

## **REST IN PEACE**

Your prayers are requested this weekend for the souls of Carmel Handy and Richard (Dickie) Deegan who died this week.

For the souls of the following whose anniversaries occur at this time: Vivian Collins; Eugene Murray; Ailis Hanna; Julie Ryan; Sheila Allen; Joan Goulding; Emer Leonard; Josephine Bryan; Jim Daly; Vera, Eddie & Hugh Nealy.

And for Phil Keogan 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.

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#### **CHURCH COLLECTIONS**

The amounts collected last weekend are:

DATE	<b>GREEN BASKET</b>	Share
10 <sup>th</sup> October 2021	€685	€460

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.

November Lists of the Dead are available at the back of the church





# 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 17<sup>th</sup>October 2021

## **Prayer for the Synod**

We stand before you, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, In the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

#### Diocesan Synodal Pathway begins this weekend.

Archbishop Farrell has invited a representative parishioner from each of the 199 parishes of the diocese to join with him in the Pro-Cathedral this Sunday at 3pm to inaugurate the Synodal Pathway at Diocesan level. We are grateful to Mary Murphy, in her membership of the Parish Pastoral Council, who has agreed to be our delegate at this important diocesan gathering. In every diocese throughout the world today, October 17<sup>th</sup>, the Synodal process is being launched. Archbishop Farrell invites us to join today's ceremony in the Pro-Cathedral online <u>https://dublindiocese.ie/watch-listen-live/</u>.

Amid several resources relating to the synod process, you'll find on the Dublin diocese website the following text:

'It is especially important that the listening process happens in a spiritual setting that supports openness in sharing as well as hearing. For this reason, you are encouraged to root the local experience in in meditation on Scripture, the liturgy, and prayer. In this way, our journey of listening to one another can be an authentic experience of discerning the voice of the Holy Spirit. Authentic discernment is made possible where there is time for deep reflection and a spirit of mutual trust, common faith, and a shared purpose.'

#### **Explorers**

The Explorers are an informal ecumenical group with the aim of reading scriptures together. All are welcome. This year all presentations will again take place on Zoom. Rev. Dr Katie Heffelfinger, a bible scholar, will lead their four autumn sessions on 'Poetry and imagination in the Hebrew Bible'. The next meeting in this series will be tomorrow night October 18th<sup>th</sup> at 8.00pm in the meeting room of Mount Tabor Nursing Home. Subsequent monthly meetings are set for 15<sup>th</sup> November and 13<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2021.

Those who are interested to participate and are not yet on the Explorers address list, please, send your e-mail address or postal address and telephone number to Anngret Simms at her e-mail address: <u>Anngret.Simms@ucd.ie</u>.

#### Next Sunday is Mission Sunday.

During this Mission Month people might give thought to supporting the Matero Appeal that we published a couple of weeks ago to Take the Challenge and Change Lives. It is a simple process to join the fundraiser. All you need to do is go to the website <u>www.gothedistance4matero</u> and follow the step by step guide to sign up.

#### **Celebrating First Communion**

Congratulations to boys and girls who celebrated First Communion this Saturday and to the boys and girls of 4th class who finally had opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the First time. They were close to its celebration in March 2020 when Covid struck and everything suddenly changed.

#### Looking to November

As you know, next Friday, Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>, is an intended milestone in the opening up phase of our struggle with Covid-19. The present rate of transmission of the disease is a worry, however, and we pray that health authorities and the Government will be wise in deciding the way forward. We'll wait until next week to finalise details of special liturgies in November and in particular the holding of the Bethany Mass on All Souls evening, Tuesday November 2<sup>nd</sup>. At that Mass we invite those bereaved during the year as we offer Mass for those who died in our parish in the past year. On Sunday, Nov 14<sup>th</sup>, all the Bishops in Ireland will gather at Knock Shrine to offer

Mass for all who died on the island during the Covid-19 pandemic. The liturgy will also see prayers of thanksgiving for all who 'so selflessly sacrificed so much during the pandemic'.

Parishes throughout Ireland will hold a special collection for Trocaire on Nov 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> weekend. This collection is in support of Trocaire's work to alleviate the humanitarian crisis in East Africa, where up to 30 million people currently face life-threatening food shortages. In some of the countries less than 5% of the population have been vaccinated against Covid and infection rates are up to 50%. Trocaire has also warned that up to 200 million people have fallen into poverty globally as a result of the Covid crisis. The Bishops have also noted with deep concern the increase in the number of people worldwide who are threatened by humanitarian crises, driven by the triple threat of the pandemic, conflict and climate change.

#### Sanitising the church

As you are aware, since March 2019, the church has been sanitised after each Mass by a team of dedicated volunteers. We are all most grateful to them for their unfailing service – to keep us all safe. As times change, the practices in the parish will reflect that.

We will continue sanitising the church after each Mass until  $22^{nd}$  October, and would ask for your continued support in this activity. After that date, other arrangements will be put in place.

At Masses attended by small numbers, it will help if people sit close to the end of a seat and place a piece of coloured paper from the basket left at the entrance area to indicate to those sanitising where their cleaning action is required, rather than cleaning all the seats.