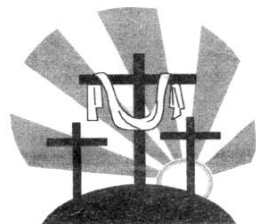


REST IN PEACE



Your prayers are requested this weekend for the souls of

Michael Byrne, Emilia Brazil and Joseph Browne who died recently

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

Mollie & Dinny Foley, Declan O’Loughlin, Don Sheridan, John Coady, Jeremiah Lincoln, Bridie White, Uldarico & Dionisio Amparado,

And for Anne Collins 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
3 rd February 2019	€1,340	€815

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 10th February 2019

World Day of the Sick

This Monday, February 11th, is the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. It is also the 27th World Day of the Sick, inaugurated in 1993 by Pope John Paul II to be celebrated annually on February 11th. This year World Day of the Sick will be solemnly celebrated in Calcutta. In our diocese the Archbishop will celebrate the Eucharist with the Anointing of the Sick in the Parish Church of Corpus Christi, Drumcondra, this Sunday at 3.00pm. As mentioned in last week’s Bulletin the Diocese has also hosted a conference this Saturday morning in All Hallows College on the theme of ‘Community struggling with addiction – a pastoral response’.

It won’t be lost on us that this year’s World Day of the Sick is taking place at a time of strain and difficulty in the Irish Health Service. The economics of modern health care seem very challenging but the challenge isn’t simply a financial one but one of truly humanizing the service and of respecting and upholding each person’s dignity.

In his message for World Day of the Sick, Pope Francis this year highlights the place of ‘Gift’. ‘Amid today’s culture of waste and indifference, I would point out that ‘gift’ is the category best suited to challenging today’s individualism and social fragmentation, while at the same time promoting new relationships and means of cooperation between peoples and cultures. ‘Gift’ means more than simply giving presents: it involves the giving of oneself, and not simply the transfer of property or objects. ‘Gift’ differs from gift-giving because it entails the free gift of self and the desire to build a relationship.

It is the acknowledgement of others, which is the basis of society. "Gift" is a reflection of God's love which culminates in the incarnation of the Son and the outpouring of the Spirit".

The way we are with the sick in a hospital situation calls for supportive solidarity as an essential virtue. Visiting a terminally ill patient in hospital some years ago, I asked 'how are you, today, Paddy'? His response stayed with me: 'today I am over the moon. I met a human being in here today – someone who actually took time to talk to me and listen to me'!

Prayer for World Day of the Sick

I pray that Mary, Health of the Sick, will continue to grant her loving protection to all who are wounded in body and spirit, and will intercede for those who care for them.

May she help us to unite our sufferings with those of her Son as we journey in joyful hope to the safety of the Father's House.

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Baptisms in March

Our next meeting in preparation for Baptisms to be celebrated in March will be held on Monday 25th February 2019, at 8pm in the Parish Meeting Room.

The celebrations of Baptism in March will be on Sunday March 3rd and 24th, after the 12 noon Mass.

Parents are asked to please register with the Parish Office in advance of Monday 25th February and to attend the preparatory meeting.

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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Clothing Collection for St. Vincent de Paul

The Society is seeking your help in its Annual Clothing Appeal in this Parish. The Appeal is for clean, good-quality clothes, bedclothes, curtains, shoes etc. Bags will be available outside the church this weekend, 9th and 10th February and the Society will collect the bags outside the church on the following weekend, 16th / 17th February at the Vigil Mass and Sunday morning Masses.

The Society is very conscious of the tremendous support given by the parishioners of this Parish for their charitable works over the years. They would like to thank you all most sincerely on behalf of those you have helped.

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Survey on the Sacraments

The Archbishop has issued a general invitation to take part in an Archdiocesan sacraments survey. The link for the survey is <https://www.dublindiocese.ie/survey-on-sacraments/>

The Archbishop is anxious that no one feels left out in their ability to respond.

ACCORD Dublin

Catholic Marriage Care Service

The Annual Collection of ACCORD, the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family, will be made at all Masses on the weekend of 16th and 17th February. The collection for ACCORD will replace the usual Share Collection.

ACCORD Dublin throughout the diocese offers:

- Marriage Preparation Courses,
- Counselling for couples and individuals experiencing difficulties in their relationships.
- A Relationship and Sexuality Programme for Schools.

ACCORD Dublin needs your support. Please give generously.

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Eucharistic Ministers

We are extremely grateful to all our Eucharistic Ministers for their dedicated service in our liturgical celebrations.

There may be some in a position to respond to an invitation received from St. Vincent's University Hospital chaplaincy. The chaplaincy is seeking volunteers from local parishes who might extend their Eucharistic ministry to the hospital. It involves a commitment for a year to come either once a week (Tuesday / Thursday or Sunday) or twice a month. Volunteer Eucharistic Ministers will be allocated a specific area of the hospital and the ministry will take about an hour.

Please get in touch with the Parish office if you are interested in following up. An information meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th February at 7.00pm in the hospital chapel

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A Timely Reminder?

At the beginning of a new Financial Year in the Parish it may be a timely exercise to check if your traceable donations to the Parish exceed €250 a year (it's the equivalent of €21 per month).

It could be composed of the summation of Christmas and Easter Dues along with such monthly / annual donations as would render the cumulative amount to be €250 or greater. The Charities Act meets a €250 donation with a 31% rebate in benefit of the Charity. It means in effect that your €250 increases to a total donation of €362. What a pity if someone donates €247. Worth checking!

Renewed thanks to all who donate generously to the Parish in a weekly envelope or in standing orders or direct donations to the Parish.