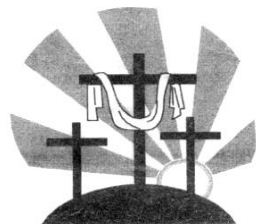


REST IN PEACE



Your prayers are requested this weekend for the souls of

James Curry, Edward Kane and Joan Molloy who died this week

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

Lily James, Jack & Nora O’Leary, Damian Reade, Nuala Sullivan,
Anne Hancock, Barrie Heffernan, Kathleen Queenen, Tony Harnett,
Samuel Clarke, James Reade, Gerard Brazil, Brendan & Nancy Allen,

*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
25 th November 2018	€1,795	€1,285

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.

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 2nd December 2018

Advent

We are familiar with the way each season has its own character. Not only have we distinct impressions of Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter in terms of weather, length of the day, time indoors or outdoors or our typical seasonal activity but we can recognise too that each brings a unique contribution of life, colour and fruitfulness. In the bleakness of winter we are treated to the emergence of lovely seasonal plants like the crocus and snowdrop. Winter cultivates them.

The spiritual seasons, too, have each of them a unique character, fostering particular aspects of our personalities in faith.

Unfortunately Advent is often crowded out nowadays by its nearest neighbour Christmas, to the point where we might easily neglect the spiritual flowers we’re encouraged to cultivate in this ancient season spanning four Sundays before Christmas begins. If we were asked to name the spiritual crocus in the heart of Advent it must be the ability to wait with joyful hope in every circumstance and especially for the coming of our Saviour again, with all the promise it holds for us.

So let’s work on the virtues that are time related – patience, courage, hope, personal growth and change where it’s called for, meeting needs of others in a troubled world, leaving space for God in prayer and then Advent will become a real spiritual adventure and not just the very busy time to be endured before Christmas.

Celebrating Baptism

Our next meeting in preparation for Baptisms to be celebrated in January will be held on Monday 31st December, at 8pm in the Parish Meeting Room.

The celebrations of Baptism in January will be on Sunday January 6th and 20th, after the 12 noon Mass.

Parents are asked to please register with the Parish Office in advance of Monday 31st December 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.

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Feast of the Immaculate Conception

On Saturday next we celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Conception. Masses will be at 9.00am, 10.30am and 12 Noon.

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Do this in Memory

We thank the parents and children who came to the First Communion ‘Do This in Memory’ Mass last Sunday. Our next Mass will be on December 16th at 10.30am. In the meantime, we encourage parents to share the following pages in THUMB with their children, pages 14 and 15, and pages 44 to 47.

You will notice that pages 46 and 47 are an Advent calendar inviting the children to colour in a section each day. The material in the newsletter, Grapevine 3, is also important for sharing before December 16th.

With gratitude to the parent team who met to prepare the last Mass, our next meeting will be on next Saturday 8th December.

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Crosscare Food Collection

This weekend we hold the annual Crosscare Food Collection. Last year’s collection enabled Crosscare to distribute 10,000 hampers to people in need. As we mentioned last week the items that are particularly needed for the Crosscare Foodbank are

1. Toiletries and cleaning products
2. Non-perishable food items
3. Seasonal items

We thank all who have brought donations to our Masses this weekend.

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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. All on the 16th December. All welcome.

ST.VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Next Sunday is reserved for the annual appeal of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. This is a special appeal to you to ask for your support. The need is great as we approach the Christmas season. Your generosity makes a huge difference to the lives of a number of local people who are suffering. Your contribution provides them with food vouchers, toys, fuel, clothes, school books, etc.

The Society’s special Christmas Church collection will take the place of the Share collection at all Masses in the parish next weekend, Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th December, 2018.

The Society is very aware that you may be somebody /or know somebody who is in need of assistance. If so please make contact in confidence:

- Through the main St. Vincent de Paul Office at (01) 8550022 and they will notify the local members.
- By leaving a note (in an envelope addressed to St. Vincent de Paul) in the parish office.
- By phoning their local helpline 086 8461273, for assistance.

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Evening Prayer (Vespers) in Advent

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. All welcome.

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Church Bookshop

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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LEGION of MARY - MEETING TIME CHANGE

Please note : The weekly meeting has changed to the earlier time of 3 p.m. on Wednesdays in the Parish meeting room. New members are very welcome.

Also the Christmas re-union takes place this Sunday in Wynn’s Hotel. For further information please contact Anne : 087 8374837.