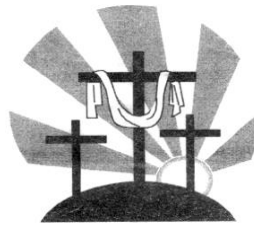


REST IN PEACE



Your prayers are requested for Christina Dent who has died and for baby Claire Kennedy, Frances Dignan and Charles Hulgraine whose anniversaries occur at this time.

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

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CHURCH COLLECTIONS

The amounts collected last weekend are:

DATE	GREEN BASKET	WHITE BASKET
31 st March 2024	€1,540	€975

The green basket is the collection for the support of the priests of the Diocese, known as the Common Fund. The white basket is normally 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.

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

RCN2001616

www.stmarysstaroftheseasandymount.com

Sunday 7th April 2024

The 2nd Sunday of Easter sees us, every year, listening to the Gospel story of Thomas' wonderful confession of faith: 'My Lord and my God'.

It emerged in the meeting of Jesus' with them on the Sunday after Easter Day. While others were sharing the amazing news encounter with the Risen Lord, Thomas, who hadn't had any such experience, was defiantly saying 'unless I see the holes the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe'.

Perhaps the real significance of today's Gospel story is that Jesus, the Risen Lord, will meet each of us wherever we are at. Jesus singled out Thomas in his lack of faith and met him exactly where he had placed himself. Look, Thomas 'put your finger here; look here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer, but believe.' Our honesty before the Lord and our openness to Him are each very important.

Psychologists have identified different levels of faith among members of the Christian community. The Lord in loving mercy towards all humanity will meet us at whatever level we're at to help us receive His love and respond, like Thomas, with faith. Very often it is our doubts and questions that allow the Lord to bring us to a deeper faith, just as Thomas' doubting was transformed into the strongest statement of faith we find in the Scriptures:

My Lord and My God.

Change to Mass Times

Until we have a replacement for Fr Cormac, please note that daily mass times will change for the next few weeks. Until further notice we will have one Mass per day: **7.30am on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and 10am on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.**

Do This In Memory

Our next 'Do this in Memory' Mass with children preparing for First Communion and their parents will be on Sunday next at 10.30am. Parents are asked to share with their children before next Sunday's Mass the material in Grapevine 8 and to help children complete the exercises on pages 58, 59, 60 and 61 of Thumb. Pages 22 and 23 of Thumb should also be shared at home with the children.

Cuppa after Mass

After 12 o'clock Mass this Sunday, April 7th, there will be a chance to meet and share a cuppa at the back of the church. We hope you can join us !

St Vincent de Paul

St Vincent de Paul collection will take place this weekend 6/7th April. Your support is appreciated.

Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral council meets this Monday at 8pm.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock

The annual diocesan pilgrimage to Knock takes place on Saturday April 27th. The idea of going on pilgrimage goes back hundreds of years in the Church. In the Middle Ages, crusaders went to Jerusalem try to liberate the Holy City. One of the good things about a pilgrimage is that it gives us an opportunity to step out of our daily lives and try to gain some fresh perspectives on the challenges that we face and to try to learn a bit more about ourselves. It's also a good opportunity to reflect on our faults and failings, as we all have them, and to ask Our Lady to pray to her son Jesus to help us to overcome them.

For the past number of years, we haven't had sufficient interest to engage a pilgrimage bus from the parish. Perhaps this year, we might join

with our partnership parishes if numbers warrant bus hire. Please let us know if you are interested by contacting the parish office.

Golf Classic 2024

The Golf Classic this year is planned for Friday, May 24th in Elm Park Golf Club. The timesheet is now open! If you would like to play in this year's event or come along to the meal after golf, please contact Martin Coonan on 087 230 4042 or fill out an entry form – available at the back of the church this weekend. . We thank Martin Coonan and his team for their commitment to what is a significant fundraiser for the parish. Last year's Classic raised €14,522.21; a great achievement.

Trocaire Boxes

We kindly request that those returning Trocaire boxes leave them in the sacristy rather than at the back of the church. Thank you.

Young Adult Camino 2024

The Diocesan Young Adult Camino has launched the Young Adult trip to the Camino June 2024. Completing the last 110km of the Camino from Sarria to Santiago, this is a pilgrimage not to miss! Places are limited and all details, including preparation days, can be found in the poster. If you wish to book, please fill out the form available on www.dublindiocese.ie or email natalie.doherty@dublindiocese.ie

Year of Prayer 2024

This Lent, as part of the Year of Prayer 2024 declared by Pope Francis, Fr Frank Drescher has prepared a series of homilies on various forms of prayer, both traditional and contemporary. The full homilies and additional resources are available at www.kilnamanaghcastleview.com/year-of-prayer-2024/.

Lough Derg

The Lough Derg Pilgrimage season for 2024 opens on Sunday 5th May until Sunday 22nd September. Full details of upcoming retreats are available at www.loughderg.org or on the poster at the back of the church.

Charleston Choir

The Charleston County School, of the Arts Vocal Department in the US enjoys a long tradition of excellence in choral music. The SOA singers have performed locally, nationally and internationally having recently performed in Rome, Florence and Venice. They will sing at Whitefriar Street at the 6pm Vigil Mass on Saturday, April 13.