

whose lives are weakest and unprotected: the unborn, the elderly, those who our modern society consider less worthy of life than others.

We are called to be witness to the hope that is in us and to be ministers of hope in a world where many languish in anxiety and distress. Being called to be witnesses of hope for those who are marginalised means being called to provide what is needed to allow those who suffer to become free.

The Lord is truly risen and we are called to be witnesses to that reality. At times that may seem too challenging. At times, our failures may lead us to discouragement. Hope is not magic. Hope begins by focussing that first small sign of light onto the darkness of our world to remind us that the darkness will not prevail.

As a Christian people, we are called to be a people of hope. Again the Exultet, recalls that “this is the night when Christ broke the prison-bars of death”. The Christian people, as a people of hope, we are called to be children of the Resurrection and of light and liberty, to banish the power of darkness, and to bring consolation and support to all who are trapped in darkness.

The Lord is truly risen. Alleluia.”

Fr. Michael Carey

Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 10.00am McGreevy & Geraghty Families

Tues 8.00am Brian McGreevy

Sat 6.30pm Tom, Mary & Sharon Conway

Tues 10.00am Joe Hatch

Wed 8.00am Harry Quirke

Sun 8.30am Ver Edel Quinn

Wed 10.00am Nancy Lynch

Thurs 8.00am Sam Burke

Sun 11.15 James McGuirk

Thurs 10.00am Teresa Brock

Cindy Foran (MM)

Fri 8.00am Thomas & Louise Delaney

Liz Martin (MM)

Fri 10.00am Monica & James Reidy

At our Masses next weekend we also remember: Patrick Ivors

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

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

Next Sunday at the 10:00AM Mass we will have the Service of Light for the children preparing for Confirmation here in Drynam.

Blessing For Expectant Mothers

A special blessing for Expectant Mothers will take place on Thursday 9th May in Our Lady of Mercy Church, Artane at 8.00pm. If you need any further information contact: Alice: 8319770 or Eileen: 831961. Refreshments served afterwards. All are welcome.

Mission Outreach

Fr. Tommy Faherty SMA will speak at all Masses in St. Colmcille's next weekend 11th/12th May on Mission awareness

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

Third Sunday of Easter

A Small Light - continued

“Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name”

Newsletter Sunday 4th May 2019

Continuing on from last week the conclusion of the Archbishop's Easter Homily

“This night in Churches right across the world, congregations of believers cry out *The Lord is truly Risen*. Again, to quote the Exultet “this is the night that even now, throughout the world, sets Christian believers apart from worldly vices and from the gloom of sin, leading them to grace”.

The Lord is truly Risen. We do not say that on one night the Lord truly rose. Jesus was not risen among us just for the forty days before he returned to his Father. The Risen Lord is still among us and in all the tribulations of our world, he brings us and the world new hope.

Our Easter faith tells us that the Lord is risen and dwells among us through the power of the Spirit, the Spirit of the risen Lord.

You know that the Creeds of the Church that express the Christian belief are divided into sections of our belief in God the Father, God the Son Jesus Christ and God the Holy Spirit. In all of the Creeds, the reference to the Church is not, as we might expect, inserted into the section on Jesus Christ, but into the action of the Spirit. The Church is the community of believers in which the Risen Jesus is truly present among us through the power of the Spirit.

Resurrection surprises. Resurrection allows us to hope in the face of all adversity. Hope is not some sort of empty flight from reality. If anything, without hope, reality loses its sense. It is hope alone that enables us to understand reality and the complexity of relations between good and evil that exist in our world.

Christian hope is belief that in the long term the good will triumph, because good is something that we do not create on our own terms; it is based on truth that is guaranteed by the spirit of God who is present with us to guide us.

Resurrection surprises. When we look at that terrifying expression of hatred and violence that led in these days to the death of an innocent and idealistic women, Lyra McKee, we see that out of an act of evil, something deeper can emerge. We have witnessed unanimous rejection of evil as the basis for a future. We have witnessed a coming together of people of very different political perspectives in favour of working for the good.

However, coming together in words and not in actions is not hope.

We Christians have to live as those who defend and witness to what life means. We are called to be heralds of peace and understanding; we are called to be heralds of life for those



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*



1st Holy Communion

Next Saturday 11th May at 11am, the girls from St. Colmcille's GNS will receive their 1st Holy Communion. I wish the school well in all their preparation this coming week, and I hope the weather is fantastic on the day.

First Penance

Congratulations to the cailini agus buchailli from Scoil an Duinninigh who received their First Penance (Sacramint na hAithri) last Wednesday. They were excellently prepared by their teachers Ms. Ide NicGearailt agus Ms. Marie Cutcliffe.

Easter Dues

A sincere thank you to all who have returned their Easter Dues envelopes. Your continued generosity is very much appreciated. *If you did not receive an Easter Card from the Parish containing a dues envelope, there are some available at the back of the Church. If you are not a regular contributor to the Parish and would like to do so, please leave your name and contact details with myself or in Sacristy or Parish Office.*

Bank Holiday – May

Monday 6th May is a Bank Holiday. 10.00am Mass only will be celebrated in St. Colmcille's – no 8.00am Mass

Third Sunday after Easter

The resurrection of the Lord dominates our celebration in these days of Eastertide. Today's liturgy provides an example of the transforming power of the resurrection. Peter's threefold confession of faith reverses his threefold denial of Jesus during the passion. Jesus' forgiveness of his disciple here is intended to assure disciples of every age of his forgiveness.

Reflection - The extraordinary catch of fish in today's scripture is intended by the writer to instill in his hearers confidence for the task ahead. It is not by their own efforts alone but by the power of the Spirit that the work will bear fruit. They shared a meal with Jesus on the shore of the sea. Today we share a similar meal with him and with one another. His presence among us is our principal source of confidence. *(Source: St. Paul's Missal)*

Alpha Youth - join other young people aged 13-30 for pizza, videos and chat - Thursdays from 7:30-9pm in St. Ita's room of Malahide Parish Centre, starting Thursday 9th May. For further details and parental consent forms for under 18's contact: myam.admin@gmail.com

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock

Some members from the three parishes in Swords took part in the Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock on the 27th April which also marked the 140th anniversary of the apparition. On arrival we were warmly welcomed by Fr. Gibbons the P.P. as we enjoyed a welcome cup of tea. We were invited to participate in a variety of workshops which were inspirational and helpful. The afternoon was taken up with the anointing of the sick at 2.30pm and followed by Mass at 3.00pm. The main celebrant was Archbishop Martin and many priests concelebrated. The Lucan choir sang at the Mass which added to the solemnity of the occasion. All returned home at 8.00pm after a very uplifting and enjoyable day.



Sr. Mary

Swords Launches 2019 Tidy Estates Competition

Swords Tidy Towns has once again joined forces with Greyhound Household to track down Swords' tidiest estate. Fifteen estates entered the competition last year and it is hoped even more will take up the challenge in 2019.

The competition begins on May 15th, with judging taking place in Mid-July. Estates will receive marks for the upkeep of common areas (40%); gardens (30%) and house exteriors (30%). The winning estate will receive €500 for spending on common areas, free skips for clean-ups and a winners' plaque.

For further information, call Grace Dunne at 087 6272332

Swords Tidy Towns Chairperson, Ken Duffy said: "Swords has made great strides in competing in the National Tidy Towns competition over the past few years. We have won a silver medal for the second year running and are continuously moving up the ranks, year on year. We hope the Tidy Estates competition will help us improve our position even further."

Greyhound Household Managing Director John Brosnan said: "We know, from our dealings with the dedicated team at Swords Tidy Towns Committee, the amount of time and hard work they put into enhancing the area. This is reflected in the town's continued climb through the Tidy Town's rankings. We hope this year's Tidy Estates competition will give their efforts a further boost."

God's Housekeepers

The next date for cleaning the Church is next **Friday 10th May** 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

Camino Walk by Fr John for the Parish's of Swords and Drynam.

Fr John is walking a stage of the Camino Frances from Caldazillo de la Cueva to Astorga, a distance of 148 kms. If you would like to make a donation of sponsorship towards parish funds for Swords and Drynam then fill in donation leaflet in Sacristy or Parish Office

