# **REST IN PEACE**



Your prayers are requested this weekend for Tom Keating, Berna O'Gorman, Dermot Ward and Fr Conor Murphy O.M.I. who have died and for the following whose anniversaries occur; Tim O'Donnell, John Doyle, Zack Foley, Pat Flood, Declan O'Loughlin, Patrick and Christina Nevins, Nora Lincoln, Rita Mulligan, Joseph and Evelyn Duffy, Elizabeth Shaw, Andrew and Susan Dent, and for John Drumm who's months mind occurs.

# 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	<b>GREEN BASKET</b>	WHITE BASKET
Feb 25 <sup>th</sup> 2023	€1,060	€ 9280 *( Syria/Turkey)

The green basket is the collection for the support of the priests of the Diocese, known as the Common Fund.

The white basket is the collection for Share, which meets the needs both of poorer parishes and of central agencies of the Diocese.

\* Last weekend the Share collection was replaced by the collection for Turkey and Syria which raised €9280 to help all those affected by the earthquake. What a marvellous response you made to that appeal.

Many thanks to all our parishioners for your ongoing support and generosity.





St. Mary's, Star of the Sea Sandymount

Parish Office 6683894 / 6683316 – Monday to Friday 9.30 – 12.30Fr. John McDonagh, Tel: 6684265 – Fr. Cormac McIlraith, Tel: 6686845www.stmarysstaroftheseasandymount.comRCN20016166

March 5<sup>th</sup> 2023

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

As we walk with Jesus, our Lord, on this second Sunday of Lent, we're brought up a mountain to an extraordinary event shared with Jesus by his close disciples, Peter, James and John. We refer to it as the 'Transfiguration' and whenever "transfiguration" is mentioned, we immediately think of what happened on that mountain.

The three disciples had an extraordinary experience that they would not forget. They saw Jesus in glory: "his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light". Moses and Elijah appeared, talking with him – confirming him as the fulfilment of the Law and the Prophets and a voice from heaven affirmed him: "This is my Son, the Beloved, he enjoys my favour. Listen to him". No wonder the disciples were overwhelmed, caught between "it is good for us to be here" and at the same time "overcome with fear".

It was a unique experience of Transfiguration and yet throughout the ministry of Jesus there is a constant work of transfiguration – "the blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have good news preached to them (Luke 7:21-22) and the Resurrection of Jesus will be the ultimate story of Transfiguration. (continued over page)

#### (continued from page 1)

(i) Think for a moment of how you would like to be transfigured. What would it take to transform you to exude new life, radiant and glowing?

(ii) Jesus brought the same three disciples into the Garden of Gethsemane with him (Mark 14:33). They were also selected to witness the raising of the daughter of Jairus (Mark 5:38). Do you see significance in these three disciples attending these three events?

(iii) Amid all the ups and downs of life we experience some moments that stand out as "heavenly", when we, too, say "how great for us to be here". Can you identify such moments in your life?

#### Saturday Supper Mass this Sat evening

In a monthly undertaking, families attending 6 p.m. Mass this Saturday are invited to partake of a simple meal afterwards in the School Hall. As part of the Parish fulfilment of the Diocesan policy of Accompaniment of Families, it is hoped to find ways to help parents to establish a mass-going practice amidst the business of life and competing interests and activities. In generating a community of younger parishioners with a shared interest in passing on the faith to their children, they will share their strength in times of need and sustain each other in other areas such as Sacramental Preparation.

#### **Coffee and Chat**

The Parish Council invites you to a Coffee Morning after 10 a.m. Mass on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March, to meet each other for opportunity to share your views and offer your ideas and assistance in filling areas of service which you see lacking in the Parish or might be needed in the future.

#### St. Mary's Haddington Road, Patrick Finn Lecture

Our Partner Parish's Patrick Finn Lecture series begins this Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> March at 7 p.m., when Fr. Kieran O'Mahony will deliver a talk entitled "The Christian Imagination, the 'Camino' of the Lent Readings", followed by refreshments.

# Knock Pilgrimage

The annual 2023 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock, which will be led by Archbishop Farrell, will take place on **Saturday, April 29**. For more information and booking email knockpilgrimage@dublindiocese.ie

# **Meditative Prayer**

Every Tuesday in Lent, a meditative prayer meeting with scripture, for beginners and all who would like to come together in reflective prayer, will be led by Pat Talbot in the Parish Meeting Room at 7 p.m. until 8 p.m.

#### Lenten Evening Prayer

During Lent we are holding Evening Prayer each Thursday at 5.30 p.m. in the Church. All are welcome.

#### Ecumenical Evening Prayer

We are once more joining together with St. Matthews (Church of Ireland) and Christ Church (Methodist)congregations to hold Lenten Ecumenical Evening Prayer in the parish which will be hosted on Tuesday evenings, commencing on Tuesday 14th<sup>th</sup> March, at 7 p.m., by each of the three Churches in succession, order to be announced shortly.

# **Do This In Memory Mass**

The next special Mass with children and parents preparing for First Communion and First Reconciliation will be on Sunday next, March 12<sup>th</sup>, at 10.30am. We encourage the children to continue their 'Stepping Stones for Lent' on page 57 of Thumb, along with completing the exercise on page 56. We look forward to our celebrations of First Reconciliation in a few weeks time. Grapevine 6, which was distributed after our last special Mass offers helpful notes and prayers in preparation for First Reconciliation.

# **Confirmation**

We look forward to the celebration of Confirmation with our young people on Thursday March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please keep them in mind and prayer. The Ceremony of Light will be celebrated on Monday March 13<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

#### A Prayer for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

We pray for those who feel defeated by life, who believe that life has somehow passed them by,, we pray for all who are disfigured or scarred in body, in mind, or in spirit; for all those who are named or known by their affliction or sin.

We pray for ourselves that we might never undervalue the power of love and attentiveness; that we might never harbour our love needlessly, nor ignore the little people in life who hunger to be noticed and counted.

May the Lord look upon us with kindness and mercy; may the Lord shine his radiance upon us and all whom we cherish; may the Lord keep us forever in the embrace of his loving gaze. Amen (Fr Denis Mc Bride CSSR)