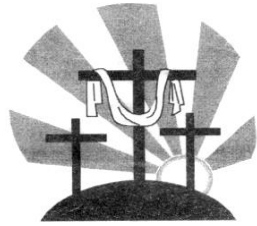


REST IN PEACE



Your prayers are requested this weekend for the souls of
 Martina O’Gorman and Deirdre McMenamin who died recently,
 And for the souls of the following whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Peggy Ralph, Kathy Brogan; Bobby Gray and his son, Robert Gray;
 Mary Ryan, Noel & Mary Somers,

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

CHURCH COLLECTIONS

The amounts collected last weekend are

| DATE | GREEN BASKET | SHARE |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------|
| 17 th March 2019 | €1,575 | €1,140 |

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.

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

Sunday 24th March 2019

First Reconciliation

We used to call it ‘First Confession’! Then for some years we called it
 ‘First Penance’. Today, the preferred title is ‘First Reconciliation’, the
 sacrament of God’s forgiveness. Over a hundred boys and girls will, this
 week, celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation in our parish for the first
 time when they come on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings to
 celebrate in the communal rite of the sacrament.

It may evoke memories in all of us of our own experiences of first receiving
 the sacrament of God’s forgiveness. The old experience of entering a dark
 confessional with the priest pulling back a little window; prompting our
 ‘Bless me Father for I have sinned ...’ and inviting our confession of our
 litany of failures has long ago made way for a much warmer and happier
 celebration of God’s mercy and forgiveness.

Nowadays we speak first of our goodness, made as we are in the image of
 God. But we also recognise how we can lose some of our goodness but that
 God desires and enables our recovery when we turn to Him in honesty and
 seek the Lord’s forgiveness. It is a very precious meeting place with the
 Lord.

There is room in all our lives to say

“O my God, I am sorry for all my sins;
 for not loving others and not loving You.
 Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again.

There is room also to hear deeply in our hearts’

“I absolve you from all your sins,

in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit”.

It is our fervent prayer for all our young boys and girls that they will grow to develop a good healthy conscience, one that can distinguish right from wrong and knows when and why something is truly wrong and why, when we yield to it, it provokes realistic guilt. It is then we appreciate the Lord’s compassionate mercy, encouraging us in our receiving forgiveness ‘to go our way and not sin again’.

Isn’t it a good thing to review our lives from time to time rather than drift unquestioning into the future? Like the father of the prodigal son, he awaits our coming to our senses and making our way to the Lord. Young and old alike we seek the Lord’s mercy and forgiveness, especially during Lent.

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Lenten Evening Prayer of the Church

The Lenten Evening Prayer of the Church continues this Tuesday evening, March 26th, at 6.15pm rather than 6.30pm to facilitate the Celebration of First Penance at 7.00pm.

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Baptisms in April

Baptisms will be on 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month as a general rule. In April there will not be a celebration on the 3rd Sunday, which is Easter Day. We will have a celebration of Baptism on the following Sunday instead. And we warmly invite parents who may wish to have their child baptized at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night.

In April the sacrament will be celebrated on April 7th, at the Easter Vigil on the night of April 20th and on April 28th.

Baptism Application forms are available in the parish office Monday – Friday 9.30am to 12.30pm. Applications, giving 1 month’s notice, must be made in advance of the preparatory meeting for each month’s celebrations. The date for the preparation meeting for April Baptisms is Monday, 1st April at 8.00pm in the Parish Meeting room.

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‘Do This in Memory’

This Sunday we welcome boys and girls and their parents who are preparing for First Communion and First Reconciliation to the 10.30am ‘Do This in Memory’ Mass. Our next ‘Do this in Memory Mass will be on April 14th at 10.30am. The Grapevine is available this Sunday for St. Matthew’s school parents and will be distributed in Star of the Sea and Scoil Mhuire early this week.

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Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council wishes to highlight during this Lent the contribution made by volunteers. Please remember to **pray this week for the musicians and Choir members who enhance our praise and glory to God.** The joy and beauty of the Mass is highlighted with their service, and praise is more soulfully received with their assistance. We pray for their abilities and for membership to grow as they give witness to the life of the Church and Mass.

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**SAVE THE DATE! Friday 31st May
Star of the Sea Annual Golf Classic 2019**

Elm Park Golf Club 

Pray, Pay, Play!

To book a place or sponsor an Ad or Tee Box please fill in a Booking Form, available on the table at the back of the Church, and return it to the Parish office, Star of the Sea Church Tel: 01 6683316

OR by email to stargolfclassic@gmail.com
OR CONTACT: Martin Coonan: 087 2304042
Charlotte O’Neill: 086 2162348
Maxine Pilkington: 087 8445992

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Trocaire Lenten Appeal

Just a gentle reminder! As a parish community we encourage you to take the Trocaire Appeal to heart this Lent. Over 700 million people in our world live in dire poverty. Trocaire is the face of Irish charity to all who live in such need. Please be part of our response. You may have received the Trocaire box through our schools. If not, there’s a plentiful supply at the back of the church.

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Habitat for Humanity

Brian Barron, one of our young parishioners, is travelling to Jordan with 20 fellow students at Gonzaga College and 4 teachers, for 8 days at Easter with Habitat for Humanity. In fund raising for this worthy cause Brian has organised a Coffee Morning in our School Hall this Sunday morning. You may wish to give them your support.

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Thank You

All children and vulnerable young people using the bathroom facilities in our church should be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

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Legion of Mary

*The Frank Duff prayer meeting will take place on Tuesday, 26th March from 3-4 pm in the Parish meeting room.
All welcome.*