

REST IN PEACE



Your prayers are requested this weekend for the souls of the following whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Kurt Kullmann; Bertha Shine; Patrick Connolly; Liam Redmond; Denis & Terry Brazil; Maud Quinlan; Laurence Mulligan; Denis Mee;

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
13 th September 2020	€890	€490

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 McLraith, Tel: 6686845

www.stmarysstaroftheseasandymount.com

Sunday 20th September 2020

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First Communion

We rejoice with the boys from Star of the Sea School who this Friday celebrated First Holy Communion. We thank the parents of the boys who worked very hard to enable their celebration to move forward from the intended Saturday celebration. They did so amid the strong anticipation of an impending lockdown. Our thanks also to all the parents who responded positively to this eleventh hour adjustment. We appreciate that for some this must have represented difficulty and inconvenience. Thank you.

The anticipated lockdown into level 3 of the Covid strategy means that celebrations of First Communion with the girls' school intended for September 26th and with children from St. Matthew's school intended for October 3rd will have to be postponed until opportunity for their celebration arises again.

With propagation rate of the Covid-19 virus at an alarming level in our city the disappointment of children and parents in this postponement must be offset by the desire to save lives and protect the health of people as best we can. We will look forward to your day of celebration, boys and girls.

For any boy and parents who chose not to come to Friday's celebration but wish to have their boy celebrate First Communion, arrangement can be made individually to see them celebrate First Communion at a chosen Sunday Mass in the future, once the Church is open again. Ideally that should happen in their own parish, the Eucharistic community to which the family belongs.

**The Annual Crosscare collection
will be taken up this weekend. It will replace the
Share collection**

As you will appreciate Crosscare need our support now more than ever before to help those most in need in our communities at this time of crisis.

Crosscare's focus has always been to serve the most vulnerable in our society. During this crisis they are working hard to ensure that the essential services they provide remain available to their service users while operating in line with Government and HSE advice to ensure that their service users and staff are protected.

While some of their face to face services have had to be adapted to meet HSE requirements, as much as possible they are continuing to provide supports through other remote means including phone and web based technologies.

Homeless Services

Their Homeless Services including their residential facility for young people are open and operating normally and in line with HSE guidelines. They are working closely with the HSE, DRHE, Tusla and other government bodies, local authorities and colleagues in other similar organisations to ensure that their service users' needs are supported and their people are kept safe. Crosscare opened a new inner city 100 bed cocooning service for people who are homeless to keep them safe from the virus.

Food Services

Their Food Banks remain open to support those most in need at this difficult time and they have made changes at a local level to ensure that the health of all involved is safeguarded.

Close to 7,000 emergency food parcels have been delivered to vulnerable individuals and families as a crisis response since the pandemic began.

Their Community Cafes remain open providing takeaway services to protect the health of their teams and customers.

Their Carecall team are operating a normal service making calls daily to all their clients.

Youth Services

Youth services had to close initially and staff were redeployed to help keep the essential food and residential services running. Services are now open with a greater emphasis on on-line and telephone work and working more intensely with smaller numbers of particularly vulnerable young people.

Their Drugs and Alcohol Programme team are carrying out online sessions with their clients.

Their Voluntary Clubs team continue to link in with and support their volunteers by phone and other web-based technologies.

Please support this important work if you can by taking an envelope from the back of the Church or donating on-line at www.crosscare.ie

Webcam Masses

In anticipation of the closure of churches for public worship, the Mass each day will be relayed by webcam on:
Sundays at 10.30am and 12 noon

Weekdays (Mon. to Sat.) at 10.00am

The Church remains open for celebrations of Weddings and Funerals, within whatever restrictions are set by the Government and the HSE.

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Celebration of Baptism

We regret that for the time being under Government direction we are unable to hold Baptism celebrations in the Church. As you know in recent months we have celebrated Baptism with families one at a time and within HSE guidelines. We thank all who were so cooperative in doing so and hope that it won't be long before the celebration of Baptism may resume.

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A New Encyclical

Pope Francis will sign a new encyclical letter after Mass celebrated in the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi on October 3rd. Because of the Covid-19 health situation the ceremony will take place without the presence of the faithful. The encyclical is on fraternity and social friendship and entitled in Italian "Fratelli Tutti" (All Brothers). The title is a reference to the writings of St. Francis (Admonitions, 6, 1:FF155)

"Let us all, brothers, consider the Good Shepherd, who to save His sheep bore the sufferings of the Cross."

The title of this new encyclical recalls a central theme of the Pope's vision and teaching. On the evening of his election on 13th March 2013, Pope Francis first greeted the world with the word "brothers." This theme of fraternity is also seen in his constant embrace of migrants, exemplified in his visit to Lampedusa. Another example was in his signing of the Document on Human Fraternity in Abu Dhabi in 2019.

While the English language version of this new encyclical is not yet released we await its wisdom to add to that received in his previous encyclicals 'The Light of Faith' (2013) and 'Laudato Si' (2015). We find it also in Apostolic Exhortations 'The Joy of the Gospel' (2013), 'The Joy of Love' (2016), 'Rejoice and be Glad' (2018), 'Christ is Alive' (2019) and 'Beloved Amazon' (2020). These five exhortations were written in response to the five Synods of Bishops convened in Rome during his papacy to date. His writings are inspiring and worthy of study and prayer.

As winter approaches maybe you'd enjoy engaging with them. We look forward to his third Encyclical with anticipation.