



REST IN PEACE

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of

James (Jimmy) Bohan, Sean Hegarty, Claire Kelly, Eileen O'Brien,
Jean (Bunnie) O'Connell, Kathleen Delaney, David Reade and John Woodfull,

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

*Mollie, Michael & Valerie Confrey, Sadie Corcoran, John Kenny,
Deceased members of Bateman family, Carol Wright, Philip Fitzgerald,
Christopher Murphy, Nora & Jim O'Doherty, Mary Hanlon,
Susan Cassidy,*

*MAY THEIR SOULS AND THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL
DEPARTED THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD REST IN PEACE.
AMEN.*

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CHURCH COLLECTIONS

The amounts collected last weekend are

DATE	GREEN BASKET	SHARE
24 th December 2017	€1,340	€785
25 th December 2017	€4,290	€3,685
31 st December 2017	€1,940	€985

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.

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Christmas Dues

Fr. John and Fr. Cormac would like to thank parishioners who have already sent in
their Christmas Dues. Envelopes may be handed into the Sacristy/Parish office or
put in the letter-box in the Parish office door.

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. Pádraig Coleman, Tel: 6676438

www.stmarysstaroftheseasandymount.com

Sunday 7th January 2018

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The Epiphany and the Baptism of our Lord

Yesterday's Feast of Epiphany and today's Feast of the Baptism of our
Lord bring to a close the great seasonal celebration of the birth of Jesus,
our God becoming one of us to help us, reassure us and lead us to
salvation. Tomorrow we return to 'Ordinary Time'.

Before we return we resolve to take the message of this season with us
into everyday life.

Our human nature is lifted greatly by the assurance that, in Jesus, our God
became one of us. It is a measure of how deeply God loves us that he sent
his Son into our world, "not to condemn the world" but "so that we could
have life through him". That gift of life is there for all humanity and we
experience it as something ongoing, nurtured by Christ's presence in the
sacraments and in prayer. We journey with him.

There is a lovely international flavour to the Season of Epiphany. The
Magi represent all who, across the nations, are honest seekers after truth.
Their search was fulfilled in the discovery of Jesus. In his Baptism by
John, which closes the Epiphany season, Jesus identifies with all humanity
by entering the waters of the Jordan. In our Baptism we identify with him,
his vision and his way of being in our world.

Happy New Year to all in our community.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Jan. 18th – 25th

Christian Churches in Caribbean Region have chosen “That all may be free” (Exodus 15) as the theme of this year’s Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The inaugural Dublin celebration will be on Thursday 18th January at 8.00pm in Our Lady of Good Counsel, Johnstown, Killiney. Dr. Jessie Rogers, a scripture scholar based in St. Patrick’s College, Maynooth, will preach the sermon. Further details to follow.



Celebrating Baptism

Our next meeting in preparation for Baptisms to be celebrated in February will be held on Monday, 29th January, at 8pm in the Parish Meeting Room.

The celebrations of Baptism in February will be on Sundays February 4th and 18th, after the 12 noon Mass. Parents are asked to please register with the Parish Office in advance of Monday 29th January and to attend the preparatory meeting.

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. While normally we have two godparents, it is sufficient to have just one. Another may act as a witness rather than a godparent in that situation.



‘Do This in Memory’ Mass

The next Mass in the ‘Do This in Memory’ programme will be on next Sunday January 14th at 10.30am. Because of the feast of the Epiphany this Saturday the preparation meeting has to be postponed. We would ask the parents in that group to meet if possible at 6.30pm on Tuesday evening and if that presents a difficulty contact Fr. John at 087 6294325.



Adult Confirmation

If there are adults who have celebrated Baptism and First Communion but never received the sacrament of Confirmation and would like to do so, we would ask them to please contact the Parish office on 6683316 / 6683894 within the next week.



Parish Council

The Parish Pastoral Council will meet this Monday 8th January at 7.30pm in the Parish meeting room.



Iris Charles Centre

The Centre re-opens for dinners next Tuesday 9th January and Afternoon Bridge also resumes on the 9th.

Church Notices

As enjoyable as Christmas time is for people it is also an exhausting time. As we come to the close of the Advent / Christmas / Epiphany seasons a lighter note in our Bulletin might be welcome!

Church Bulletins are often the source of unintended humour. Here are a few samples that actually appeared in Church Bulletins with gratitude to the parishioner who shared them with us:

The Fasting and Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: ‘Jesus Walks on the Water’
The sermon tonight: ‘Searching for Jesus’.

Ladies, don’t forget the Jumble Sale.
It’s a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community.

Smile at someone who is hard to love.
Say ‘Hell’ to someone who doesn’t care much about you.

Don’t let worry kill you off – let the Church help!

Charlene Mason sang ‘I will not pass this way again’, giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don’t know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir.
They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24th in the church.
So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow ...

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be “What is Hell?”
Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members
and to the deterioration of some older ones.