



REST IN PEACE

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of

Jean Kearney, Rosaria Elviri,

who died recently and also for the souls of the following whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Colm O'Briain, Kit Ashmore, Frances Conway, Michael Mullen, Kathleen & John Gleeson and their daughter, Olive Gavelle, Paddy Fagan, Mary Kelly, Mary Hickland, Michael & Mary Allen,

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
21 st May 2017	€1,285	€920

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.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The usual monthly church gate collection for the Society 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, P.P., Tel: 6684265

www.stmarysstaroftheseasandymount.com

Sunday 28th May 2017

Ascension Day

Today and for the next three Sundays we have special celebrations each week as we move from the Feast of the Ascension today to Pentecost next week (4th), to the Feast of the Holy Trinity (11th) followed by Corpus Christi Sunday (18th).

On each of these feasts you'll find that the Preface Prayer, just before the Eucharistic Prayer, gives great insight to what the liturgy of the day is saying to our lives. Today, for example, we proclaim in the preface that 'The Lord Jesus, conqueror of sin and death, ascended to the highest heavens, not to distance himself from our lowly state but that we, his members, might be confident of following where he, our Head and Founder, has gone before.' The previous translation put it better – 'Christ has passed beyond our sight, not to abandon us but to be our hope. Where he has gone, we hope to follow.' It is a pointer to the spiritual challenge of Ascension Day, namely, that we look forward rather than backward in its celebration. We are called to something more than the memory of a past historical event.

The days between Ascension and Pentecost have traditionally been days of prayer. We enter the mindset of the apostles prayerfully gathered in the upper room awaiting the promised day of Pentecost. The one condition, indeed the only condition, Jesus invites from us in anticipation of this great gift is that we must earnestly ask for the gift. Contd./

When he said: 'Ask and you will receive,' it was the Holy Spirit he was speaking about.

When ten days separated Ascension Thursday and Pentecost, a novena of prayer was appropriate but now that our Irish calendar has reduced it to seven days, why not enter a time of asking for the seven gifts, a gift for each day's prayer from Monday to Sunday: wisdom, understanding, wise judgment, courage, knowledge, reverence and 'wonder and awe in God's presence.'

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Congratulations!

We congratulate the boys and girls of St. Matthew's School who on this Sunday celebrate their First Holy Communion. It is a very significant day in the life and faith of every one of us. Our thanks to their parents and teachers who have prepared them so well.

A special word of thanks to their teacher, Gráinne McCarthy, who after many years is stepping back as catechist to children in St. Matthew's preparing for First Communion and Confirmation. Gráinne is the home school liaison teacher in Marian College and the commitments of her new role unfortunately don't allow her time and freedom for pre-sacrament classes now. Thank you, Gráinne, for your great help and dedication. We're also losing the teaching services of Maria Kenny who has taught children in 1st class in St. Matthew's for the past three years. A big thank you to both Gráinne and Maria.

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A Prayer for Manchester

Words will not describe the horror of the terrorist bomb in Manchester this week.

'God of Compassion, you are on the side of all who undergo the cruelty of human violence.

We entrust to you the victims of the terror attack in Manchester and their families.

Deeply disturbed by the incomprehensible sufferings of the innocent across the world, we believe that the words of Jesus, your Son, words of love, mercy and hope, will never pass away.

So we implore you: send consolation and healing, grant us your peace, may your kingdom come. Through Christ our Lord.'

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Marian College's New Principal

After 29 years as Principal of Marian College, Paul Meany has completed his years in that important role and entered retirement years. We wish him every blessing into the future. Oonagh McCaul is the newly appointed Principal and we wish her great success in her leadership of the school community.

BAPTISMS

We warmly welcome into the Parish Community:

*Arabella Rose Deirdre Ardagh
Jacob Culligan*

who were recently baptised

'May you live always as members of the Body of Christ, sharing everlasting life'

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Baptisms in June

Baptisms will be celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sundays in June (4th & 18th June). Baptism Application forms are available in the parish office Monday – Friday 9.30am to 12.30pm.

Applications, giving 1 month's notice, must be made in advance of the preparatory meeting for each month's celebrations. The date for the preparation meeting for June Baptisms will be **this Monday, 29th May, at 8.00pm** in the Parish Meeting room.

Parents are advised that godparents must be practicing Catholics who are at least 16 years of age and that godparents should be one of each gender, godfather and godmother.

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First Friday

Friday 2nd June is the First Friday of the month. We remember the Faithful Departed at the 7.30am and 10.00am Masses. There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after the 10.00am Mass until 11.30am unless there is a funeral.

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World Meeting of Families 2018

A one year programme of initiatives in preparation for the World Meeting of Families in Ireland will be launched on Monday 21st August 2017 at the National Novena to Our Lady of Knock. This coincides with the date, one year later, of the official opening ceremonies for the World Meeting of Families which will take place simultaneously in each diocese in Ireland on Tuesday 21st August 2018. More to follow.

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Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

If any of our parishioners who are ill or infirm would like to travel as invalid pilgrims with the Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, we would be happy to facilitate their doing so. The Pilgrimage takes place from September 7th to September 12th 2017. Application forms are available from the Parish office or from the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office, Holy Cross College, Clonliffe Road. The invalids travelling with the Pilgrimage will be accommodated in the Accueil Notre Dame which is a residence close to the Grotto. To meet the requirements of the Medical Bureau in Lourdes a form, available in the Parish office, must be completed.