

today's virtual networks; a virtual circle is then created, isolating us from the real world in which we are living.

Yet "today's world is largely a deaf world... At times, the frantic pace of the modern world prevents us from listening attentively to what another person is saying. Halfway through, we interrupt him and want to contradict what he has not even finished saying. We must not lose our ability to listen". Saint Francis "heard the voice of God, he heard the voice of the poor, he heard the voice of the infirm and he heard the voice of nature. He made of them a way of life. My desire is that the seed that Saint Francis planted may grow in the hearts of many".

Together, we can seek the truth in dialogue, in relaxed conversation or in passionate debate. To do so calls for perseverance; it entails moments of silence and suffering, yet it can patiently embrace the broader experience of individuals and peoples. The flood of information at our fingertips does not make for greater wisdom. Wisdom is not born of quick searches on the internet nor is it a mass of unverified data. That is not the way to mature in the encounter with truth. Conversations revolve only around the latest data; they become merely horizontal and cumulative. We fail to keep our attention focused, to penetrate to the heart of matters, and to recognize what is essential to give meaning to our lives. Freedom thus becomes an illusion that we are peddled, easily confused with the ability to navigate the internet. The process of building fraternity, be it local or universal, can only be undertaken by spirits that are free and open to authentic encounters.

*Fr. Michael Carey*

**Mass Intentions this Weekend - Intentions will be prayed for at 11.15am Mass through the Parish webcam**

**Sat 6.30pm** Cathal & Mary O'Toole

**Sun 8.30am** Paddy McNamee

**Sun 11.15am** Sean & Tony Clarke & Louise Doyle  
Peter Ferris MM



**Mass intentions for Next Week**

**Mon** 10.00am Liz Tolan

**Mon** 10.00am Bernadette Donnelly

**Tues** 10.00am Patrick Loughran

**Tues** 10.00am Frances Parsons

**Wed** 10.00am In Honour of the Holy Souls

**Wed** 10.00am George & Mary Larmon

**Thurs** 10.00am Tom McLoughlin

**Thurs** 10.00am Special Intention

**Fri** 10.00am Annie, Kate & Martin Reilly

**Fri** 10.00am Special intention

**Sat** 10.00am Patrick O'Donovan

**Sat** 6.30pm Richard Dillon & deceased members of Byrne Family

**Sun** 8.30am Kathleen Moore

**Sun** 11.15am Morty Doyle

Anthony Dunne

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

Our church in Drynam will continue to stay closed during this period adhering to HSE guidelines. If you wish, Mass from St. Colmcille's can be accessed on the Parish Webcam as per the New Mass Times notice in this newsletter.



**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: Website: www.swords-parish.com Email: stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com**  
**Facebook: St. Colmcille's Church, Swords & Church of the Visitation, Drynam**



33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
**Seek the truth in dialogue, in relaxed conversation or in passionate debate!**



“The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.”

**Newsletter Sunday 15th November 2020**

There are just two weeks of the Church's calendar in Ordinary Time left before we move into the Season of Advent. Therefore I will use the next two weeks to select some of the riches from the Pope's latest encyclical FRATELLI TUTTI meaning ON FRATERNITY AND SOCIAL FRIENDSHIP. In Chapter 1 he wrote a few paragraphs on:

**THE ILLUSION OF COMMUNICATION**

Oddly enough, while closed and intolerant attitudes towards others are on the rise, distances are otherwise shrinking or disappearing to the point that the right to privacy scarcely exists. Everything has become a kind of spectacle to be examined and inspected, and people's lives are now under constant surveillance. Digital communication wants to bring everything out into the open; people's lives are combed over, laid bare and bandied about, often anonymously. Respect for others disintegrates, and even as we dismiss, ignore or keep others distant, we can shamelessly peer into every detail of their lives.

Digital campaigns of hatred and destruction, for their part, are not – as some would have us believe – a positive form of mutual support, but simply an association of individuals united against a perceived common enemy. “Digital media can also expose people to the risk of addiction, isolation and a gradual loss of contact with concrete reality, blocking the development of authentic interpersonal relationships”. They lack the physical gestures, facial expressions, moments of silence, body language and even the smells, the trembling of hands, the blushes and perspiration that speak to us and are a part of human communication. Digital relationships, which do not demand the slow and gradual cultivation of friendships, stable interaction or the building of a consensus that matures over time, have the appearance of sociability. Yet they do not really build community; instead, they tend to disguise and expand the very individualism that finds expression in xenophobia and in contempt for the vulnerable. Digital connectivity is not enough to build bridges. It is not capable of uniting humanity.

Information without wisdom

True wisdom demands an encounter with reality. Today, however, everything can be created, disguised and altered. A direct encounter even with the fringes of reality can thus prove intolerable. A mechanism of selection then comes into play, whereby I can immediately separate likes from dislikes, what I consider attractive from what I deem distasteful. In the same way, we can choose the people with whom we wish to share our world. Persons or situations we find unpleasant or disagreeable are simply deleted in

## ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

*We have realised that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other. On this boat... are all of us* **Pope Francis**



### Level 5 Liturgy/Prayer Service

For the next few weeks during this Level 5 lockdown the Parish will host a special liturgy every Tuesday and Thursday Evening at **7.00pm**. It began on Tuesday 27th October. The format will be:

- A decade of the Rosary followed by Prayer calling on Our Lady's Protection
- A Reading of the Pope's latest Encyclical "Fratelli Tutti" – On Fraternity and Social Friendship
- The Night Prayer of the Church

This Liturgy/Prayer Service can be viewed through the Parish Webcam

The webcam can be accessed through the Parish website, [www.swords-parish.com](http://www.swords-parish.com)

### Diary 2021

The booking of Mass intentions for 2021 can begin this weekend- November 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> when the Diary will be available. Please note that during this time of Covid, the Sacristy will be open for about 15mins after the Webcam morning Mass until we come out of Level 5 lockdown.

### Altar List of the Dead

These lists are now available at the back of the Church. The new lists will be placed in front of the altar on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – The Feast of All Souls. All Masses on the First Friday of the month will be offered for the names on the Altar List of the Dead. The completed envelopes can be returned to the Sacristy or the Parish Office.

### Bethany Bereavement Support Group

In this the month of the Holy Souls we remember in a special way our beloved dead. The Parish Bethany Bereavement Support Group extend our deepest sympathy to ALL bereaved people, especially those who have suffered bereavement during the Covid pandemic. We offer free and confidential support. If you would like to talk to a member please phone Brid - 086 6006397 - from Sunday 15th November to Saturday 21st November - Please phone after 6pm or you can email the parish office: [stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com](mailto:stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com). You can also find information on <https://www.bethany.ie>. It's good to talk. Do not grieve alone or unaided. "Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted"

## Feast Day of the Archdiocese

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November is the Feast Day of our Archdiocese and its Patron is St. Laurence O'Toole

Laurence O'Toole

**St. Laurence O'Toole, bishop, patron of Dublin – Saturday 14th November**, born in

Castledermot in 1123. Became abbot of

Glendalough in 1148 and in 1162 chosen as

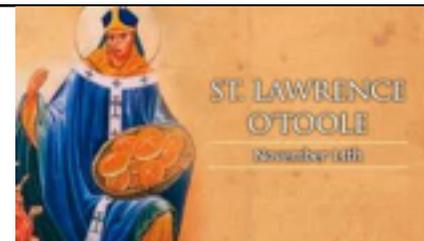
the first native Archbishop of Dublin. He lived simply and returned to

Glendalough every Lent. He worked for peace and reconciliation and died on a

mission of mediation with King Henry II and the Irish rulers in Eu in Normandy in

1180. There is a lovely prayer composed in his honour. It is a long prayer and for

the purposes of this newsletter I will include the first two verses.



### Prayer to St. Laurence O Toole

St. Laurence O'Toole, man of peace,

You were in the middle of family and political

conflict from your earliest days. Give the gift

of peace and hope to all who experience the

trauma of division in families, in communities

and among nations.

St. Laurence O'Toole, man of prayer,

you recognised the call to serve the Lord

in a particular way at Glendalough. Give the

gift of perseverance to all who are discerning

their Christian vocation at this time

### RECENTLY DECEASED

*Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:*

Florrie O'Keefe

Drynam Road

### November

**We remember our own dead and our own sadness this November. Tears speak out our grief, but they also witness to our love and we are glad to have loved so much that we can cry. May those we have loved rest in your embrace, O Lord.**

### The Sunday Obligation

**In the current emergency, all are dispensed from the obligation to physically attend Sunday Mass**