPads and Tablets** for older people who have little or no experience or for the absolutely terrified! Courses run once a week for 5 or 6 ALL COURSES ARE FREE OF CHARGE. Classes are run in Balbriggan and Swords If you wish to become a **VOLUNTEER TUTOR** or to sign up for a course **TEL: (01) 475 6989**

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

The PPC will meet this Monday 24th September at 8.00pm in the Parochial House