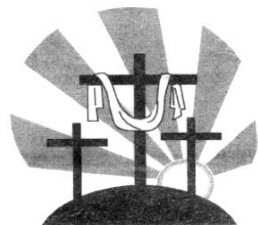


REST IN PEACE



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 November 2018

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National Collection this Weekend

The Bishops have asked for a further national collection to help defray a shortfall of €4 million in the overall cost of hosting the World Meeting of Families and the visit of Pope Francis in August. In taking up that collection today, it replaces the Share collection. Please be generous.

We hold the visit of Pope Francis in a warm memory. His humility, compassionate listening, and his personal witness to the hope and joy of the Gospel amid all of life's hurts and disappointments are energising and encouraging to the Christian community and all of humanity. One can only be amazed at the schedule he undertook among us. From State functions to essentially pastoral moments – meeting young couples at the Pro-Cathedral, Bro. Kevin and his team at the Church Street kitchen and abuse survivors for 90 minutes at the Nunciature to the larger gatherings in Croke Park, in Knock and in the Phoenix Park we were lifted and encouraged as a faith community. His way of being among us was a pointer to our way of being among each other and the wider secular society, humble, honest, compassionate in listening, hopeful and joyful. That hope and joy is in the God given gift of Christ to us all. It is Christ who meets us in our failures and hurts as one who saves.

A particular joy of those August days was to see parishioners hosting families from abroad, others singing in the choir at the Masses through those five days, others in volunteer roles at the various venues. For those unable to attend it was a gift to see events at the R.D.S. relayed on television by EWTN and by RTE for all the papal events. The faithful will hold it all in warm memory and take courage from it.

Your prayers are requested this weekend

For the soul of Rita Loughnane who died this week
and for the souls of the following whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Fr. Martin Murnaghan, Joyce Green, Andy & Rose Dodd, Mary Harewood,
Justin McEntegart, Peggy MacNamara, Rose Clancy, Una Hughes,
Michael Griffin, Henry & Mary Adams, Brian Diamond, Margaret Smyth,
Joseph & Sarah Kane,

*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
1 st November 2018	€500	€195
4 th November 2018	1,470	€950

The green basket is the collection for the support of the priests of the Diocese. The white basket collection 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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Celebrating Baptism

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

The celebrations of Baptism in December will be on Sunday December 2nd and 16th, after the 12 noon Mass.

Parents are asked to please register with the Parish Office in advance of Monday 26th November and to attend the preparatory meeting.

Because of our experience that sees large numbers choosing a particular day for Baptism, we feel it is in everybody's best interest that we set a maximum number of 6 children to be baptised in each celebration. We encourage parents to get in touch with us early so as not to be disappointed.

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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Assembly-Tuesday last

The members of the Parish Pastoral Council greatly appreciate all who came along to the church last Tuesday evening to reflect and to converse, at the Archbishop's invitation, on how we might enable the growth of the faith community in our diocese.

It was a very helpful meeting and we thank those also, who were unable to come but took time to submit their ideas. The Archbishop has asked each parish to hold an assembly like this in November and to share the fruits of its reflection with him. We anticipate further directions on the process involved in collating the fruits of discussion in all 199 parishes.

It is in keeping with what Pope Francis describes as a 'synodal church', one that listens, deliberates and acts. We pray it will be fruitful for the church in Dublin and in particular for the challenge of reaching the minds and hearts of our young people with the message of the Gospel.

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Parish Pastoral Council AGM on Wednesday Nov. 21st

On Wednesday week the Parish Pastoral Council will hold its AGM at 7.30pm in the 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 2017.

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 should anyone wish to proceed with a late nomination. Nominations closed last Monday but our concentration on the assembly of Tuesday last may have diverted rather than focussed attention on the upcoming AGM.

Parish Volunteers

Any Parish volunteers attending Mass this weekend, who haven't done so over the past two weekends, are asked to call to the sacristy to complete a short GDPR related form issued by the Diocese. There are vetting forms available also for anyone who needs to undergo the vetting process (every three years).

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Feast of St. Laurence O'Toole

St. Laurence O'Toole is the principal patron of our Dublin Archdiocese and we celebrate his feast day on Wednesday next, November 14th. He was born in Castledermot in County Kildare in the year 1128, a town that is in our diocese and borders on the neighbouring diocese of Kildare and Leighlin. Laurence became a monk and subsequently abbot at the monastery of Glendalough. He was made Archbishop of Dublin in 1162. After attending the Third Lateran Council in Rome, he returned to Ireland as Papal Legate in 1179. We'll remember from our school days how in 1169 the Normans invaded Ireland at the invitation of Dermot McMurrough. It was the time of Strongbow, the Norman who married Dermot's daughter and a troublesome time for Irish chieftains. In 1170 Strongbow and McMurrough captured Dublin. The Norman king, Henry 11 visited Dublin in 1171. Laurence travelled to Normandy seeking to make peace between Henry 11 and the Irish rulers. But he died there on the 14th November in 1180. Laurence was canonised a saint on 11th December 1225 in Rome by Pope Honorius 111 and since then venerated on November 14th each year.

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Armistice Day-100 years on

This Sunday, November 11th at 11.00am, we are asked to toll the bells of our churches to mark the end of the First World War 100 years ago. It was thought it might be the war to end all wars, so horrific was its dreadful suffering. Alas, war goes on – year after year; Syria, Yemen, Congo, Sudan, the Balkan States and God knows where tomorrow, in ongoing destruction and grief. In the First World War over 65 million men were mobilised, 8.5 million were killed, over 21 million were wounded, and 7.75 million were taken prisoner. Over 50,000 Irishmen died in the war and among them some from Sandymount, Irishtown and Ringsend. As bells toll on Sunday we remember all, with a particular mind of those from our own area. Those who returned to a politically changed Ireland caught up in guerrilla warfare were often badly received and lived out their days with meagre regard for their horrendous war-time experience.

In the words of Siegfried Sassoon-'Dreamers' 1918.

'I see them in foul dug-outs, gnawed by rats,
and in the ruined trenches, lashed with rain,
Dreaming of things they did with balls and bats,
And mocked by hopeless longing to regain
Bank holidays, and picture shows, and spats
And going to the office in the train.'