

REST IN PEACE

Your prayers are requested this weekend for the souls of

June Ashmore and Aileen Hargaden who died this week

For the souls of the following whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Noreen Moriarty, Kathleen, Patrick and Sarah Moran, Fr. Tim Hurley, Nancy, Jack, David & John Doran, Laurence Dunne, Michael Ryan, Patty Nelson & deceased family members, Philip Murphy, Frank Healy, Christina & George Humphries and their son, George, May & Alan Harold, Grace & Pat Doonan, Joseph Jones, Tony Harnett, Michael & Glenda Kelley,

And for Richard (Dick) Martin whose Month's Mind occurs.

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
18 th November 2018	€1,420	€945

The green basket is the collection for the support of the priests of the Diocese. The white basket collection 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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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 25th November 2018

Red Wednesday

On Wednesday next, Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) has organised an initiative to highlight the persecution of millions of Christians in our world today. The Irish Bishop Conference encourages our participation in this event by praying the Angelus and wearing an item of red clothing. Knock Basilica, cathedrals and parish churches are to be lit up red in solidarity with persecuted Christians worldwide and to raise awareness of their plight.

Christians constitute 80% of all religious persecution worldwide. Up to 200 million Christians live in conditions hostile to the Faith and to the existence of Christians, where the simple act of blessing oneself or saying a prayer can constitute a death sentence. The staggering number of Christian martyrs is estimated at over one million since the year 2000. One of the few attempts to highlight this reality was in Rubert Shortt's book 'Christianophobia', published in 2012. Worth reading.

'There has been an appalling lack of protest about the ongoing and severe persecution being faced by Christian communities in certain parts of the world, particularly in the Middle East and North Africa', Archbishop Neary of Tuam reported this week. 'It is essential that we support our fellow Christians through prayer and that we seek to raise awareness of their plight in our national media and in other ways such as the Red Wednesday initiative. The aim must be to prompt political action to bring this persecution to a halt.'

Celebrating Baptism

Our next meeting in preparation for Baptisms to be celebrated in December will be held **this Monday 26**th **November, at 8pm in the Parish Meeting Room.**

The celebrations of Baptism in December will be on Sunday December 2nd and 16th, after the 12 noon Mass.

Parents are asked to please register with the Parish Office in advance of Monday 26th November and to attend the preparatory meeting.

Because of our experience that sees large numbers choosing a particular day for Baptism, we feel it is in everybody's best interest that we set a maximum number of 6 children to be baptised in each celebration. We encourage parents to get in touch with us early so as not to be disappointed.

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.

Sacramental Preparation for First Communion
We welcome the First Communion classes and parents to
this Sunday's second of eight special Masses as we prepare
for First Communion celebrations next May.

Our next 'Do this in Memory' Mass with the children and their parents will be on December 16th.

++++++++++++++++ Parish Pastoral Council AGM on Wednesday

The Parish Pastoral Council would like to thank all parishioners who attended the AGM last Wednesday night. The Council welcomes Helen Byrne, Fiona O'Brien, Triona Long, Valerie Sweeney and Joe McNamara as new members following their election at the meeting. As we welcome them we extend gratitude to Janet Daly (chairperson), Mark Cunningham, Ronald Long, Sr Felicia, Sr Joan, and Tom Moran who have completed their term on the Council and have served the Parish so well. The first meeting of the new PPC will be on 10th December at 7.30pm.

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Marian College Musical Society & Muckross College presents

School of Rock - The Musical!

Thursday 29th and Friday 30th November at 7.30pm nightly in Marian College Hall Tickets: students €10; adults €12; Family Ticket adults €40 Phone: (01) 668 4036 for tickets.

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Legion of Mary

The Frank Duff prayer group will meet on Tuesday, 27th November from 3-4 pm in the Parish meeting room, Star of the Sea church. All welcome.

Charity in Advent

During this Advent there will be a distinct focus on the homeless and the poor in the invitation of this lovely Season to prepare for the Lord's coming. It begins next Sunday 2^{nd} December.

The first Sunday of Advent will see us in response to the Crosscare Annual Parish Food Appeal. Crosscare work with many individuals and families throughout the Archdiocese who are struggling to make ends meet. Their foodbank provides support with essential food and household items. Thanks to last year's generous response from parishes 10,000 emergency hampers were distributed to those most in need before Christmas. This year the most needed items for the foodbank are:

- a Toiletries and cleaning products
- b Non-perishable food
- c Festive foods.

We invite one another's generosity next weekend.

On the second Sunday of Advent, 9th December, the St. Vincent de Paul Society appeal will be made at all Masses that weekend and will take the place of the Share collection. It's a very important fund raising day for the Society to enable it to meet people's needs throughout the year.

On the third Sunday of Advent, 16th December, a Coffee Morning is planned, raising funds for the Peter McVerry Trust and creating a good social opportunity after Mass. Later that evening we hope for a great parish gathering at 5.00pm for Advent carols and refreshments will follow.

On the three Tuesday evenings of this year's Advent, Tuesday 4th December, 11th December and 18th December at 6.30pm we invite you to come to the communal celebration of the Evening Prayer of the Church.

It is a simple yet inspiring way of preparing for Christmas and well worth the time. Both young and old are invited.

Father John or Fr. Cormac will preside, the Franciscan Sisters and some parishioners will lead and take the part of cantor

We need your support. Please, come along with your family and friends. All will be able to join in and it will be no more than half an hour of praise and prayers to God.

With Advent beginning next Sunday the bookshop has a number of items for both Advent and Christmas for adults and for children. Copies of the Advent book 'Walk with Me' with daily reflections for each day in Advent are also available.

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