



REST IN PEACE

Your prayers are requested this weekend

for the soul of Mark Rafferty who died this week

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

Michael Rafferty; David Walshe; Gertrude & George Ennis; Josie Walsh; Jimmy & Sadie Rigley; May Galvin; Doreen Reynolds; Uldarico Amparado; Dolores Winstanley; Brenda Masterson; Annie Browne; Tim O'Donnell; John Doyle; Peter Cunningham; Edward Lennon;

And for Damian Pilkington 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
9 th February 2020	€1,400	€760

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 16th February 2020

ACCORD Dublin Sunday

To mark this ACCORD Sunday Archbishop Martin has written to us:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Often in our culture, the Church's teachings on marriage and family life are presented in a negative tone. Yet the basics of family life and love are what so many in our world dream of and seek to realise.

ACCORD exists to support people, old and young, realise this dream. It does not work with a rulebook, but help people find within themselves the ability to discern, to look at their own attitudes and relationships, and to see them in a different way, in the light of the message of Jesus Christ.

- *In primary and secondary schools, ACCORD helps students acquire an understanding of human relationships and sexuality.*
- *Couples preparing for marriage have the opportunity to reflect on their relationship, their future lives together.*
- *ACCORD's counselling service is there to help couples explore, reflect upon and resolve difficulties they may be experiencing.*

Over 35,000 people came to ACCORD during 2019; 33,000 students, 1,300 couples preparing for the sacrament of marriage, and 1,200 couples who were experiencing some challenge in their relationships.

The story of ACCORD Dublin is a success story. Its services continue to be in demand, and feedback from people who have experienced the services indicate that it is both a worthwhile and beneficial experience.

It is for this reason that I ask you to support the work of ACCORD at this annual collection. Life is not always easy; we need to know that there is help along the way.

I pray for God's blessing on you and your families.

+Diarmuid Martin
Archbishop of Dublin

The Annual Collection of ACCORD Dublin, the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family, will be made at all Masses this weekend.

The Collection for ACCORD will replace the usual Share Collection.

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Parish Pilgrimages to Lourdes and to Knock

At our recent meeting of our parish pastoral council it was agreed that we should advance the invitation to parishioners to participate as a parish group in the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes from Sept. 9th to Sept. 14th this year.

The invitation is extended at two levels; the first is to those who may wish to travel as invalids. Invalids reside at the hospital adjoining the grotto area during their stay and the necessary paperwork and medical assessment should be completed before the end of March.

The second is to those travelling as ordinary pilgrims. We'd like to establish the list of those interested in the coming month (say by St. Patrick's Day) so that block booking of a parish group for a suitable hotel can be made in good time.

Please let us know if you wish to be a parish pilgrim, either as an invalid or as a regular pilgrim, by contacting the parish office

The diocesan pilgrimage to Knock will be on Saturday, April 25th. We'd welcome the interest of parishioners, both young and old, in a day's pilgrimage. Again, let us know in the parish office if you're interested. When the level of interest is established we can look to working out the details. Let us know again before St. Patrick's Day, to enable a decision on the feasibility of this pilgrimage to Knock with the diocese.

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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.

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Confirmation

With less than a month to go the young people preparing for Confirmation have been encouraged to pray each evening with the assistance of a scripture passage for each day and prayers of petition for the gift of the Holy Spirit. We ask parishioners also to pray for all of them during these weeks. Our celebrant on March 12th will be Very Rev. Donal Roche, who is the Episcopal Vicar for parishes between Ringsend and Arklow and is also Administrator of Wicklow Parish. We look forward to welcoming him.

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Pre-Marriage Preparation

Over the coming weeks we'll outline the specific requirements for couples planning a church wedding to cover firstly, couples getting married in Ireland who live in Ireland; secondly, couples getting married in Ireland who live outside Ireland and thirdly, couples living in Ireland who seek a church wedding abroad. It's the time of year when engaged couples are in need of such information. Watch this space and pass on the information if and when you can.

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Baptisms in March

Our next meeting in preparation for Baptisms to be celebrated in March will be held on Monday 24th February 2020, at 8pm in the Parish Meeting Room.

The celebrations of Baptism in March will be on Sunday March 1st and 15th, after the 12 noon Mass.

Parents are asked to please register with the Parish Office in advance of Monday 24th 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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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, 23rd / 24th February at the Vigil Mass and Sunday morning Masses.

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Lost and Found

A small purse containing a sum of money and a set of two keys on a "Titanic" keyring were found in the church during the week. Please contact the Parish