

I am aware of the fact that these measures will be painful for many. The decisions are made to respond in the best possible way to an unforeseen and complex situation. The Holy See's Congregation for Divine Worship in a recent letter, approved by Pope Francis, noted that restrictions should be limited in time and that as soon as circumstances permit it is urgent to return to the normality of Christian life. It also stressed unambiguously the gratitude of the Congregation to Bishops who "in listening to and collaborating with civil authorities and experts... have been prompt to make difficult and painful decisions even to the point of suspending the participation of the faithful in the celebration of the Eucharist for a long period"

Today, we find ourselves sadly in that situation once again and we are called to make painful sacrifice for the common good. The Holy See's Letter stresses that "Aware that God never abandons the humanity He has created, and that even in the hardest trials can bear fruits of grace, we [should accept] our distance from the Lord's altar as a time of Eucharistic fasting, useful for us to rediscover its vital importance, beauty and immeasurable preciousness".

I appeal to all to enter into this difficult period with that spirit. We must pray that we can soon return to the Eucharist "with a purified heart, with a renewed amazement, with an increased desire to meet the Lord, to be with him, to receive him and to bring him to our brothers and sisters with a life full of faith, love and hope." (+ *Diarmuid Martin*)

Fr. Michael Carey

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

Sat 6.30pm Donal O'Toole

Sun 8.30am John & Thomas McGrane

Sun 11.15am Una & James Nevin & Jim Nevin



Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 10.00am	John O'Brien Eamonn Weldon	Sat 10.00am	Patrick Moore
Tues 10.00am	John Heaslip Peadar Connolly	Sat 6.30pm	Willie Rooney
Wed 10.00am	Special Intention Sean Rice	Sun 8.30am	Phyllis O'Rourke
Thurs 10.00am	Special intention Sr Patrick Leamy	Sun 11.15am	Rose Howard
Fri 10.00am	Altar List of the Dead Altar List of the Dead		

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 other notices 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: o: stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com

Facebook: St. Colmcille's Church, Swords & Church of the Visitation, Drynam25th

Sunday in Ordinary Time



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Season of Creation - 4

"Give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy"

Newsletter Sunday 27th September 2020



CULTIVATING HOPE - A Faith Response to the Climate Crisis

4th Sunday of the Season of Creation – 27th September

For this Fourth Sunday of the Season of Creation I include below a piece written by Anna Keegan a member of the Laudato Si Working Group of the Council for Catechetics.

The Gospel today tells us the Parable of the Two Sons. One son makes a promise to action that is broken, and the other who initially refuses to work, but then has a change of heart. In the world today we often say things without really meaning it. I will start a new diet, I will walk to work or I will recycle more, but often we forget, we don't really do what we say.

In this season of creation, we are called to think even more consciously about our actions. Actions matter to our planet and to each other. We are urged to make sure we are treating people and God's creation with goodness and joy.

In Laudato Si Pope Francis reminds us of the call in Genesis chapter 1 to "till" and "keep" the garden of the world. God is calling us to action, calling us to reconnect again with the earth. In Laudato Si we read, "Tilling" refers to cultivating, ploughing or working, while "keeping" means caring, protecting, overseeing and preserving. This implies a relationship of mutual responsibility between human beings and nature." LS 67. Like the second son in the parable today, we have lost sight of our responsibilities where our relationship with the vineyard is concerned.

How will we respond to this call to action today? Like the first son in the Gospel say no but then think about it and go and help. Or like the second son say we will do something but not do it? Pope Francis says to us, it is not too late, we know that things can change and that truly much can be done.

In our penitential rite today, we began by saying sorry for our inaction. Let us use the Season of Creation as a springboard forward, cultivating hope for our planet and its future.

Extracts from archbishop's letter re the current Level 3, 'lockdown'

"While online transmissions can play a vital role in reaching out to the sick and where it is not possible to hold public liturgies, we have to remember that no broadcast can replace personal participation with our brothers and sisters in the Eucharistic assembly that has the church building as its home. We must pray intensely that we will be able to return to public worship at the earliest possible date.

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*



Crosscare Collection

This will not now happen. There are stamped addressed envelopes on the table at the back of the Church if you would like to make a contribution.

Crosscare is the Social Support Agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Dublin. Your donation goes towards the Community and homeless services. Inspired by the example and teachings of Jesus Christ, Crosscare has: A vision of a society where all people have the opportunity to fulfil their potential. A mission to provide innovation and relevant services to those most in need.

1st Communion – Scoil an Duinnigh (S an D) and St. Colmcille's BNS

The dates selected for these ceremonies have been postponed due to the Level 3 lockdown in Dublin. Having visited the children in both schools I know that they are disappointed BUT they also understand and are looking forward to the rescheduled date. Let's hope that this one 'sticks'.

Newsletters and Missalettes

This is just a reminder. It's happening the correct way. The Newsletters and Missalettes are left out for the weekend Masses. Please take them **BUT** bring them home with you.

In these Covid times leaflets should not be picked up, read and put back again. Please, please take home with you.

New Mass times in St Colmcille's Church

The church is closed for public Liturgies during this Level 3 'Lockdown' During the current restrictions Mass will be celebrated:

Monday - Saturday at 10.00am and Sunday at 11.15am,
all can be viewed on the Parish webcam which can be accessed through the website, www.swords-parish.com

Meditation

Remember that you have only one soul;
that you have only one death to die;
that you have only one life, which is
short and has to be lived by you alone;
and there is only one glory, which is eternal. *(St. Teresa of Avila [d.1582])*

ACCORD Dublin has launched a new website. For Sacramental Marriage Preparation Courses or for Marriage and Relationship Counselling please visit www.accorddublin.ie

The Sunday Obligation

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

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

David Steele

Boroimhe



Scripture Note – 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The parable of the two sons was addressed to the chief priests and elders of the people. Its purpose was to defend Jesus' invitation of sinners and outcasts to the Kingdom, in the face of the sneers of the religious establishment. The parable outraged the religious people.

The first son represents sinners. Like him they originally chose to go their own way but then repented and took God's way, and so gained entry into the Kingdom. The second son represents the chief priests and elders. Like him they promised to work for God but failed to do so, and so have excluded themselves from the Kingdom. Repentance is a necessary disposition for entry into the Kingdom. The theme of sin and repentance is also dealt with in the First reading.

The parable also echoes a favourite theme of Matthew: the split in the religious person between saying and doing. Hence, its relevance for 'religious' people in every age. *(Source: Fr. Flor McCarthy, SDB)*

DCU BA in Theology and Religious Studies - Scholarships

Interested in studying theology, but need a flexible programme to suit your needs? The DCU BA in Theology and Religious Studies is just for you. This part-time, flexible programme is aimed at mature students, with lectures on Thursday evenings and a number of Saturdays throughout the year. For 2020/21, the programme will feature blended learning, with online and in-person learning opportunities. Scholarships are available for incoming students. More info at www.dcu.ie/dc300, or contact Brad Anderson (brad.anderson@dcu.ie)

Bethany Bereavement Support Group

The Parish Bethany Bereavement Support Group is available to parishioners providing telephone support during the COVID-19 pandemic. We offer our sympathy to anyone bereaved during these very difficult months. If you would like to talk to a Bethany member please phone **Brid 086 6006397 (after 6.00pm) from 27th September 3rd October** If there is no reply please leave your first name and phone number. Or you can email the parish office stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com and your message will be forwarded to Bethany Group. This is a free and confidential service.