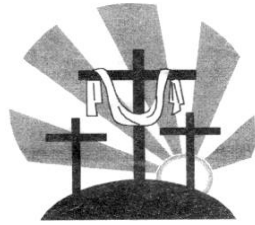


REST IN PEACE



Your prayers are requested this weekend for Carmel Payne, Desmond Harrold and Nuala Smyth, Eddie O'Donovan and Ken Hession who have died and for the following whose anniversaries occur; Sarah and Joseph Kane, Jim Bohan, John Fitzpatrick, Joe King, Helen McDonagh, Sheila Murphy, Hugo Patrick Kilty, and for Doreen McDermott and Elizabeth 'Lily' Burke whose families are marking their month's mind 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
Jan 6 st	€290	€ 190
Jan 8 th	€1035	€ 760

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

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

Many thanks to all our parishioners for your ongoing support and generosity.

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 RCN20016166

January 15th 2023

The Church Unity Octave

One of the consistent messages of recent Popes is that to be truly Christian one must be ecumenical. Ecumenism is essential to Christianity, valuing the lives of fellow Christians across traditions and desiring that unity for which Christ prayed.

‘May they be one’

There is a very long history to the Church Unity Octave and its setting between January 18th and 25th each year. It has grown like many a great river from what was originally a small stream. A Catholic priest in America and a Protestant minister initiated an ecumenical endeavour which swelled under the influence of French Christians between the two world wars, was further enhanced by the Second Vatican Council and by the World Council of Churches in Geneva.

Each year the Christian traditions in a chosen city of the world set about choosing a theme and creating a draft text for ecumenical prayer gatherings. That text travels onward and is further enriched by the offices of the World Council of Churches and by the Vatican's Office for Ecumenism until a final draft is agreed, translated into many languages and appropriately distributed.

This year's theme and text was initiated by Christians in Minneapolis. The theme chosen is **‘Be-Longing: Praying for Unity amidst injustice’** and in Dublin the week of prayer will begin in Christ Church Cathedral this Wednesday at 8pm when preacher will be Paul Canon O'Driscoll, parish priest of the travelling people in our diocese.

‘Ut unum sint, we pray – that ‘ They may be one’

Do This in Memory Mass

The 'Do This in Memory' Mass for 1st Communion children and parents will be on Sunday next at 10.30am. In preparation children should have completed all the pages in the Kidstuff section of Thumbs up to page 53. Parents are asked to share the material on pages 16 and 17 of Thumbs and also the material in Grapevine 4 with their children.

Parish AGM

The Parish AGM will be held on Wed, January 25th. The AGM will see the Pastoral Council report on its work and the Finance Committee present audited accounts for 2021. Vacancies on the Parish Pastoral Council are to be filled by election that evening and it's a good time now for people to consider nominations. Meeting once a month, the commitment of the Council members to the Parish community, and the community at large, is inspiring. Perhaps you would like to consider giving your time and talent for the enrichment and betterment of our Parish community? All parishioners over the age of 18 years are eligible for election. We would welcome your prayerful consideration of the possibility that yourself or someone you know might be willing to serve the Parish on a three year term with the Parish Pastoral Council. Nomination forms need to be submitted to the Parish office by Monday 23rd. The forms are available at the back of the Church and can also be downloaded from our Parish Website.

Week of Prayer

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity takes place from January 18th to 25th. It's inauguration in Dublin will take place at an interdenominational Service in Christ Church Cathedral on Wednesday 18th January at 8pm, with guest preacher Paul Canon O'Driscoll. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is a privileged moment of prayer, encounter and dialogue. It is an opportunity to recognise and receive the richness and value that are present in the other, the different, and to ask God for the gift of unity.

We also appreciate very much the effort made by parishioners to attend the four nights on Advent Evening Prayer held during the weeks of Advent across the local Christian traditions.

Hands of Hope Cards

We have just received a delivery of some of the beautiful handmade 'Hands of Hope' cards from Fr Briain de Burca. All proceeds go directly to the charity which supports villagers living with or affected by HIV/AIDS with creative and dignified employment.

"Hope is like the sun, which, as we journey toward it, casts the shadow of our burden behind us".-
Samuel Smiles

Tax Forms

Letters to acknowledge parishioner donations for the years 2020 and 2021 will be sent out next week. We have also enclosed CHY3 tax cert forms with the letters. We would like to thank you if you signed and returned the CHY3 Cert last year. However if for some reason you did not get a chance to sign it, perhaps you could sign, fill in your PPS and return to the parish office. This will ensure that we can continue to claim tax relief on donations which is vital for the day to day running of our parish. If for some reason you have made a donation and have not received a letter or form please let us know and we can check the Pastoral Management System and make sure that your details are fully in order.

Marian College celebrate with 'Grease'

Yes, it's 50 years since the first stage performance of the Marian College Drama Society - 'The Cooley Connection' - in 1973. The first musical, 'Oliver' was performed in 1976, and this year the show is the ever-popular 'Grease'. It will run for just two nights - Thursday 19th and Friday 20th January at 8pm each night. For tickets please text/WhatsApp/ or phone Ray at 0879195012.

Becoming Human, Becoming Divine

Becoming Human, Becoming Divine, which presents the spiritual teaching of Blessed Columba Marmion, written by Fr John Columba McCann OSB, will be launched by Veritas Publications on **Monday, January 30**, at 7.30pm, the centenary day of Blessed Columba's death. The launch will take place in Holy Cross Church, Dundrum, D14 K820, where Blessed Columba was a curate. The book will be launched by Patricia Carroll, director of the Office of Mission & Ministry. The evening will include prayer and music, and will be followed by light refreshments in the pastoral centre. All are welcome, and parking is available.

Staying grounded in challenging times

Join Teresa Larkin at the Dominican retreat and Pastoral centre, Tallaght, on Saturday 21st January 2023 10am – 3pm for a mindfulness retreat. Learn to connect with your inner peace, strength and stability; learn grounding techniques to help you through stressful times; find your own compassionate voice; explore the world of the senses, how to calm the nervous system. All Welcome Cost: €60 (including lunch and teas & coffees) Limited places still available! Contact Anita 01-4048123 or 4048189 or email dominicanretreats@gmail.com or (www.facebook.com/DominicanRetreatCentre).
www.goodnews.ie