



REST IN PEACE

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

Marie Shelbourne; Olive Corcoran; Anne Healy; Denis Mee;
Allie Pigot; Maureen & Tom Wall; Josephine Ryan;

And for Katie O'Connor and Robert Doyle whose month's minds occur.

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
19 th September 2021	€890	€470

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.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

The usual monthly church gate collection will take place after all Masses next weekend.

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 26th September 2021

Diocesan Safeguarding Day, 2021 Letter from Archbishop Farrell

Sunday, 26 September, is Diocesan Safeguarding Day. This year our focus is on safeguarding in a time of pandemic.

Our Safeguarding Day poster, which is available to download on www.csp.dublindiocese.ie draws attention to some of the ways we have tried to protect each other during this time: by observing social distancing guidelines; by wearing face masks; by caring for the poor as we see two people putting together hampers for distribution to poor families at Christmas. When we refer to safeguarding we think of the steps we take to protect children and vulnerable adults from abuse. Our recent experiences of Covid-19 remind us that this is not something new or alien. The terminology may be different, but the activity of protecting the young and the vulnerable has always been central to who we are as a Christian community.

While the term 'vulnerable adult' has a particular meaning within our policies and guidelines, we have all learned a little bit more about what it means to be vulnerable during this time. We have been vulnerable to illness, to the loneliness that goes with social isolation, and to poverty as traditional sources of income dry up. We have experienced this at diocesan level through the very painful experience of letting go of some of our much loved and valued colleagues. We have had to make do with less. However, that opens up fresh challenges and opportunities as we learn to

share with each other, across parishes and across dioceses, our time and our expertise in the work of safeguarding.

There have been some changes over the past year. Safeguarding training has been delivered via Zoom, though it is hoped that people will be able to attend training in person again sometime in 2022. The National Vetting Bureau have limited the number of roles for which vetting can be obtained. We, along with others who work with children and vulnerable persons, have appealed against what we consider an overly restrictive interpretation of the legislation. While we await the outcome of a review of the vetting legislation, we must not allow this to weaken our safeguarding practices. We need to explore other means to ensure that those who minister in our parishes do not represent a threat to the safety of children and vulnerable adults. All this is a reminder that there is never just one way of doing things. If one door is closed to us, we must open another.

Some things have changed, but others remain the same. In 2015, Pope Francis told us that: "Families need to know that the Church is making every effort to protect their children. They should also know that they have every right to turn to the Church with full confidence, for it is a safe and secure home". Our safeguarding practices may have to change to adapt to new circumstances. Our commitment to make the Church in Dublin a safe and secure home for children and vulnerable adults remains undiminished.

I ask you to remember in your prayers all those who have suffered abuse.

+ Dermot Farrell

Celebrating Confirmation

We warmly congratulate the young people presenting for Confirmation during this fortnight. On Tuesday and Thursday evenings this week 40 young people, their parents and sponsors, celebrated Confirmation and in this coming week on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday there will be further celebrations of the sacrament with the remaining candidates and their families.

Now that the young people have gone to different second level schools, a deep debt of gratitude is owed to Anne Keogh and Michele Doran, the parent representatives from Star of the Sea School and Scoil Mhuire for their great achievement of communication and organisation in all these celebrations.

Thank you, Anne and Michele.

First Reconciliation

In the first two weeks of October, First Reconciliation ceremonies are planned for boys and girls in both present 3rd and 4th classes. We would be obliged if parents of children in St. Matthew's School whose children celebrated First Communion in December last might contact us to arrange a First Reconciliation celebration with their children at this time.

First Communion is planned for children in 3rd class in our two parish schools on Saturday October 16th, boys at 10.00am and girls at 12 noon.

Golf Classic

How wonderful that Martin Coonan, Charlotte O'Neill, Cyril Kelly and all the members of the Golf committee have yet again organised a very successful and enjoyable Golf Classic. Our sincere thanks to all who have organised, participated and supported this significant fundraising day in the life of the parish.

Thankfully the sun was shining on a day that marks a return to a touch of normal social life and the recovery of confidence in meeting again after months of lockdown. It's too early yet to give account of the total funds raised but we'll convey that to you in time. Meantime our thanks again to Martin Coonan and his team and to all who participated on the day.

Tap and Go

A 'Tap and Go' device is planned for installation this weekend to facilitate donations made to the Diocese in the first (Common Fund) and the second (Share) collections at Mass. One donation will be divided proportionally into the two accounts.

We greatly appreciate efforts parishioners make to reach an annual traceable donation of at least €250 to enable the parish to benefit from a tax rebate. While traceable, donations on 'Tap and Go' will not accrue to the parish in tax rebate and so won't be counted as part of the €250 that earns the rebate. A cumulative donation of that amount, however, will enable a tax rebate in favour of the diocese. The parish benefits only from traceable donations through its account.

Slán Abhaile

This weekend we say thanks to Ceallach who is returning to Canada now that her work visa expires.

Not only has she been a regular at Sunday Mass when opportunity allowed it but she has generously stayed after Mass to sanitize the church each week and donated a dozen handmade colourful masks for people's use. We're sorry Ceallach that your visit was during a year of shut down and social distancing but we greatly appreciate your kindly presence.

