

REST IN PEACE



Your prayers are requested this weekend

For the souls of Frank Healy and Bernie Tiernan, who died recently.

And for the souls of the following whose anniversaries occur at this time:

*Jack MacNamara, Tom Kelleghan, Evelyn, John & Kay Tiernan,
John & Mabel Maxwell and their daughter, Tonie Kenny,
Mary White, Thomas Crowley Snr., Kathleen Fulthorpe,*

*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 March 2018 | €1,325 | €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.

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Lenten Evening Prayer on Tuesdays at 6:30pm

Evening Prayer of the Church is continuing on Tuesdays, 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!

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 March 2018

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The Vocation of the Family (2) (paragraphs 76 to 88)

Last week we looked at the first three of six headings under which Pope Francis looked at the Vocation of the Family in chapter three of 'The Joy of Love'. Here, we continue.

Under the fourth heading, (4) 'Seeds of the Word and Imperfect Situations', he speaks of the need to meet family life where it is at, acknowledging that the 'Gospel of the Family also nourishes seeds that are still waiting to grow and serves as a basis for caring for those plants that are wilting and must not be neglected'(par 76). The gift of Christ in the sacrament helps married couples to grow towards a deeper grasp and integration of this mystery in their lives. Only in contemplating Christ does a person come to know the deepest truth about human relationships. Natural marriage then is fully understood only in the light of its fulfilment in the sacrament of matrimony. Here too, Pope Francis draws on the 'seeds of the Word in other cultures' (2nd Vatican Council) to recognise positive elements in the forms of marriage in other religions, even if at times obscurely. This paragraph ends with a lovely openness to marriage in other cultures. In par 78, he encourages pastoral care of the faithful who are 'living together or civilly married or are divorced and remarried'. In par 79 he restates an important principle of pastoral care in facing difficult situations and wounded families: 'pastors must know they're obliged to exercise careful discernment of situations'.

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In (5), The Pope addresses 'The transmission of life and the Rearing of children'. It is a strong reaffirmation of church teaching. 'A child deserves to be born of love and not by any other means' for 'he or she is not something owed to one, but is a gift. In the order of creation, conjugal love between a man and a woman and the transmission of life are ordered to each other.' Francis also sees adoption and foster parenting as expressions of the fruitfulness of married life and he writes of the Church's gratitude and support for families who accept, raise and surround with love, children with various disabilities. In par 83, he speaks strongly against abortion and euthanasia and of the moral duty of conscientious objection for those working in healthcare facilities. Par 84 sees him uphold the inalienable right of parents and their corresponding duty to oversee the overall education of their children. He emphasises that the State's role in this is subsidiary to that of parents, complementing and not replacing them and in direct language he regrets that 'the educational pact today has been broken and that the educational alliance between society and the family is in crisis'. He calls on the Church to cooperate with and assist parents in fulfilment of their educational mission.

Finally in (6) he identifies the family, in its faithfulness to the Gospel, as the domestic unit (the basic brickwork) of the Church (86). Its witness is encouraged and gratefully appreciated. The Church is a family of families, constantly enriched by the lives of those domestic churches (87). He ends by saying that 'the response to the vocation of the family', across so many aspects of family life, 'makes the family unique and irreplaceable both for the Church and for society' (88).

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Confirmation Day

This Thursday at 11.00am we welcome the Episcopal vicar for our area of the Diocese (Ringsend to Arklow), Msgr. Enda Lloyd, who will be with us for the Confirmation of 67 young people attending our local schools.

The Mass normally celebrated at 10.00am will instead be celebrated at 9.30am that day.

Confirmation Day is a very significant day in the life of a parish and we commend our young people to your prayers this week.

Some items appropriate to Confirmation Day are available in the Church Bookshop (cards etc.).

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Mass times for St. Patrick's Day, next Saturday, 17th March

Vigil Mass on Friday 16th March at 6.00pm. Masses on Saturday at 9.00am, 10.30am and 12 Noon.

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BAPTISMS

We warmly welcome into the Parish Community:

Jonah Andrew Conway

who was baptised last Sunday

'May you live always as a member 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 April will be held on Monday, 26th March, at 8pm in the Parish Meeting Room.

The celebrations of Baptism in April will be on Saturday 31st March at the Easter Vigil Mass at 9.00pm and on Sunday April 15th , after the 12 noon Mass. Parents are asked to please register with the Parish Office in advance of Monday 26th March and to attend the preparatory meeting.

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CROSSCARE Youth Services

The Annual Collection for CROSSCARE Youth Services – Social Support Agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Dublin will be at all Masses **next** weekend 17th / 18th March.

It will replace the normal SHARE Collection

CROSSCARE's mission is to provide innovative and relevant services to those most in need. For us, those 'most in need' are people who are unable to reach their potential because they have complex and multiple needs, experience a high degree of social isolation and marginalisation and/or find it difficult or impossible to access appropriate services and supports. Despite challenging financial times Crosscare are targeting our youth work resources and efforts to those most in need in the community.

Please give your support at all Masses next weekend.

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Legion of Mary

The Patricians will take place on Thursday, 15th March at 8 pm in the parish meeting room, Star of the Sea church. Topic: 'The Taste of Silent Prayer". Fr. Philip Crowe C.S.Sp. will also speak. All welcome- refreshments served.

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Annual Golf Classic, Elm Park Golf Club Save the Date – Friday 1st June 2018!

To book a place or sponsor an Ad or Tee Box please fill in a Booking Form, available on the table at the back of the Church, and return it as soon as possible to the Parish office, Star of the Sea Church Tel: 01 6683316

OR by email to stargolfclassic@gmail.com

OR CONTACT: Martin Coonan: 087 2304042,

Charlotte O'Neill: 086 2162348

OR The Parish Office: 01 668 3316