

REST IN PEACE



Your prayers are requested this weekend

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

*Michael Cullen, Patrick & Christina Nevins, Nora Sinnott,
Patrick Gerard and Alice Murdock, Rose Ryan,
Veronica Motherway and her mother, Joan Frawley,*

*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
23 rd September 2018	€1,545	€900

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 churchgate 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, Tel: 6684265 – Fr. Cormac McIlraith, Tel: 6686845*

www.stmarysstaroftheseasandymount.com

Sunday 30th September 2018

Two Remarkable Saints

This week we celebrate two of the most popular saints in St. Therese of Lisieux and St. Francis of Assisi. Therese is celebrated this Monday, October 1st, and Francis on Thursday, October 4th.

The world came to know Therese through her autobiography “Story of a Soul”, published a year after her death. She died on September 30th, 1897, at the age of 24 after a long struggle with tuberculosis. At the age of 14 on Christmas Eve 1886, Therese had a spiritual conversion that affected her life deeply. Her person from then on was focused on love rather than on herself, with concentrated effort and spiritual sensitivity.

She lived each day with an unshakeable confidence in God’s love in a style she later described as a “little way of spiritual childhood.” Extraordinarily, she entered the Carmelite Convent in Lisieux at the age of 15. She loved flowers and saw herself as the “little flower of Jesus” who gave glory to God by just being her beautiful little self among all the other flowers in God’s garden. Living a simple life of prayer, she was gifted with great intimacy with God. In 1997 Pope John Paul II declared Therese a Doctor of the Church, in recognition of the powerful way her spirituality influenced people all over the world.

She was the youngest of seven children born to Louis and Zélie Martin, four of whom survived childhood. Louis and Zélie were the first couple to be canonized together when Pope Francis declared their sainthood on October 14th, 2015.

Parishioners who wish to have roses blessed on the feast of St. Therese are invited to bring them to either Mass this Monday.

Prayer

God, our Father,
you promised your kingdom
to the little ones and the humble of heart.
Give us grace to walk confidently
in the way of St. Teresa of the Child Jesus,
so that, helped by her prayers,
we may see your eternal glory.
We make our prayer, through our Lord.

St. Francis' story was very different in many ways. Born in 1181 into a wealthy family in Assisi, he was renowned for drinking and partying in his youth. After fighting in a battle between Assisi and neighbouring Perugia, Francis was captured and imprisoned for ransom. He spent a year in prison – awaiting his father's ransom – and the story goes that he began to receive visions from God at this time. After his release, he began to hear the voice of Christ urging him to repair the Christian Church and live a life of poverty. He left his life of luxury behind him and devoted himself radically to a life of faith.

At that time the ideal of Christian life that was set before people was to enter Crusades to fight to recover the Holy Land from Islamic invasion. Francis by his life brought the Christian world to focus instead on the vision of the Beatitudes, to rely on God's Spirit in a life that may invite living through poverty and injustice in peacemaking and love. He gathered many in following him as Franciscans, down to the present day.

Francis was the first to receive the stigmata of Christ – marks resembling the wounds Jesus suffered in his crucifixion. (Another Franciscan, Padre Pio did so in our own day). He died on October 3rd 1226 and declared a saint 2 years later.

Blessing of pets / feast of St. Francis

Parishioners who wish to have their pets blessed on the feast of St. Francis and the close of the Season of Creation are invited to the area in front of the church on Thursday next at 6.00pm for a short ceremony

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Celebrating Baptism

Our next meeting in preparation for Baptisms to be celebrated in October will be held **this Monday, 1st October, at 8pm in the Parish Meeting Room.**

The celebrations of Baptism in October will be on Sunday October 7th and 21st, after the 12 noon Mass. Parents are asked to please register with the Parish Office in advance of Monday 1st October and to attend the preparatory meeting.

Because of our experience that sees large numbers choosing a particular day for Baptism, we feel it is in everybody's best interest that we set a maximum number of 6 children to be baptised in each celebration. We encourage parents to get in touch with us early so as not to be disappointed.

Because it occasionally arises as a question, we confirm that godmother and godfather should be of each gender and that godparents must be over 16 and practising Catholics, at home in their faith.

Parish Pastoral Council
Seeking New Members

Our Parish Pastoral Council has several members who will be completing their 3 Year Term and we are seeking new members to replace them. The commitment of the Council members to the Parish community, and the community at large, is inspiring. Perhaps you would like to consider giving your time and talent for the enrichment and betterment of our Parish community.

All parishioners over the age of 18 years are eligible for election. We would welcome your prayerful consideration of the possibility that yourself or someone you know might be willing to serve the Parish on a three year term with the Parish Pastoral Council. We meet once a month. Nomination forms need to be submitted to the Parish office by November 5th. The forms are available at the back of the Church and can also be downloaded from our Parish Website.

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Archbishop's Invitation

Archbishop Martin, following the visit of Pope Francis, rejoiced in the success of the World Meeting of Families. Rather than specify a particular way forward to build on the Pope's visit in renewal, he has asked all parishes to hold an assembly around the Feast of St. Laurence O'Toole (Nov. 14th) to consider that question and to submit ideas and suggestions to him.

Our Parish Council have nominated Tuesday, Nov. 6th, as an assembly date for our parish. Meanwhile, we invite you to reflect and pray about how the Church in Dublin can build on the experience of Pope Francis' visit.

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Pre-Sacrament Classes

The classes preparing children for the celebration of First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation will begin this coming Thursday. These classes are for children not attending Catholic schools who are presently in 1st, 2nd, 5th and 6th classes, attending St. Matthew's school or residing in the parish of Sandymount. Two years attendance at these classes is required for admittance to the sacraments.

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First Friday

Friday 5th October 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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COMMUNITY CHOIR

The Riverside Singers (Community Choir) have resumed rehearsals every Wednesday morning in Ringsend College, Cambridge Rd. from 10.30am to 12.30pm (with tea break at 11.30am). This is sponsored by the CDETB, so there is no fee involved. New Members very welcome, **ESPECIALLY MEN.**

Further details from Ray Ryan (Musical Director) at 087-9195012.