

REST IN PEACE



Your prayers are requested this weekend for the souls of

Mollie Foley, David Finnegan and Raymond Patrick Joyce who died recently.

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

Francie, Ivor & John Smith, Jeremiah Lincoln, Carmel Lawlor, John, Kathleen & Olive Gleeson and Baby Kate McDermott, Frank, Jimmy & Sadie Rigley, Doreen Reynolds, Bridie White, Declan O’Loughlin, Delia Fitzgerald, Tony & Anne Curran, Marjorie Haugh, Eileen Fingleton, Maeve, Dan & Gretta Slattery,

And for Aideen Byrne, Kathleen Delaney & Eileen O’Brien whose Month’s Minds occur.

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
4 th February 2018	€1,395	€840

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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The Valentine’s Day cards mentioned in last week’s Bulletin are available at the back of the Church.

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 11th February 2018

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The Joy of Love – Chapter One (continued)

The idyllic picture of family life we find in Psalm 128 (and the source of Pope Francis’ reflections in the first part of Chapter One) is complemented in the Sacred Scriptures by stories of “families broken up by the bitter truth of pain, evil and violence”. The Word of God isn’t a series of abstract ideas but a source of comfort and companionship for every family that experiences difficulties or suffering.

Between paragraphs 19 and 22, Pope Francis traces the pathway of suffering and bloodshed through the lives of many families depicted in the Bible. There’s no shortage of evidence for the reality of problems and suffering that beset family life. Jesus’ own family was a modest one obliged to flee for its safety, a reality that resonates with the plight of today’s refugees, while the parables of Jesus convey a clear familiarity with the anxieties and tensions of family life. When the Word of God embraces this aspect of family life it conveys to every family the comforting reassurance that ‘God will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning or crying nor pain any more (Rev 21:4).

Pope Francis, drawing on Psalm 128 again, reflects on the place of work and employment in the life of the family. Work is an essential part of human dignity and he reflects with sadness on the toll which unemployment takes on family life in many countries today and on the social degeneration brought about by sinful abuse of the earth in modern economies.

He ends this chapter (pars. 27 to 30) with a focus on the virtue of tenderness in family life. **Contd./**

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The scriptures portray the relationship between the Lord and his faithful ones in terms of parental love – and indeed specifically in terms of the delicate and tender intimacy between mother and child: a babe sleeping in his/her mother’s arms after being nursed. “The Word of God tells us that the family is entrusted to a man, a woman and their children so that they become a communion of persons in the image of the union of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.”

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BAPTISMS

We warmly welcome into the Parish Community:

Claudia Grace Barnard

Henry Connor

Joseph Elliott Earley

who were baptised last Sunday

‘May you live always as members of the Body of Christ, sharing everlasting life’

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Celebrating Baptism

Our next meeting in preparation for Baptisms to be celebrated in March will be held on Monday, 26th February, at 8pm in the Parish Meeting Room.

The celebrations of Baptism in March will be on Sundays March 4th and 18th, after the 12 noon Mass. Parents are asked to please register with the Parish Office in advance of Monday 26th 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. 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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Ash Wednesday

Fast and Abstinence: Ash Wednesday is one of two days in the year when Catholics are obliged by Church Law to both Fast and Abstain. The Law of Fasting applies to those who are over 18 years and under 60.

The Law of Abstinence applies to all over 14 years. Fasting means that the amount of food we eat is considerably reduced. Abstinence means that we give up a particular kind of food or drink or form of amusement. Among children, not obliged by either law, parents are encouraged to foster the spirit and practice of penance in an appropriate way.

On Ash Wednesday, 14th February, blessed ashes will be distributed at each of the Masses. There will be an evening Mass at 7.00pm along with the two morning Masses at 7.30am and 10.00am.

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, and the Society will collect the bags outside the church next weekend, 17th / 18th February at the Vigil Mass and Sunday morning Masses only.

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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ACCORD Dublin

The Annual Collection of ACCORD, the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family, will be made at all Masses on the weekend of 17th and 18th February 2018. 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 on 17th and 18th February.

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Lenten Evening Prayer on Tuesdays at 6:30pm

Evening Prayer of the Church is a beautiful way of bringing your hymns, praise, concerns and prayers to God this Lenten Season.

We will support and pray for other each other as a parish community for six Tuesdays of Lent.

The dates are as follows:

20th and 27th, February and 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th of March. Please, come along with your family and friends. It will be little more than half an hour but something uplifting to do for Lent!

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Legion of Mary

The Patricians meeting will take place on Thursday 15th February at 8.00pm in the parish meeting room, Star of the Sea Church. Discussion: ‘The church’s teaching on abortion’. All welcome – refreshments served.

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Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The members of the Society would like to thank Parishioners for their generosity last weekend to the church gate collection which amounted to €1,490.