

Prayer for Rain

Let us pray. God our Father, we thank you this time for the gift of life, the gift of the world you gave to us. We also thank you for the gift of faith that keeps us going. Lord, I pray for rain, especially in this Ishiara Parish and in all parts of Kenya that are dry. You, Lord, are the provider of everything. You are the one who brought us where we are and you have a good plan for us. Lord, I pray you may look at the suffering of your people, especially those who lack rain, those who have nothing to eat because of the effects of drought and hunger that is caused by climate change. I pray, Lord, that you may give us your graces and you may send rain to this area. Therefore, your people will be able to live a good life. I pray, Lord, you will give us courage to preserve our environment so that the environment may provide for us as we continue to preserve it. May we also have the investment for future generations. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen. (Source: *Trocaire Lenten Resource Pack for 2020*).

Fr. Michael Carey Adm

Mass Intentions this Sunday

Sat 6.30pm Peggy & Johnny Reid(An)

Sun 8.30am Paul Burke(An)

Sun 11.15am Jerry & Isabelle Byrne (An)



At our Masses this Sunday we also remember: Gerry Foley

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 8.00am Special Intention

Mon 10.00am Special Intention

Tues 8.00am Special Intention

Tues 10.00am Paddy Barker

Wed 8.00am Special intention

Wed 10.00am Margherita Miglore

Thurs 8.00am Mark McBride

Thurs 10.00am **NO MASS**

Fri 8.00am In Honour of St Joseph

Fri 10.00am Margherita Migolre

Next Sunday

Sat 6.30pm Patrick Stafford (1st An)

Babs Rooney (MM)

Sun 8.30am Dec members of Geraghty &

McGreevy families

Sun 11.15am Jenny & Donie Stapleton &

daughter Jean

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

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

The children of Holywell ETNS preparing for First Holy Communion will make their First Confession on Tuesday next here in Drynam.



RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

Phyllis Davis

North Street



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



2nd Sunday of Lent

TROCAIRE – Lent 2020 cont'd

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



Newsletter Sunday 8th March 2020

As stated in last week's newsletter, **Trocaire for 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. Last week we met Angela and this week we meet Madris

Meet Madris

Madris is a farmer and mother of six living in Kenya. When we met her, she was living on the edge, struggling to survive after two seasons of failed rains. As climate change exacerbates the situation for farmers in Kenya, Madris manages to support her children and persevere in the face of mounting daily challenges. Madris finds strength from her Anglican Christian faith. Madris and her children sit and eat dinner together every evening. They talk about their day and any problems they are having. Then, as a family, they pray about it.

Madris walks around the dusty brown patch of land beside her small home, where she lives with her six children. There are no crops visible, just a few scraggy bushes. 'I feel very bad when the rains don't come because all my plants depend on rainfall,' she tells us.

Madris receives support from Trócaire's local partner, Ishiara Parish. She has received chickens, and has been taught new methods of eco-friendly farming, how to harvest rainwater and how to prevent livestock diseases. She has been supported to join a savings and loans group, which enables her to receive additional income during the dry months, and to get support and help from other women. When climate change has made life so precarious, this support makes all the difference to her being able to feed her family, to pay school fees and to plan for the future.

Madris asks us to pray for rain. Father Patrick Barasa OSA, Project Manager, Parish of Ishiara, wrote this prayer. We invite you to pray this prayer in your home, parish or community. This can be used as a communion reflection or while you are telling the stories of the two Lent families.

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*



Sacrament of Confirmation - BNS

Next Thursday 12th March, the boys from St. Colmcille's BNS will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at 11am. I wish the school well in all their preparation these coming days. There will be no 10.00am Mass this day

Confirmation - Ceremony of Light

The Ceremony of Light for St. Colmcille's GNS will be held this Tuesday 10th March at 1.40pm. This Ceremony is developed around the Pascal Candle. When children are baptised the parents/godparents receive a light to their Baptismal Candle from the Pascal Candle. In this Ceremony, the parents hand the lighted candle lit from the Pascal Candle directly to their children themselves, symbolising that they, their parents have fulfilled their promise to bring their children up in the faith and will continue to fulfil it and that their children now make the step of confirming their faith for themselves.

Do This in Memory – Bridge Programme

Next weekend the boys and girls and their families will be present at the 6.30pm Saturday Vigil Mass as part of their Parish based preparation programme for the Sacrament of First Eucharist. We look forward to seeing them and praying with them.

Thursday 12th March

Due to the Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation on this day at 11.00am there will be NO 10.00am Mass. There will however be the Mass at 8.00am

Stations of the Cross – every Wednesday of Lent

For each of the Wednesday's of Lent, a different group in the parish will pray the Stations of the Cross.

Members of the Ministry of the Word group will pray the stations this coming **Wednesday 11th March at 7.30pm**. Please do come along and attend.



Second Sunday of Lent

Every so often, we catch a glimpse of the "something more" that God has in store for us. These fleeting experiences are to be treasured: the birth of my first child, falling in love, a sense of "being held" by God's presence. Such experiences may help us approach the Transfiguration. Like all transcendent experiences, it is fleeting and yet it etches a memory and leaves a longing. What should we do? Practice listening to him. Be not afraid. We cannot always be "on the mountain" and yet what happens on the heights can help us on the lowlands of the everyday.

Prayer - Lord, listening sounds so easy and yet is such hard work! Guide us as we listen to your Son, whose word is live, who is himself the Way, the Truth and the Life. (Source: St. Paul's Missal)

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!



Do you care for the Environment?- Lenten Book Club

Our book club is taking place in the Parochial House every Thursday until Thursday 2nd April. 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 12th March at 2.30pm**.

An extra session will take place on Tuesday 31st March at 7.30pm for people who cannot attend Thursday session but wish to read the book.



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



Anam Cara Dublin along with Feilacain and Pieta House will be hosting a Bereavement Support Evening for bereaved parents on the 11th March in the Aisling Hotel, Park Gate St, D08 P38N. This event starts at 7pm. This is a free event and open to all bereaved parents. However, to help us organise it please RSVP to info@anamcara.ie or 085 288 8888 before 10th March.

Parish Office

The Parish office will re-open on Thursday 12th March. For urgent queries please contact the Sacristy or Fr Michael