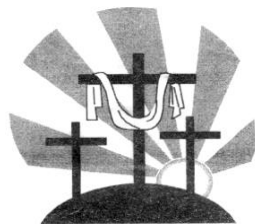


REST IN PEACE



Your prayers are requested this weekend for Pat Murray, Frances Dignan and Josephine O'Connell, who died recently and for the following whose anniversaries occur: Peggy Courtney and Luke James Courtney, Mary Coone, Phil Dunne, Michael O'Kennedy.

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
April 9 th 2023	€1,560	€1,070

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.

Our thanks also to those who have sent in Easter Dues donations.

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

April 16th 2023

2nd Sunday of Easter

There is something very likeable about Thomas. He always sticks with the facts and is ready to ask questions others are afraid to ask.

Remember how on the eve of Jesus' crucifixion he said: 'we don't know where you're going, so how do we know the way?'

So it's very much in keeping with character that when others report that they've seen the risen Christ, he says to them: 'unless I see the holes that 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? Still sticking with facts and asking the questions.

But he stayed with his searching mind and was with the disciples a week later when Jesus came to them again. He came directly to Thomas' doubt. In answer to Jesus, Thomas expressed the deepest faith when he answered 'My Lord and my God.'

Today, psychologists of faith perceive an importance in questions and doubts that we face in the journey of faith. They are potentially stepping stones to a deeper faith when we allow the Lord to speak to them, to bring us to a deeper level of understanding in faith. The pity is often that, unlike Thomas, people may walk away at the first question and doubt rather than allow time to mature in faith and commitment with the Lord's help.

“their eyes were opened and they recognised him. But he had vanished from their sight”.

Christ being known in the breaking of the bread and his vanishing from sight remains the weekly experience of a Christian person in the Eucharist. He meets us still in the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. He does so, just as, the ‘stranger’ filled those two disciples hearts on the road, interpreting their experiences in the light of Scripture and opening their eyes to his presence in breaking the bread in the roadside inn. And they returned with joy to Jerusalem to spread the news. So too, we go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Do This in Memory

This weekend sees us gather for the last in a series of seven Masses we celebrated with children and parents who are preparing for First Holy Communion Days. The girls from Scoil Mhuire, Lakelands, will celebrate on May 6th, boys from Star of the Sea school will celebrate on May 13th and children attending St Matthew’s School will celebrate on Sunday, May 21st. We look forward to these celebrations with them.

A special thanks to the parents who have been a great help in planning and organising our ‘Do This in Memory Masses; Bríd Slattery, Deborah Reid, Pauline Quinn Flanagan, Caroline Keane, Emer O’Sullivan and Rina Divito.

After this Sunday’s Mass, we encourage the children to complete Kidstuff 9 on pages 62 and 62. You could also look over all the Kidstuff exercises from page 40 to page 63 and complete any exercises you haven’t finished yet. Parents are asked to share pages 26 and 27 after today’s Mass and in the weeks ahead, pages 28 and 29. The weeks before First Communion might see an opportunity to revise the stories of different parts of the Mass with your boy or girl from page 10 to page 29. Thank you parents for sharing your understanding and appreciation of the Mass with your child as you prepare to present her/him for First Communion.

Frank Duff Prayer Group

The monthly meeting will take place on Tuesday, 25th April ‘23 at 4.15 pm in the Parish meeting room. The Rosary will be recited & all intentions prayed for. All are welcome. Refreshments served’

Children’s Choir

Children’s choir will have their last rehearsal this Monday 24th April at 6pm in the church. Please come along to this last s

New Schedule of Sunday Mass

From the beginning of June we will have a change of schedule to our Sunday Masses, reducing the number of Sunday morning Masses from three to two. Both the Parish Pastoral Council and the Partnership Pastoral Council (Sandymount, Ringsend and Haddington Rd) have a busy week ahead to identify the proposed schedule of Masses in our partnership before the May 1st deadline. A change in the Sunday morning Mass schedule may affect those who have booked particular Masses for their intentions from June onwards. We haven’t contact numbers for them and would be obliged if they could contact the parish office with their contact details.

Prayer and Meditation

Pat Talbot has kindly offered to continue with the prayer and meditation group that was held in Lent, if sufficient interest exists in the parish. He proposes to resume in May, beginning on Tuesday 2nd for the whole month. Please let us know via the parish office if you are interested in attending.

Trocaire boxes final Call

Thanks to all who have returned Trocaire boxes to the church. We ask those who still have boxes at home to kindly drop them back this week. Families like those of Nasteha Mahat and others in Somalia are depending on the support of Trocaire where the worst drought in 70 years has left hundreds and thousands on the brink of starvation.

www.trocaire.org

SAVE THE DATE! Friday 19th May Star of the Sea Annual Golf Classic 2023

Elm Park Golf Club

If you would like to sponsor an Ad or Tee Box please fill in a Booking Form and return it to the Parish office or email to stargolfclassic@gmail.com or contact: Martin Coonan: 087 2304042 or Charlotte O’Neill: 086 2162348.

B.E. – Beginning Experience

B.E. is a support group for those coping with the pain of loss of their life partner, through Death, Separation or Divorce. Do you find that you need more support than family and friends can provide? Seeking help is a sign of strength and self-knowledge not weakness. This is a healing ministry, which helps to resolve the grief that goes with the end of a marriage or relationship. A team, who are themselves widowed, separated or divorced share their experiences with you. Next residential Programme will take place on 14th May in Avila Carmelite Centre Donnybrook, ph 086 0877379 or email bedublin@gmail.com

ession before the summer, we look forward to
seeing you!