

There is no before or after, no greater or less. It is the symbol of perfection, of eternal life. We could circle the summit of a mountain many times without ever walking on the same path or even being at the same altitude. Ultimately our aim is union with God, who loved us so much that he sent his only Son onto the world to give us life. As we walk this journey of life together, let us celebrate these mysteries of our salvation in Jesus Christ and may he bring us all alike to everlasting life.

Fr. Michael Carey

Mass intentions for Next Week

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| Mon 8.00am Betty Stokes | Sat 10.00am Jim Mulligan |
| Mon 10.00am Charles & Noel Farrell | |
| Tues 8.00am Birthday Intention | |
| Tues 10.00am Kathleen Murtagh | Sun 8.30am James Rooney |
| Wed 8.00am Joan Kelly | E Corrigan |
| Wed 10.00am Arthur Agnew | Sun 11.00am Molly & Paddy O'Keefe |
| Thurs 8.00am Margaret O'Toole | Jacqueline O'Keefe |
| Thurs 10.00am Joe Humphries | |
| Fri 8.00am Altar List of the Dead | Sun 6.30pm Michael Campion |
| Fri 10.00am Altar List of the Dead | |

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:
Mary Graham **North Street**



Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM

Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am/11.00am(Irish)& 12 noon (No weekday Mass)

We are having our Pastoral Team meeting tomorrow evening. The agenda will include discussion on possible replacement of our prefab church with a permanent structure. Please let us know your thoughts and suggestions for inclusion on the agenda.



B.E. - BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

B.E. is a support group for those coping with the pain of loss of their life partner, through Death, Separation or Divorce. Few people are able to cope alone with the pain of loss. Do you find that you need more support than family and friends can provide? Seeking help is a sign of strength and self-knowledge – not weakness. This is a healing ministry, which helps to resolve the grief that goes with the end of a marriage or relationship. Coping effectively with bereavement is a skill we can all learn. A team, who are themselves widowed, separated or divorced share their experiences with you.

Next Coping Programme will commence on Wednesday 3rd February 2016 for 7 Wednesday evenings, at 7.15pm in White Friars Community Centre, Aungier St. ,Dublin 2 For further information phone 086 0877379 or email bedublin@gmail.com. www.beginningexperience.ie

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

One of the reasons why the liturgical calendar was rearranged by decree of the Second Vatican Council was to restore to Sunday one of its principal roles, the celebration of the mysteries of the Lord throughout the year. Who is Christ? What was he doing on earth? What is his role today? These are some of the questions which the Liturgy of the Word and of the Eucharist can help to answer.

Reflection - In his life Jesus reached out to people beyond the narrow boundaries imposed by the culture of his day. This challenged the presumptions of his native place. There are many versions of the caste system and all are equally opposed to what Jesus perceived to be God's plan for the human race. (Source: St. Paul's Missal)

Fr. Michael Carey-8403378: Fr. Peter McCarron-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

Liturgy Celebrates the Pascal Mystery

“Save us , O Lord our God...and make it our glory to praise you”

Newsletter Sunday 31st January 2016

We are now on the forth Sunday in Ordinary Time and in two weeks time we will be at the First Sunday of Lent. So I thought that I would write a newsletter on liturgy and the Liturgical Year. I have sourced this from the introduction to the Glenstal Sunday Missal and the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC).



The word liturgy comes from a Greek term meaning ‘*public work or work done on behalf of the people*’. Liturgy always referred to an organised community. A work, then, done by an individual or a group was a liturgy on behalf of the larger community. All the worshippers are expected to participate actively in each liturgy, for this is holy ‘work’, **not entertainment or a spectator event**. Every liturgical celebration is an action of Christ the High Priest and of his mystical Body, which is the Church. It therefore requires the participation of the People of God in the work of God.

Liturgy is centred on the Holy Trinity. At every liturgy the action of worship is directed to the Father, from whom all blessings come, through the Son in the unity of the Holy Spirit. We praise the Father who first called us to be his people by sending us his Son as our Redeemer and giving us the Holy Spirit so that we can continue to gather, to remember what God has done for us and to share in the blessings of salvation.

Through the liturgical celebrations of the Church, we participate in the Paschal Mystery of Christ, that is, his passing through death from life into eternal glory, just as God enabled the people of ancient Israel to pass from slavery to freedom through the events narrated in the Book of Exodus (Exodus – chapters 11-13). The liturgies of the Church also help to teach us about Jesus Christ and the meaning of the mysteries we are celebrating.

(Mystery – comes from Latin, *mysterium* and it is the idea of something hidden which has been revealed. The mystery is God's plan to unite all things in Christ, to gather together those who were far off, to reconcile Jew and Gentile through the cross. This is the mystery which has now been revealed to the apostles and prophets through the Spirit. Christ, the image of the unseen God, the beginning, the head of the body, the reconciler who makes peace through his death on the cross, is the revelation of the mystery which was hidden for ages but is now made known)

The Church has its year of worship, the Liturgical Year, which is closely connected to the changing rhythm of the natural cycle. Every year we recall the mysteries of our salvation, the mysteries of Christ's life among us. The centre of the Liturgical Year is the Easter Mystery and all the mysteries of the Liturgical Year, the mysteries of Christ, are always recalled in the light of Easter.

Through his mysteries, Christ is present with his Church, his chosen people, and in the power of the Holy Spirit he nourishes our faith, fulfils our hope and strengthens our love.

The liturgical cycle is not an endless round; it isn't about development, getting from one place to another. It isn't about getting older and wiser. It's about a cycle, the symbol of eternity, the symbol of God.

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Antiphon – “Let your face shine on your servant.”

Year of Mercy

The fifth paragraph of the Papal encyclical – ‘*Misericordiae Vultus*’ is as follows: The Jubilee year will close with the liturgical Solemnity of Christ the King on 20 November 2016. On that day, as we seal the Holy Door, we shall be filled, above all, with a sense of gratitude and thanksgiving to the Most Holy Trinity for having granted us an extraordinary time of grace. We will entrust the life of the Church, all humanity, and the entire cosmos to the Lordship of Christ, asking him to pour out his mercy upon us like the morning dew, so that everyone may work together to build a brighter future. How much I desire that the year to come will be steeped in mercy, so that we can go out to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God! May the balm of mercy reach everyone, both believers and those far away, as a sign that the Kingdom of God is already present in our midst!



Confirmation Mass

Next weekend the boys and girls and their families will be present at the 6.30pm Vigil Mass and the 6.30pm Sunday Mass as part of their Parish based preparation programme for the Sacrament of Confirmation. We hope to rekindle and remind the young people and their families of the experience of being at a Mass where we hope that they will feel at home in the Church, to feel that they belong and are welcome. We look forward to seeing them and praying with them.

World Day for Consecrated Life

In 1997, Pope John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day – We thank and pray especially for Sisters Margaret, Mary and Winnie and of course Sr. Patrick. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation. This day also marks the end of the Year of Consecrated life which Pope Francis inaugurated in 2015

Blessing of Candles

If anyone would like candles blessed they will be done so at the 8.00am and 10.00am Masses on Tuesday 2nd February – the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord or Candlemas Day

A REFLECTIVE SENTENCE The sick person is able to sense more than other people notice. - Reinhold Schneider (1903-1958, German author).

First Penance - girls first!

This week is a special week for the girls of our Parish Schools as they celebrate their First Penance. St. Colmcille's GNS will celebrate this Sacrament on Thursday 4th 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.

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 13th 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.’ *Blessed John Paul II*

There will be no 10.00am Mass this Saturday Morning

Parish Holiday to Vienna & Salzburg

Monday 27 June – Saturday 2 July 2016

*Home of magnificent buildings, elegant palaces, fine art, classical music, waltzes, coffee shops and beautiful gardens this is **Vienna** where you will be spending 3 nights before heading to the lovely Baroque romantic city of **Salzburg**, for the remainder of your holiday.*

Highlights include Guided half day walking tour of Vienna *Visiting the Melk Abbey*Half day walking tour of Salzburg*Half day Sound of Music coach tour **Cost: €895.00 per person sharing This price includes:** Return direct flight Dublin/Vienna, Munich/Dublin with Aer Lingus* 5 nights accommodation sharing twin room in 3star hotel* Meals: bed and breakfast + 2 dinners* **Extras:** Baggage fee (currently €50.00 – 15 kg) * Insurance: €28.00 (66 yrs+: double insurance premium applies) * Single room supplement: €35.00 per person per night Bookings and Information: Contact **Parish Office. Tel: (01) 8407277**

We welcome the following newly Baptised to our Parish Community:

Ivy Jane Boland Waschniewski, Daimhín Ó' Díomasaigh, Mark Joseph Noland, Olivia Ellen Ryan, Daniel Brendan Kearney, Kesandu Alexander Chigozirm Nwankwo



2016 Brackenstown Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Accompanied by a Spiritual Director -22nd—27th September 2016

Hotel Padoue—€729 per person sharing incl. Airport Taxes & Free Insurance.

Deposit €200 per person—Single Room Supplement €175 Contact Susan Keane 01 8407100 / 085 847 1539

St. Vincent de Paul

The outdoor monthly collection for the VdP, will be taken up next weekend (Feb 6th/7th) after all Masses. This is a week ahead of schedule as the ‘normal’ second Sunday of the month will have the annual Accord collection