

Catholic facilities are called to give an example of self-giving, generosity and solidarity in response to the mentality of profit at any price, of giving for the sake of getting, and of exploitation over concern for people.

I urge everyone, at every level, to promote the culture of generosity and of gift, which is indispensable for overcoming the culture of profit and waste. Catholic healthcare institutions must not fall into the trap of simply running a business; they must be concerned with personal care more than profit. We know that health is relational, dependent on interaction with others, and requiring trust, friendship and solidarity. It is a treasure that can be enjoyed fully only when it is shared. The joy of generous giving is a barometer of the health of a Christian".
Fr. Michael Carey

Intentions for Next Week

Mon 8.00am Eleanor & Thomas Greaney

Mon 10.00am Joe Humphries

Tues 8.00am Special Intention

Tues 10.00am Anthony McLoughlin

Wed 8.00am Dermot Brangan

Wed 10.00am Special Intention

Thurs 8.00am Nicky Byrne

Thurs 10.00am Louise O'Regan

Fri 8.00am James Rooney

Fri 10.00am Audrey Harkin Mullan

Peggy Garrigan (MM)

Sat 11.00am Mass for the Sick

Sat 6.30pm Bridie & Tom Ruane

Peter O'Neill (MM)

Sun 8.30am Daniel Burke

Sun 11.15am Frank Marron

John Bond (1st An)

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

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

We will have a blessing for the sick next Sunday at the 10:00am Mass in anticipation of the World Day of the Sick the following day the 11th February.

Sacraments of Initiation – Diocesan Consultation

This is to bring to your attention an important consultation process being launched next week. Last Autumn the Archbishop set up the Sacraments Review Group, to review and to make recommendations on the practice of the Sacraments of Initiation in the Diocese. The Review Group has planned out a process of listening and discernment, on the basis of which it hopes to make recommendations later this year.

This coming Monday, the **4th of February**, an online survey will go live on the Diocesan Website. www.dublindiocese.ie If you have the time or are interested please complete the survey

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

Bernard Geoghegan

Seatown Villas

Zach Parker

Jugback Green

John Dermody

Liverpool



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

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK 2019

“Save us, O Lord our God!”

Newsletter Sunday 3rd February 2019

Next weekend the Church celebrates its World Day of the Sick and on Saturday next, 2nd February the Parish will celebrate a Mass of healing with anointing for the sick at 11.00am in St. Colmcille's Swords.

To that end this week's newsletter is an extract from the Pope's message for the 27th World Day of the Sick 2019.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

“You received without payment; give without payment” (Mt 10:8). These are the words spoken by Jesus when sending forth his apostles to spread the Gospel, so that his Kingdom might grow through acts of gratuitous love.

On the XXVII World Day of the Sick, to be solemnly celebrated on 11 February 2019 in Calcutta, India, the Church – as a Mother to all her children, especially the infirm – reminds us that generous gestures like that of the Good Samaritan are the most credible means of evangelisation. Caring for the sick requires professionalism, tenderness, straightforward and simple gestures freely given, like a caress that makes others feel loved.

Life is a gift from God. Saint Paul asks: “What do you have that you did not receive?” (1 Cor 4:7). Precisely because it is a gift, human life cannot be reduced to a personal possession or private property, especially in the light of medical and biotechnological advances that could tempt us to manipulate the “tree of life” (cf. Gen 3:24).

Amid today's culture of waste and indifference, I would point out that “gift” is the category best suited to challenging today's individualism and social fragmentation, while at the same time promoting new relationships and means of cooperation between peoples and cultures. Dialogue – the premise of gift – creates possibilities for human growth and development capable of breaking through established ways of exercising power in society. “Gift” means more than simply giving presents: it involves the giving of oneself, and not simply a transfer of property or objects. “Gift” differs from gift-giving because it entails the free gift of self and the desire to build a relationship. It is the acknowledgement of others, which is the basis of society. “Gift” is a reflection of God's love, which culminates in the incarnation of the Son and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Each of us is poor, needy and destitute. When we are born, we require the care of our parents to survive, and at every stage of life we remain in some way dependent on the help of others. We will always be conscious of our limitations, as “creatures”, before other individuals and situations. A frank acknowledgement of this truth keeps us humble and spurs us to practice solidarity as an essential virtue in life.



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*



Child Protection – Garda Vetting

Over the Past Year the PPC and Sr. Margaret has done excellent work in ensuring compliance with Diocesan Norms and the Law of the Land. To date 104 volunteers and Ministers have engaged with the process of Garda Vetting. The PPC has decided that the cut-off date for existing volunteers and Ministers is to be February 28th 2019. If for whatever reason you have not begun the process of Garda Vetting then the only conclusion to be drawn is that you do not wish to continue as a volunteer of a member of the Parish Ministry Team

Planned Giving

At this stage all the Planned Giving boxes for 2019 have been distributed. I sincerely thank the parishioners who delivered these boxes. It was an excellent 'Corporal Work of Mercy'. If you normally receive a box but for some reason one hasn't arrived at your 'doorstep' please contact Colette in the Parish Office

First Penance

This week is a special week for the girls and boys of our Parish Schools as they celebrate their First Penance. St. Colmcille's GNS will celebrate this Sacrament on Tuesday 5th February at 7.30pm and St. Colmcille's GNS will celebrate this Sacrament on Thursday 7th February at 7.30pm. I thank the teachers for the preparatory work that they are undertaking and the parents for presenting their children for this Sacrament. It will two lovely evenings and a wonderful week in the life of our Parish in 2019.

Parish Mass of healing and Anointing for the sick

February 11th, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes is when the Church celebrates the 'World Day of the Sick'. On **Saturday 9th February at 11am** the Parish will celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick in St. Colmcille's. All parishioners are welcome. It is an ideal opportunity

to reach out to a housebound neighbour or a neighbour who has no means of transport and bring them to the church for this celebration.

'The World Day of the Sick' is a call once again to all, to see in the face of their brother or sister who is sick the face of Christ who, suffering, dying and rising, brought salvation to humanity.' *Saint John Paul II*



Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking

February 8th is *International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking*, first observed in 2015 and on the memorial of St. Josephine Bakhita. Each year, around 2.5 million people are victims of trafficking and slavery. For those engaged in trafficking it has become one of the most lucrative illegal activities in the world. Through the Day of Prayer, we reflect on the experience of those who have suffered but also we are called to reach out to victims and survivors.

St Josephine Bakhita 1868-1947, a native of Sudan, brought as a slave to Italy where she became a Christian and later entered the Institute of Canossian Daughters of Charity in Venice

PARISH FAMILY OFFERING

We would like to sincerely thank all our parishioners and those from outside the Parish, who so generously contribute. This is the only source of income for the management of the parish. It pays for all the day to day expenses of running the parish as well as maintaining the church building, the parish graveyard and the parish houses. Everyday expenses such as light and heat, salaries, music ministry, repairs and maintenance, insurance etc must be met from the parish financial resources. All parish/church expenses are met through the support of parishioners to the Parish Family offering, Shrines and donations.

With each passing year, our income is dropping.

Could you consider becoming a regular contributor to the financing of the parish through MONTHLY/QUARTERLY/ANNUAL STANDING ORDER, or if you are already contributing are you in a position to increase your contribution? **Or** if you would like a box of PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES, please contact the Parish Office.

Collections at Masses do not contribute to the running of the parish.

FIRST COLLECTION: This collection pays our priests, and helps supports the priests of the Diocese, including those who are retired or sick.

SECOND COLLECTION: This collection helps maintain and build the poorer parishes in the Diocese and also goes towards the administration within the Dublin Diocese.

CONCLUSION

Our Parish is blessed with dedicated and loyal staff; we have a wonderful and vibrant Parish. It is by God's grace that we have so many committed parishioners who have built this Parish to what it is today – a lively Christian Community. The volunteer spirit is strong here and the different ministries are very active. **There is always room for new volunteers and membership of the different Ministry Teams.** I encourage you to take up this invite if you are in a position to so do. Being a parishioner gives each of us an opportunity to nourish our faith, live it out in community and pass it on to a new generation.

Catholic Schools Week (CSW)

As Irish society changes, it is important that we reflect on the unique contribution of Catholic schools to our collective goal of education. Each Catholic school shares an ethos that is inclusive, welcoming and vibrant. Each school works towards a vision of each student as made in the likeness and image of God (imago Dei). This means that we work towards helping each child, irrespective of background, ethnicity or creed, reach their full potential academically, spiritually and socially. To be in the likeness and image of God means that we have the capacity to truly care for ourselves, each other and the environment around us.

Grotto Rosary Monday 11th February - Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes St Cronan's Church

Volunteers required to recite Rosary on Monday 11th February, every hour on half hour, commencing 9:30am to 9:30pm. Please sign roster at back of St Cronan's Church or contact member of Legion of Mary.