

# REST IN PEACE



Your prayers are requested this weekend for the soul of Declan Meagher, whose funeral took place this week;

And for the souls of the following whose anniversaries occur at this time:  
*Joyce Green, Peggy MacNamara, Colm Rock, Rose Clancy,  
 Louis & Vera O'Neill, John O'Connor, Mary Duggan, Dan O'Kane,  
 Phil & Eddy O'Reilly, May & William Morley, Jane & Joseph Linnane,  
 Joseph & Sarah Kane,*

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	GREEN BASKET	SHARE
1 <sup>st</sup> November 2019	€320	€100
3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2019	€1,365	€865

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.

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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](http://www.stmarysstaroftheseasandymount.com)

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

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### The Ongoing Challenge

If the TV images of climate change possibilities in a few decades time don't do it, the torrential rain this week might serve to deepen our concerns. While locally we worry about the increasing signs of dampness encroaching on our beautiful church and the failure of remedial action so far, the implications for global catastrophe are all the more serious. Pope Francis Encyclical 'Laudato Si' was a worldwide wake up call to help humanity understand the destruction that we are rendering to the environment and to one another.

The Synod on the Amazon concluded recently and we await both the publication of its final document in English as well as the Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis in response to it. It will undoubtedly embrace ecological issues, critical as the Amazonian Forest is to the global climate. It will also address issues of ministry and of liturgical expression among indigenous people. Many hope it will awaken the Church to new possibilities.

In the course of the Synod, Pope Francis reminded the 185 synod fathers that the Holy Spirit was the "main actor" in the process. "Please don't chase him out of the hall," he added. He advised them not to lose their sense of humour and to pray hard.

The anxieties we hold for the future of planet earth call for courageous action and for hope. Returning to the words of the Pope in his encyclical:

“Yet all is not lost. Human beings, while capable of the worst, are also capable of rising above themselves, choosing again what is good, and making a new start, despite their mental and social conditioning. We are able to take an honest look at ourselves, to acknowledge our deep dissatisfaction, and to embark on new paths to authentic freedom. No system can completely suppress our openness to what is good, true and beautiful, or our God-given ability to respond to his grace at work deep in our hearts. I appeal to everyone throughout the world not to forget this dignity which is ours. No one has the right to take it from us” (par. 205).

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### **‘Do this in Memory’**

Our next ‘Do this in Memory’ Mass, attended by the children preparing for First Communion and their parents, will be on November 24<sup>th</sup>. Meantime parents are reminded to share with their boy or girl the items on Grapevine 2 and the following pages of Thumbs 12 and 13, 42 and 43 – To mark November in their Sacred Space in church we’ll be asking the children to bring a fallen leaf to represent people in their families who have died. They’ll be placed, when collected, at the altar garden in front of St Joseph’s altar. Our next parents’ planning group meeting will be on next Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> Nov at 9am.

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### **Registration for Confirmation**

To establish the definitive list of those who wish to celebrate Confirmation next March we ask again that if anyone has not already done so he/she and parents should submit their registration form as soon as possible. All candidates are asked to confirm their Baptism by presenting a Baptism Cert at earliest convenience. If a young person was baptised in Star of the Sea it will suffice to indicate so on the registration form, giving some direction as to the date. A ceremony of Commitment will follow in November, on a date to be decided this week.

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### **Retreats**

Details of upcoming retreat opportunities in Nov-Dec are posted on the church notice-board should anyone wish to pursue them.

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### **Thank You**

Dear Parents and Guardians we would like to remind you that all children and vulnerable people should be accompanied by a parent or guardian when using the bathroom facilities in our church. We thank all volunteers who have insured that Garda vetting is updated and complete.

### **Baptisms in December**

Our next meeting in preparation for Baptisms to be celebrated in December will be held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2019, at 8pm in the Parish Meeting Room.

The celebrations of Baptism in December will be on Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> after the 12 noon Mass.

Parents are asked to please register with the Parish Office in advance of Monday 25<sup>th</sup> 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. While normally we have two godparents, it is sufficient to have just one. Another may act as a witness rather than a godparent in that situation.

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### **Annual Mass for Deceased in our Parish**

We thank all who came to the Bethany Mass on Thursday evening last. The Bethany Group is available to meet with anyone who is in bereavement. You can make an appointment by phoning the Parish office 6683316/6683894.

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### **Parish Pastoral Council AGM**

The Parish Pastoral Council will hold its AGM on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm in the Star of the Sea School Hall.

It is an occasion for reports from the Pastoral Council and its sub-committees as well as the Financial Report for the year ended December 2018.

With a number of Parish Pastoral Council members coming to the end of their term of office, the AGM also represents an evening when new members are appointed. There are nomination forms at the back of the church. All parishioners, members of our parish Eucharistic gatherings, over the age of 18 years are eligible for election. Candidates are to be nominated by two parishioners.

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### **Manresa – Sitting in Silence**

Sometimes it is easier to be silent when in the company of others; if you would like to join a group to sit in stillness and quiet, you are welcome to Sitting in Silence. Rather than offering teaching, instruction or guidance, these evenings will simply present an opportunity for companionable, contemplative quiet.

On Wednesdays in November from 6.00pm to 6.30pm.

### **Manresa – Advent Weekend Retreat**

A retreat in Advent is especially precious as it has become a time with lots to do and much attention to time and dates. This retreat will take as its theme, **Lead kindly light** – inviting participants to consider where inspiration and hope lies for them in Advent.

Fri 29<sup>th</sup> Nov. to Sun 1<sup>st</sup> Dec. & Fri 6<sup>th</sup> to Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Dec.