

WEEKLY BULLETIN 26th July 2020



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

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEKEND

Your prayers are requested this weekend

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

Pat Gavigan; Tina & Frank Dolan; Gabrielle & Frederick Jones;
Baby Antonia Jordan; Anne Phelan; Pat Ryan; Myles & Mary Doran;
Bernard Kelly;

May they share in the joy of heaven.

Trocaire Boxes

We thank those who have returned their Lenten Trocaire Boxes and will be glad to receive any more which may be awaiting collection. Call to the parish office during opening hours (Mon. to Fri, 9.30am to 12.30pm).

Church collections last week 19th July

1st Collection €1,160 and Share €730.

We thank you for your contributions to the Church collections and for your continuing support of all the collections.

Confessions

Confessions will be heard in the "Confession Room" to the right of the main door on Saturday at 11.00am and at 5.00pm.

The Deep End

Over the past few weeks, we have been reading Matthew 13, with its parables on the Kingdom of Heaven. Matthew uses this phrase to describe what our world might be like if we really lived like Jesus lives. This vision is not one focused on power, even though the word 'kingdom' might be misleading it is more a web of relationships. Like the seed parables show us, God's Kingdom grows quietly, in unexpected places; like seeds, it sometimes grows in the darkness, unseen.

Today's parable focuses on treasure, something very precious. When we are obsessed with finding something, it consumes us. We will put all our resources, time or money, into finding it. In this parable, Jesus urges us to strive for *the* ultimate treasure, i.e. God.

During the Covid-19 crisis, many people have been thinking about what is most important in their lives. A break from the 'rat race' forced all of us to slow down, to step back, to 'pull the emergency brake.' We saw who the real heroes in our society are. We witnessed many acts of kindness and community spirit. We stepped back, paused. No doubt, things will not be the same again after this pandemic. But hopefully we will have awakened to what our 'treasure' really is.

'Historically, pandemics have forced humans to break with the past and imagine their world anew. This one is no different. It is a portal, a gateway between one world and the next. We can choose to walk through it, dragging the carcasses of our data banks and dead ideas, our dead rivers and smoky skies behind us. Or we can walk through lightly, with little luggage, ready to imagine another world.'

Arundhati Roy, 'The Pandemic is a Portal'
Jane Mellett.