



REST IN PEACE

Your prayers are requested this weekend for the soul of Kay O'Connor who died this week. And also for the souls of the following whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Larry Norton; Peter Moore; Christine Cooney; Philip Fitzgerald; Frank Hollingsworth and his parents, Mary & Tom, Thomas McCann;

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	MISSION SUNDAY
24 th October 2021	€740	€1,835

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

The white basket last weekend was the annual collection for Mission Sunday.

We thank you for your contributions to the Church collections and for your continuing support of all the collection

Our recent Crosscare collection amounted to €2,855.00, a wonderful reflection of parishioners generosity in a time of pandemic.

WEEKLY BULLETIN



St. Mary's, Star of the Sea, Sandymount

Parish Office 6683894 / 6683316 – Monday to Friday 9.30 – 12.30
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Sunday 31st October 2021

Entering November

All Saints Day

Tomorrow, Monday, we enter the month of November on a very positive note. We celebrate the Feast of All the Saints. Now, that is worth celebrating, in the encouraging memory of all the people who were wholesome (a better word for 'holy') and were truly expressions of God's love made visible in human lives. If some were famous enough to be canonised, most were to be recognised in a tighter circle of contemporary family and friends. You might recognise them in your own family and friendship circle, people who lived gracefully in the values of the Gospel who have gone before us in faith, hope and love. We celebrate them all. Besides the daily Mass at 7.30am and 10a.m., there will be an evening Mass at 6pm tomorrow.

It is fitting that we begin on that positive note because it reflects our faith and hope in the face of death and November is after all preoccupied with death. We believe in Christ our Saviour and in the gift of the Holy Spirit that Jesus promised. 'It is good that I go because unless I go, I cannot send you the Holy Spirit.' It is in the relationship we hold with the Blessed Trinity that we are enabled to live wholesomely and to anticipate heaven. We are Resurrection people and 'Alleluia' is our song.

All Souls Day

On November 2nd, we celebrate All Souls Day. There is a note of sober reality in this day, a recognition that life, as we see and experience it, is not altogether wholesome. 'The whole of creation groans inwardly for its redemption'. The daily news invariably brings stories of human failure and of sinfulness. There is darnel among the wheat. We may even recognise ourselves as a mixed bag of both. We can see it in the world around us, in the strange mixture of great wealth and dire poverty,

in selfish ambition alongside human helplessness and dependency, in the ongoing destruction of the planet, in crime and heroic kindness on the same street. Of course, our spiritual journeys can be affected by all of this. It isn't plain sailing and we know it. So, there is room in our lives, while treasuring a Saviour, to see our spiritual shortcomings. When death comes we pray that we may be brought into the glory of God but we recognise the room to grow as we take stock of our shortcomings. It is what we try to say in speaking of Purgatory as a journey of ongoing growth of the soul before entry into the glory of heaven. So, All Souls Day invites our prayer for all of the dead that they may complete the spiritual journey that leads to heaven.

November Lists of the Dead

The custom of writing down the names of loved ones who have died and placing them in the November memory bank of the Eucharistic community is a long established and good action. You'll find November Dead List forms and envelopes at the back of the Church. The November Dead Lists are maintained for the year and on the First Friday of each month prayed for at all Masses. The 30 days of November offer opportunity to devote times of prayer to individual relations and friends who have died, perhaps even in giving each day over to a particular person. 'Alive or dead, we belong to the Lord'. We pray for them but we also draw life and example from them that speaks to our own journey. It is a time for both a 'please God' and a 'thank you' as we hold each one in memory.

All Souls Day Indulgence Tradition- a new extension.

Some, too, may wish to honour the dead by upholding the tradition whereby between 12 noon on November 1st and midnight on November 2nd all who have confessed, received Holy Communion and prayed for the Pope's intentions (one Our Father, one Hail Mary and any other prayer of choice) can gain one plenary indulgence by visiting a church or oratory and there reciting one Our Father and the Apostle's Creed. This indulgence is applicable only to the souls of the departed. Confession may be made at any time within the week preceding or the week following November 1st. Holy Communion may be received on any day between Nov 1st and Nov 8th.

The faithful who visit a cemetery and pray for the dead may gain a plenary indulgence applicable only to the Holy Souls, on the same conditions, once per day from Nov 1st to Nov 8th. For further information on Indulgences see, Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1471-9,1498.

On Thursday last the Vatican decreed that the plenary indulgence for the faithful departed may be applied on any day of one's choice during November both in respect of visiting a church or oratory or by visiting a cemetery, under the prescribed conditions. One is no longer limited to the traditional periods as outlined above.

Bethany Mass, Tuesday 7pm

Of particular significance is the Mass this Tuesday evening at 7.00pm, we refer to as 'The Bethany Mass', when members of the Bethany Bereavement Group in the parish organise a Mass to remember all who died in our parish in the past year. Relatives of those who died are particularly invited along but, with the transmission of the virus such a serious reality at

present, we understand fully that some will, like many of our parishioners, prefer to link with the Mass by way of the webcam.

Knock Mass, Nov 14th at 3pm

On November 14th, all the bishops of Ireland will celebrate Mass together at Knock at 3pm for everyone who died in Ireland during the pandemic. For all the families concerned it has been a particularly difficult time when severe restrictions pertained to funerals and to the difficulties of bereavement time.

Trocaire Collection Nov 6th and 7th

Next weekend at all Masses in Ireland a collection will be taken for Trocaire's work in East Africa, whereby presently 30 million people face life threatening food shortages.

A prayer for November

Lord God,
whose days are without end
and whose mercies beyond counting,
keep us mindful
that life is short and the hour of death unknown.
Let your Spirit guide our days on earth
in the ways of holiness and justice,
that we may serve you
in union with the whole Church,
sure in faith, strong in hope, perfect in love.
And when our earthly journey is ended,
lead us rejoicing into your kingdom,
where you live for ever and ever. Amen.

November Matches at Aviva.

The November series of matches at the Aviva will be exciting for many but it brings considerable difficulty to us at times of liturgy when parking becomes virtually impossible. When a family came from Leixlip recently to arrange their brother and uncle's funeral, they found themselves locked into our church grounds when a person with a Northern registered car decided to park directly in front of the church gate when he came to an international soccer match at the Aviva. They were obliged to sit and wait for two hours.

It might be important to note the schedule of matches this month.

Saturday Nov 6th, next Saturday, Ireland v Japan at 1.00p.m.

Thursday Nov 11th, Ireland v Portugal at 7.45pm

Saturday Nov 13th, Ireland v New Zealand at 3.15p.m. and

Sunday Nov 28th, Ireland v Argentina at 2.15PM.

It will be difficult to find parking for the 6pm Mass on Saturday Nov 13th while the same will apply to parking for 12 Mass on Sunday 28th and the Scheduled Baptism celebration that day at 1.30pm. We may have to consult with all concerned intending a baptism celebration that day.

Zoom. Rev. Dr Katie Heffelfinger, a bible scholar, will lead their four autumn sessions on 'Poetry and imagination in the Hebrew Bible'. The next monthly meetings are set for 15th November and 13th or 20th December, 2021.

Those who are interested to participate and are not yet on the Explorers address list, please, send your e-mail address or postal address and telephone number to Anngret Simms at her e-mail address: Anngret.Simms@ucd.ie.

Sanitising the church

As you are aware, since March 2019, the church has been sanitised after each Mass by a team of dedicated volunteers. We are all most grateful to them for their unfailing service – to keep us all safe. As times change, the practices in the parish will reflect that. We will continue sanitising the church after each Mass until 22nd October, and would ask for your continued support in this activity. After that date, other arrangements will be put in place. At Masses attended by small numbers, it will help if people sit close to the end of a seat and place a piece of coloured paper from the basket left at the entrance area to indicate to those sanitising where their cleaning action is required, rather than cleaning all the seats.

Explorers

The Explorers are an informal ecumenical group with the aim of reading scriptures together. All are welcome. This year all presentations will again take place on

