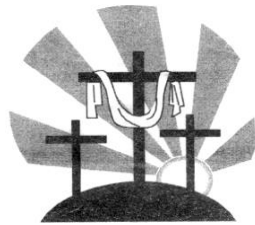


REST IN PEACE



Your prayers are requested for Oonagh Fitzsimons and Evelyn O’Neill who died recently and for Emma and Sammy Rigley, Christy Murphy, Stephen Murphy, Evelyn Mulreany, June Ashmore, Gerry Costello, Frank and Sharon Waters, Lily Burke, Sr Frances Teresa, John and Maureen Hanaphy and sons Billy, Seán and Paul Hanaphy, Christine O’Doherty, Maura Kiersey, Joyce Greene, Fr Ted Hurley and Damian Reid, Mary Fahy and Tom and Rose Ryan, whose anniversaries occur, and for 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.

CHURCH COLLECTIONS

The amounts collected last weekend are:

| DATE | GREEN BASKET | WHITE BASKET |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| 12 th Nov 2023 | €770 | €925 |

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

19th November 2023

World Day of the Poor

At the close of the Jubilee year of Mercy, in November 2016, Pope Francis published an Apostolic letter entitled ‘Misericordia et Misera’, ‘Mercy and Misery’. This was a phrase of St Augustine in his reflection on the gospel story of the woman caught in adultery.

Among the messages of his letter in 2016, Pope Francis nominated this Sunday, the 33rd Sunday of the year, as ‘World Day of the Poor’. In establishing this day, he said it would serve as the ‘worthiest way to prepare for the celebration of the Feast of Christ the King, who identified with the little ones and the poor and who will judge us on our works of mercy.’

In his letter to mark ‘World Day of the Poor 2023’, Pope Francis reflected on the story of Tobit in the Hebrew Scriptures and drew on Tobit’s advice to his son Tobias for this year’s theme : ‘Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor (Tob 4:7).

Pope Francis in this year’s letter says: ‘ We are living in times that are not particularly sensitive to the needs of the poor. The pressure to adopt an affluent lifestyle increases, while the voices of those dwelling in poverty tend to go unheard. We are inclined to neglect anything that varies from the model of life set before the younger generation, those who are most vulnerable to the cultural changes now taking place. We disregard anything that is unpleasant or causes suffering, and exalt physical qualities as if they were the primary goal in life. Virtual reality is overtaking real life, and increasingly the two worlds blend into one. The poor become a film clip that can affect us for a moment, yet when we encounter them in flesh and blood on our streets, we are annoyed and look the other way.

‘Let us thank the Lord’, he also adds, ‘that so many men and women are devoted to caring for the poor and the excluded’.

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.

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.

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.