



REST IN PEACE

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of

Carmel Mangan and Elizabeth Kirwan who died this week

For the souls of the following whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Joe Sadlier, Joan Dunne, Violeta Paris Beaver, Tony & Anne Curran, Michael Herity, Maureen Keenan, Peter Clancy, Terry & Denis Brazil, Daniel Hickland, Kathleen McLoughlan, Frank Smith,

And for John Woodfull whose Month's Mind occurs.

MAY THEIR SOULS AND THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD REST IN PEACE. AMEN.

CHURCH COLLECTIONS

The amounts collected last weekend are

DATE	GREEN BASKET	SHARE
21 st January 2018	€1,610	€1,100

The green basket is the collection for the support of the priests of the Diocese. The white basket is the collection for Share, which meets the needs both of poorer parishes and of central agencies of the Diocese.

We thank you for your contributions to the Church collections and for your continuing support of all the collections.

First Friday

Friday 2nd February is the First Friday of the month. We remember the Faithful Departed at the 7.30am and 10.00am Masses. There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after the 10.00am Mass until 11.30am unless there is a funeral.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will take up their usual monthly church gate collection after all Masses next weekend.

WEEKLY BULLETIN



St. Mary's, Star of the Sea, Sandymount

*Parish Office 6683894 / 6683316 – Monday to Friday 9.30 – 12.30
Fr. John McDonagh, Tel: 6684265 – Fr. Cormac McIlraith, Tel: 6686845*

www.stmarysstaroftheseasandymount.com

Sunday 28th January 2018

Amoris Laetitia

At the beginning of this year when we anticipate the visit of Pope Francis for the World Meeting of Families in August, his exhortation on Love in the Family entitled 'Amoris Laetitia' (The Joy of Love) might be considered essential reading in our preparation.

The Committee preparing for this significant event has prepared a six-session parish conversation in which participants are helped to reflect on and share their experience of family life and their response to Pope Francis' reflections in the Joy of Love.

Amoris Laetitia was written as an exhortation to the whole church following the two synods on family life, held in Rome in 2014 and 2015. It was published in March 2016.

In his introduction Pope Francis explains that the wide variety of questions raised in the Synod process has led to the 'inevitable length' of his Exhortation. He doesn't recommend a rushed reading of the text. "The greatest benefit, for families themselves and for those engaged in the family apostolate, will come if each part is read patiently and carefully, or if attention is paid to the parts dealing with their specific needs. It is likely that married couples will be more concerned with Chapters Four and Five, and pastoral ministers with Chapter Six, while everyone should feel challenged by Chapter Eight".

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The media have indeed focused on the fallout from Chapter Eight instanced in objections raised by four cardinals (two now deceased) and a group of international theologians.

Amoris Laetitia is a work of pastoral care, realistic and discerning, caringly acknowledging problems while rejoicing in the rich vision of the Gospel for family life. Over coming months we hope to journey through the pages of "Amoris Laetitia" in our weekly bulletin. It has nine chapters in all:

- Chapter One: In the Light of the Word
- Chapter Two: The experiences and challenges of families
- Chapter Three: Looking to Jesus; The Vocation of the Family
- Chapter Four: Love in Marriage
- Chapter Five: Love made fruitful
- Chapter Six: Some Pastoral Perspectives
- Chapter Seven: Towards a Better Education of Children
- Chapter Eight: Accompanying, Discerning and Integrating Weakness
- Chapter Nine: The Spirituality of Marriage and the Family.

If you haven't already done so, why not acquire your own copy of "Amoris Laetitia – The Joy of Love".

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BAPTISMS

We warmly welcome into the Parish Community:

- Pearse Thomas Hennessy*
- Séamus Elliott Loughney Flood*
- Samuel Fergus Nagle*

who were baptised last Sunday

'May you live always as members of the Body of Christ, sharing everlasting life'

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Celebrating Baptism

Our next meeting in preparation for Baptisms to be celebrated in February will be held **next Monday, 29th January, at 8pm in the Parish Meeting Room.**

The celebrations of Baptism in February will be on Sundays February 4th and 18th, after the 12 noon Mass. Parents are asked to please register with the Parish Office in advance of Monday 29th January and to attend the preparatory meeting.

Because it occasionally arises as a question, we confirm that godmother and godfather should be of each gender and that godparents must be over 16 and practising Catholics, at home in their faith. While normally we have two godparents, it is sufficient to have just one. Another may act as a witness rather than a godparent in that situation.

**Feast of the Presentation in the Temple
Friday 2nd February**

Friday next the Feast of the Presentation is also known as Candlemas. We bless the candles to be used in the church and welcome anyone who may wish to have candles blessed for use in their homes. Candles will be available for purchase at €2 each. Mass will begin at the back of the church from where, after the lighting and blessing of candles, the congregation will process to the front of the altar where the Gloria is recited. Then after the Opening Prayer, parishioners extinguish candles and return to their seats for the Liturgy of the Word.

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Blessing of Throats

Unless there is a funeral there will be blessing of throats after the 10.00am Mass next Saturday, 3rd February, the Feast of St. Blaise.

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Film Evening

A film evening will be held on Friday the 2nd Feb. at 7.30 pm in the parish meeting rooms. We will be showing the film 'Persepolis' All are very welcome.

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A Timely Reminder?

At the beginning of a new Financial Year in the Parish it may be a timely exercise to check if your traceable donations to the Parish exceed €250 a year (it's the equivalent of €21 per month).

It could be composed of the summation of Christmas and Easter Dues along with such monthly / annual donations as would render the cumulative amount to be €250 or greater. The Charities Act meets a €250 donation with a 31% rebate in benefit of the Charity. It means in effect that your €250 increases to a total donation of €362. What a pity if someone donates €247. Worth checking!

Renewed thanks to all who donate generously to the Parish in a weekly envelope or in standing orders or direct donations to the Parish.

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Clothing Collection for St. Vincent de Paul

The Society is seeking your help in its Annual Clothing Appeal in this Parish. The Appeal is for clean, good-quality clothes, bedclothes, curtains, shoes etc. Bags will be available outside the church on the weekend of 10th / 11th February. The Society will collect the bags outside the church the following weekend, 17th / 18th February at the Vigil Mass and Sunday morning Masses only.

The Society is very conscious of the tremendous support given by the parishioners of this Parish for their charitable works over the years. They would like to thank you all most sincerely on behalf of those you have helped.

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