

“Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile” (Mk. 7:15). Mysteriously, we alone in all of creation can be the source of trouble, sin and disaster. What comes out of us – our minds, hearts, and imaginations – is so all important. (Source: *Homilies for weekdays – Don Talafous*)

**Acts of Contrition**

O my God, I thank you for loving me.  
I am sorry for all my sins,  
For not loving others and not loving you.  
Help me to live like Jesus  
And not sin again. **Amen**

O my God, I am heartily sorry for all my sins  
Because they offend you who are infinitely good.  
And I firmly resolve with the help of your grace  
Never to offend you again. **Amen**

**Fr. Michael Carey**

**Intentions for Next Week**

**Mon** 8.00am Michael Keenan  
**Mon** 10.00am Larry Mulvihill  
**Tues** 8.00am Ann Nolan  
**Tues** 10.00am Martin Walsh & Mary Clune  
**Wed** 8.00am William Lyster  
**Wed** 10.00am Patrick & Mary Kate Gallagher  
**Thurs** 8.00am Rita Dwyer  
**Thurs** 10.00am Kevin Harford  
**Fri** 8.00am Altar list of the Dead  
**Fri** 10.00am Altar List of the Dead

**Sat** 10.00am Special intention  
**Sat** 6.30pm Frank King &  
Richard O’Connell  
Zachary Parker (MM)  
Helen Clarke (MM)  
**Sun** 8.30am Kathleen O’Connor  
**Sun** 11.15am John & Margaret Melia  
& Dec Family members  
Ben Geoghegan (MM)

**At our Masses next weekend we also remember:** Rose Howard

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

**Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am, 11.00am (Irish Mass)**  
Next Friday 1st March we will have a First Friday Mass at 9:20 in Drynam. Next Sunday we will have the ‘Do This in Memory’ program at the 10:00AM Mass for the children and their families from Holywell ETNS.

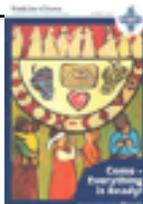
**RECENTLY DECEASED**

**Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:**  
Elizabeth (Connie) Forsyth Castlefarm

**Women’s World Day of Prayer**

Women’s World Day of Prayer will take place in St Colmcille’s Church on **Friday 1st March at 7.30pm.**

All are welcome, this year the prayer has been written by the women of Slovenia with the theme being ‘Come - everything will be ready’



**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**

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Care for Creation**

*“O Lord, I trust in your merciful love”*

Newsletter Sunday 24th February 2019



For the weekday Masses we are currently reading from the Book of Genesis, an endlessly fascinating book. Genesis is the book of beginnings. This first book of the Bible is concerned with the fundamental issues of our life: the riddle of death, the nature of evil, the place of faith, and the value of our world. This book doesn’t deal with scientific or historical matters, but with matters important to how we are to live in our world. The opening verses stress that the world we see around us came from God. The moon, sun, and stars are not themselves gods, but they come from God.

Another very important teaching is that everything God made is good. “God saw all he had made, and indeed it was very good” (Gen 1. 31). We may take this for granted, but we shouldn’t; there have been people who believe that matter, earth, and flesh are all bad. The environmentalists remind us in their own way of this basic truth: this world and everything in it has value and purpose in the larger scheme of things. We all live interdependently with every other element in our world and this is essential for a truly good and safe life. Creation is not to be worshipped, but certainly it is to be revered much more than modern people have done or more than we do when we waste its resources or contribute to fouling and polluting the world around us. Caring for the earth, our world, follows from the lessons of Genesis.

Chapter two in the Book Genesis gives us another story about our origins. The first story stressed the place of the human being in creation by leading up to the creation of man and woman as the climax of all God did. (*We were created on the sixth day*) This second story puts the creation of humans in the first place and then speaks of God making our environment. While the other story made the legitimate point about our supervision of creation, this one stresses that we are one with the world around us: “The Lord God formed man out of the dust of the ground” (Gen 2:7), that is, out of the same ground of which God makes the rest of creation.



Here our stewardship of the earth is stressed more and related to our oneness with all of creation. We are “to cultivate and care for it” (Gen 2:15). We have many ties to the animal and plant world; we are all interdependent. If there is going to be anything bad in all this, it comes from the human being. As Jesus stresses in the gospel,

## 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*



### Take up something for Lent

You will see the notice in the newsletter concerning the reading of 'Rejoice and be Glad'. I do encourage you to investigate this initiative. A lot of what the Pope writes is very good but we don't have the time or get the chance to explore it in some depth. What is proposed by the Parish for this coming Lent is very gentle. Please do consider participating.

### 1st Saturday of the Month

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March is the first Saturday of March. Mass will be celebrated at 10.00am followed by Confessions

### God's Housekeepers

The next date for cleaning the Church is next **Friday 1st March** after the 10.00am Mass. Can cleaning group 1 for this Friday please turn up! Also if anyone has a half hour to spare you would be most welcome

### Today's Gospel

Here Christ outlines the ethic of love which must predominate in the kingdom of God. In the ancient world and amongst the Jews in particular, the law of reciprocity had represented a major moral advance. No more was it permitted to exact double payment for an injury done. But in Christ's kingdom the standard is higher yet.

It involves a 'going beyond' or 'more' than the norm of reciprocity. The 'golden rule' of 'do as you would have done to you' is replaced by, 'do as God would do'. Forgiveness, a quintessential characteristic of Christianity, is a case in point. By loyally practicing it we become the people of God and show his love to the world. (Source: *Glenstal Sunday Missal*)

### First Friday

This coming Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> March, all Masses will be offered for all names of the Parish Altar list of the dead. If you like a Priest to visit the sick and the housebound please give Colette at the Parish Office the details.

### Faithfest Teenagers

Join us on Friday 8 March for Faithfest from 6.00-9.30pm. in Holy Cross College, Clonliffe Road, Dublin 3. Faithfest aims to build spaces where teenagers have an experience of a peer community, explore faith, and encounter an experience of welcoming, belonging, discipleship, worship and prayer in a creative and fun atmosphere. All welcome.



### Take up Something for Lent

This year for Lent the Parish has decided to read and discuss Pope Francis's book, 'Rejoice and be Glad', we will do this over 5 weeks. This will take the format of a book club where you read a chapter at home and meet as a group to discuss it the next week. Why not give it a try!! For more information together with guidelines for discussion and tips for reading the book, come along to our introduction session on **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February** in the Parochial House at 2.30pm. Books will be supplied and tea and coffee will be served



### We welcome the following newly Baptised to our Parish Community:

Zach Dylan Ryan, Sé Kevin Byrne, Charlie Harry Harmon, Carrie Evelyn Moore, Ben Peter Byrne, Ashton James McDonagh



### Giving

There are those who give but only on condition that they receive something in return, and receive it immediately.

There are those who give on condition that they receive something in return later on and with a handsome profit.

And there are those who give without expecting anything in return now or ever: they scatter the seeds of the heart without looking for any harvest.

These are imitating the generosity of God, who bestows his love on good people and bad, and grants mercy to saints and sinners. (Source: *Fr. Flor McCarthy, SDB*)

### 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 25<sup>th</sup> February . Further information please phone Terri 8403243".

**Brackenstown Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2019**, will take place from 19<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> September . The cost per person is €759. For further information contact Susan Keane 01 8407100 OR 085 8474539