



## REST IN PEACE

Your prayers are requested this weekend for the soul of Brother Mel Kenny of Marian College who died last week.

And for the souls of the following whose anniversaries occur at this time:

*Maura O'Connor Hannon; William, James, Sarah & Martina O'Gorman; Jacqueline & Anne Lejeune; John Browne; Jim Bohan; Sean Hegarty; Larry Whelan; Mary & Jerry Kennedy; Michael Keane; Sandy Smith; Bunny (Jean)O'Connell; Dick O'Mahony; Brendan & Nancy Allen; Charlie, Claire and Charles Kelly; Samuel Clarke; Paul Kemple; Deceased members of the Kelly family;*

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	SHARE
15 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	€1,480	€995

The green basket is the collection for the support of the priests of the Diocese.

The white basket is 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.

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### Thank You

Dear Parents and Guardians we would like to remind you that all children and vulnerable people should be accompanied by a parent or guardian when using the bathroom facilities in our church.

## 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 McLraith, Tel: 6686845

[www.stmarysstaroftheseasandymount.com](http://www.stmarysstaroftheseasandymount.com)

*Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2019*

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### *Mary's Week in Advent*

On this last Sunday of Advent the focus is firmly on Mary. In one of the classic reflections on Mary's life, Pope Paul VI in February 1974 wrote the following in his document on Mary, 'Marialis Cultus.'

"The Virgin Mary has always been proposed to the faithful as an example to be imitated, not precisely in the type of life she led and much less for the sociocultural background in which she lived and which scarcely today exists anywhere.

Rather she is held up as an example to the faithful for the way in which in her own particular life she fully and responsibly accepted the will of God because she heard the word of God and acted on it, and because charity and the spirit of service were the driving force of her actions. She is worthy of imitation because she was the first and most perfect of Christ's disciples."

This last week of Advent sees us celebrate Mary more than at any other time in the year's liturgy.



## CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS 2019

**Carol Service:** Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 5.00pm

### Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December (Christmas Eve)

7.30am Mass

10.00am Mass

3.00pm Children's Christmas Prayer Drama

### Masses in celebration of Christmas (Christmas Eve)

6.00pm Vigil Mass for Christmas

9.00pm Mass for Christmas Night  
preceded by Carols and Blessing of the Crib

### Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December (Christmas Day)

Masses at 9.00am, 10.30am (Family Mass) and 12 noon

#### Morning Mass:

Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> and Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> to Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> at 10.00am.

Usual weekend Mass times on Dec. 29<sup>th</sup> and Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>.

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm; Sunday 9.00am, 10.30am and 12 Noon.

The 7.30am daily Mass resumes on Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>.

### Masses on Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>, Feast of the Epiphany

7.30am, 10.00am and 6.00pm.

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#### Baptisms in January

Our next meeting in preparation for Baptisms to be celebrated in January will be held on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> December, at 8pm in the Parish Meeting Room.

The celebrations of Baptism in January will be on Sunday January 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> after the 12 noon Mass.

Parents are asked to please register with the Parish Office in advance of Monday 30<sup>th</sup> and to attend the preparatory meeting.

Because it occasionally arises as a question, we confirm that godmother and godfather should be of each gender and that godparents must be over 16 and practising Catholics, at home in their faith. While normally we have two godparents, it is sufficient to have just one. Another may act as a witness rather than a godparent in that situation.

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### 'Do this in Memory'

We thank the children preparing for First Communion and their parents who came to the 'Do This in Memory' Mass last Sunday. Between now and our next special Mass on January 26<sup>th</sup>, we ask parents to work with their children on the following pages of their Thumb book; pages 16 and 17 and then Kidstuff 4 on pages 48 to 53 of Thumbs. You'll notice that pages 50 to 53 offers an exercise for each of the 12 days of Christmas up to January 6<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of Epiphany. The pages of the newsletter, Grapevine 4, delivered this week offer further material to work on at home with the children. Between now and Christmas Eve the Advent Calendar on pages 46 and 47 of Thumbs invites ongoing colour-in work. Plenty of work for the Christmas time!

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#### Star of the Sea Church Christmas cards

Christmas cards featuring panels from the stained glass windows in Star of the Sea Church are available in the Bookshop. The Parish card and Christmas schedule is available for delivery. People who kindly deliver the cards for us might call to the Parish office.

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#### Supporting the Parish

Parishioners are often surprised to hear that collections at Mass, and Christmas and Easter Dues do not go to the upkeep of a parish but to the Diocesan Common Fund enabling the support of priests and to the Share Fund, supporting both the poorer parishes and the central diocesan offices.

We're very grateful to all who directly support the parish through a weekly envelope collection or through standing orders at specified intervals. Should you wish to avail of the weekly envelope or the form to initiate a regular donation, please don't hesitate to let us know. You may wish to review the amount you give in donation at this time, as we approach the financial year end on December 31<sup>st</sup>.

As you know, a traceable donation of €250 or more enables the parish to avail of a tax rebate. This is a good time to review our donations so far this year. It's a pity to find a donation total that's only a couple of Euros short of €250 when for the sake of a small amount, €250 becomes €362 with the benefit of a rebate. It's the sum total of Christmas and Easter dues along with the total in envelope collections, standing orders or recorded once off donations that counts.

Our sincere thanks to all who generously support the parish.

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The Sandymount Matero Friendship Programme would like to thank Parishioners for their most generous contributions throughout the year and wish them all a very Happy Christmas and New Year. Please visit the website [sandymountmatero.com](http://sandymountmatero.com).