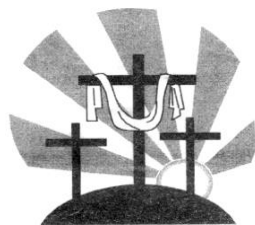


REST

IN



PEACE

Your prayers are requested for Catherine and Patrick Mason, Rose and Andy Dodd, Joyce Greene, Con O'Rourke, Brian Siggins, Justin McEntaggart, Peggy McNamara, Ramon Dionaldo, Terry and Joe Gavin and Jody Gavin, Kathleen Gannon, Gerard McLoughlin whose anniversaries occur: and Rosa McAuliffe whose month's mind occurs at this time.

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

We extend a warm welcome to all who are visiting us this weekend.

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CHURCH COLLECTIONS

The amounts collected last weekend are:

DATE	GREEN BASKET	WHITE BASKET
5 th Nov 2023	€995	€525

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.

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
RCN2001616

www.stmarysstaroftheseasandymount.com

12th November 2023

St Laurence O'Toole

On Tuesday next, Nov 14th, we celebrate the feast day of St. Laurence O'Toole, the patron saint of the Dublin Archdiocese. Born around 1128 in Castledermot in Kildare, Laurence was the son of Maurice, a district king in the area of West Wicklow and South Kildare. Early in life Laurence became a hostage at the court of Dermot McMurrrough, the king of Leinster. Hostage taking was a means of control over minor district kings and it was only when his father captured 12 of McMurrrough's soldiers that Laurence was enabled to return home in a hostage exchange. That exchange was overseen by the Abbot of Glendalough Monastery, where Laurence spent 12 days as part of the process of his liberation. Not long after, the boy was to become a student at the famous monastery and in time abbot of Glendalough, at the age of 25. About nine years later, in 1162, Laurence became Archbishop of Dublin and was consecrated in Christ Church Cathedral. Dublin in Laurence's day was a Viking City and the arrival of Normans at the invitation of Dermot McMurrrough to Waterford and Dublin, transformed Dublin into a Norman city in just 10 years. As its bishop, Laurence was a person with a great commitment to justice and peace and a particular regard for the poor of the city, and for the plight of homeless children. After the citizens of Waterford were massacred by the invading Normans, Dublin was panic stricken in late 1170, to find the combined forces of Normans and McMurrrough at it's gates. Laurence, who negotiated an agreement with Dermot McMurrrough, was the mediator of peace in the situation.

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However the Normans ransacked the city and slaughtered citizens, handing the city over to Strongbow, while Vikings fled. When the Irish combined under Roderick O'Connor, the High King, to besiege Dublin, the Normans took them by surprise and the siege failed. Through all these turbulent years, Laurence was turned to constantly as a mediator. He travelled over and back to England in difficult intermediary negotiation with Henry II, king of England. On his last visit in 1180, Henry forbade his return to Dublin. He went to France where he died at Eu.

Our news these days are filled with stories of hostage taking and appalling violence in the Middle East. Laurence lived through such trauma in his day as a person of extraordinary effort for justice, charity and peace. His life still speaks to us.

Share Appeal Sunday

The annual SHARE appeal takes place this Sunday. The SHARE newsletter 2023 and letter from Archbishop Dermot Farrell about how collections, gifts, donations and bequests support the work of the Church in the Archdiocese of Dublin, is available at the back of the church this weekend.

Do this in Memory

Next Saturday 18th November at 9am, the planning group meets in preparation for our next mass on Sunday 26th November.

AGM on Wednesday Nov 29th

The Parish AGM will be held on the 27th November in Star of the Sea School Hall at 8pm. All are invited as the Parish Pastoral Council and the Parish Finance Committee make annual reports and new members are elected to the Pastoral Council. Nomination forms are at the back of the church inviting nominations. Please give thought to the possibility of serving on the Council for a term of three years or of suggesting to someone you know, with care for the parish, to do so.

Parish Pastoral Council

The next PPC meeting is on this Monday 13th at 7.30pm.

Lectio Divina on Tuesday Evening

Lectio Divina continues this Tuesday at 6.30 to 7.30, in the church meeting room.

Explorers

The next meeting of the Explorers group is on Monday 20th in Christ Church (*and not in the parish meeting room as posted in last weekend's bulletin*). We continue the reading of St John's Gospel with Sean Goan.

Boosterstown Parish Mission

Boosterstown Parish is holding a mission in the Church of the Assumption on Mon 13th, Tues 14th and Weds 15th of Nov at 7.30pm each night for one hour. It will be led by John Pridmore, international speaker and author of the bestselling book From Gangland to Promised Land. He will be joined by Mgr Ciaran O'Carroll and Fr Adrian Crowley. John will share his story and speak of God's great mercy and His healing love.

Pioneer Pledge

Pioneer Pledge for the month of the Holy Souls: A short-term pledge gives spiritual support and encouragement to people and their families who are living under a shadow of addiction. For more ph 01 8054226 or www.pioneers.ie/pray/.

Advent Retreat

'Tear Open the Heavens' Advent Retreat with Sean Goan. **Thursday, December 7, to Sunday, December 10.** The focus will be on the scriptures of Advent with a special focus on Isaiah, whose writing continues to inspire us to yearn for the coming of the Chosen One who brings light and hope into the darkness of winter. Cost: €300 residential, full board Thursday to Sunday. €180 non-residential, supper Thursday, lunch Friday, lunch Saturday & Sunday Limited places still available. **To book please contact 01 4048123 or 4048189 (10.30am – 2.30pm Monday to Friday), dominicanretreats@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/DominicanRetreatCentre/.** The centre is also running a Mindfulness for Christmas event on December 2 – see attached.

Bethany

We have been blessed in recent years to have had a well established Bethany Group, ready and available to support people in bereavement. We would like to see the group grow again and appreciate that it calls for a generous commitment. If anyone is interested in learning more about what's involved, please let us know.

Church Gate Collection

Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind will hold a collection after all Masses next weekend.