



## **REST IN PEACE**

Your prayers are requested this weekend

For the soul of James Fehily who died this week.

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

*Tina & Frank Dolan; Josie Doyle; Bobby Gray & his son, Robert;*

*And for William Stokes 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:

<b>DATE</b>	<b>GREEN BASKET</b>	<b>SHARE</b>
15 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	€100	€

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.

In this time of health crisis it is not permitted to pass baskets or collection bags from person to person. The first (Common Fund) and second (Share) collections will be taken at the church entrance and closely monitored there. There is also an on-line payment facility for the Common Fund and Share collections on the front page of the Dublin diocesan website. Click on 'Donate' if you wish to pursue this.

In the meantime, if you are visiting the church you could use the two boxes marked Common Fund and Share at the entrance to the church to make donations if you wish.

## **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](http://www.stmarysstaroftheseasandymount.com)

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020**

\* \* \* \* \*

#### ***What are we doing for Lent?***

When a young girl asked me what I was doing for Lent a couple of weeks ago I had little awareness of what was facing all of us within a few days – frequent hand washing, and no touching the face, keeping a social distance of two metres, large numbers of people out of work, all schools and universities closed and the prospect that weeks if not months are ahead of us in tight discipline if we are to confront this deadly virus successfully. We can do it!

The reports of what's happening in Italy and Spain are frightening and we pray that our efforts will prove sufficient. We pray for our doctors and nurses and all frontline workers, for medical scientists around the world in pursuit of a successful vaccine, for politicians charged with critical national leadership decisions and for people everywhere who are affected by this dreadful virus.

'What are you doing for Lent, Father?'. We're all upping the gear on that one, hopefully together in all that's asked of us. Meanwhile the hope of Easter beckons our courage, our looking out for one another and especially for the vulnerable. There is a light that shines in our darkness and the darkness will not overcome it'. God bless everyone in these trying times.

### Webcam Mass – a change

While the webcam 10.30am Mass on last Sunday and St. Patrick’s Day both transmitted very well, the corresponding celebrations at 12 noon on both days unfortunately did not. We are experiencing an internet crash every day for about 15 minutes that begins at around 12.15pm. We don’t know why it is so and are awaiting the server’s technical help on it.

Apologies to all who were disappointed. We’ll schedule Mass this Sunday for 10.30am and the **later time of 12.30pm**. We’ll start when we see the ‘blip’ as having passed us by so if it’s a little later than 12.30pm it’s because we’re awaiting clearance! So there was Fr. Cormac on Sunday and Fr. John on St. Patrick’s Day talking and praying alone in an empty church, unaware that apart from God nobody else was able to listen. Our thanks to Deirdre Seaver who played at both Masses on St. Patrick’s Day.

So remember webcam at 10.30am and 12.30pm this Sunday.

At the daily 7.30am and 10.00am Masses could we ask for a special effort to maintain a necessary social distance particularly in coming to Communion. Two metres is hard to picture; think of 6ft. instead. In addition, use the space provided by respecting the seat assignments in the church pews, 3 per every second seat in the centre aisles, 2 per every second seat on the side aisles. That allows seating for 100, the present maximum gathering – unless that changes before Sunday. In the event of a funeral allow the family and close friends their priority and respect the absolute requirement of social distancing and the maximum permitted number allowed.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Putting Hands Up

Among the lovely things to happen this week was a text from two young men of college age saying they were happy to put their hands up should an elderly parishioner need help with shopping. Keep it in mind. Further down the road, even if OK for now, someone may need such supportive help.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Cancellations

The three First Reconciliation celebrations planned with children and parents for this coming week have been cancelled and until children return to school a new date won’t be set.

Likewise the two remaining evenings in the inter church Evening Prayer series, set for March 24<sup>th</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>, have been cancelled.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Baptisms in April

Our next meeting in preparation for Baptisms to be celebrated in April will be held on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2020, at 8pm in the Parish Meeting Room.

The celebrations of Baptism in April will be on Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, after the 12 noon Mass.

Parents are asked to please register with the Parish Office in advance of Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March and to attend the preparatory meeting.

## A Mother's Love

There are times when only a mother's love  
Can understand our tears,  
Can soothe our disappoints  
And calm all of our fears.  
There are times when only a mother's love  
Can share the joy we feel  
When something we've dreamed about  
Quite suddenly is real.  
There are times when only a mother's faith  
Can help us on life's way  
And inspire in us the confidence  
We need from day to day.  
For a mother's heart and a mother's faith  
And a mother's steadfast love  
Were fashioned by the angels  
And sent from God above.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Parish Pilgrimages

In view of the Coronavirus situation we don’t anticipate any pilgrimages taking place in the near future. We thank those who affirmed their interest in a pilgrimage both to Knock and to Lourdes but all is on hold for the present

\*\*\*\*\*

### School News

We hope all our boys and girls from Star of the Sea and Scoil Mhuire schools are doing well with ‘school at home’. The teachers contact class parents on Mondays and Wednesdays using Aladdin connect software with work to be done at home.

Keep up the work boys and girls. The situation will be reviewed again on March 30<sup>th</sup>, the Government’s initial deadline. We’ll miss all the First Communion class at the 10.30am Mass on Sunday, which was to be our next ‘Do this in Memory Mass’. Tune in and we’ll talk to you.

\*\*\*\*\*

**SAVE THE DATE! Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May**  
**Star of the Sea Annual Golf Classic 2020**

**Elm Park Golf Club** 

### Pray, Pay, Play!

To book a place or sponsor an Ad or Tee Box please fill in a Booking Form and return it to the Parish office, Star of the Sea Church Tel: 01 6683316

OR by email to [sandymountparish@eircom.net](mailto:sandymountparish@eircom.net)

OR CONTACT:

Martin Coonan: 087 2304042 / Parish Office: 6683316

Even if you are not a golfer, you may wish to join us for the dinner and in doing so, know you will be most welcome.

The Golf Classic represents not only a helpful fundraising event but a great social occasion in the life of the parish.

