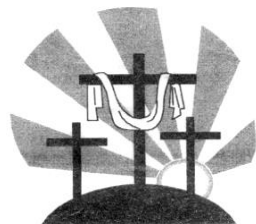


REST IN PEACE



Your prayers are requested this weekend for the souls of Morrie Lawlor and Maureen Kerins who died this week

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

May & Michael Quinn, Anne & James Molloy, Desmond O’Leary, Peter Clarke and his grandson, Samuel Clarke, Tony Harnett, James, Jane & Sammy Rigley, Maura Farragher Collins, Lorcan Hogan, Deceased members of the Mangan family, Cathal & Noreen O’Hara, Deirdre McNamara, Marie & Sean Banks, Maura Molloy, Noel Cooney, Frank & John Dalton, Annie & Christopher Stanley, Alice O’Connell,

And for Dr. Edward Killian whose month’s mind occurs.

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
2 nd December 2018	€1,670	€1,085

The green basket is the collection for the support of the priests of the Diocese. The white basket collection 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.

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 9th December 2018

John the Baptist and Advent

The Second Sunday of Advent introduces St. John the Baptist to our Advent spiritual preparation. What a character of faith he is, “proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” Dressed in camel skin and living on locusts and wild honey, he makes no bones about the counter cultural role he is called to.

At the same time he is a person of hope, anticipating great things ahead: “Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I’m not fit to undo the strap of his sandals. I’ve baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.”

There are three aspects of life which Advent encourages. The first is a felt need for salvation and a Saviour. The second is the ability to receive the gift of salvation, the gift of a child to a world crying out for help. This child who is God-with-us promises victory, peace, wholeness and integrity. His coming sets in motion a dramatic battle between good and evil and we are drawn into that combat. The third is the call to be a person of hope in a consistent way, because Christ has come and his coming always means hope. Our hope is always in God. I’m sure you’ll recognise these qualities in John the Baptist’s life. How readily are they recognised in ourselves?

BAPTISMS

We warmly welcome into the Parish Community:

- Gretta May Callan*
- Grace-Emily Diamond*
- Sadhbh Catherine Ethel Rose Gardiner*
- Freddie Tom McNamara*
- Jack Peter McMenamin*
- Ned James O'Donohoe*
- Casey Gerard O'Grady Jackson*
- Noah Thomas Rush*
- Martin James Virtuani*

who were baptised recently

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

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Celebrating Baptism

Our next meeting in preparation for Baptisms to be celebrated in January will be held on **Wednesday 2nd January 2019, at 8pm in the Parish Meeting Room.**

The celebrations of Baptism in January will be on Sunday January 6th and 20th, after the 12 noon Mass.

Parents are asked to please register with the Parish Office in advance of **Wednesday 2nd January** 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.

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CHRISTMAS CAROLS

We look forward to seeing you all next Sunday afternoon (16th) in Star of the Sea church at **5.00pm** for our Parish Choir Advent Carol Service.

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Explorers

The next meeting of the Explorers Sandymount Inter-Church Scripture Reading Group will take place this coming Monday, 10 December 2018 in the community room of the Mount Tabor Care Centre on Sandymount Green from 7.30 to 9 PM. Prof Seamus O'Connell (Maynooth) will be our guide in understanding the different dimensions of "The letter of St Paul to the Galatians". All are welcome. No previous attendance necessary.

'Do This in Memory'

Our next Mass for children and parents preparing for First Communion will be this coming Sunday, 16th December, at 10.30am. In the meantime we encourage parents to share the following pages in THUMB with their children, pages 14 and 15, and pages 44 to 47.

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Coffee Morning

Next Sunday, 16th December, a Coffee Morning is planned, raising funds for the Peter McVerry Trust and creating a good social opportunity after Mass.

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ST.VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

This Sunday is reserved for the annual appeal of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. This is a special appeal to you to ask for your support. The need is great as we approach the Christmas season. Your generosity makes a huge difference to the lives of a number of local people who are suffering. Your contribution provides them with food vouchers, toys, fuel, clothes, school books, etc.

The Society's special Christmas Church collection will take the place of the Share collection at all Masses in the parish this weekend.

The Society is very aware that you may be somebody /or know somebody who is in need of assistance. If so please make contact in confidence:

- Through the main St. Vincent de Paul Office at (01) 8550022 and they will notify the local members.
- By leaving a note (in an envelope addressed to St. Vincent de Paul) in the parish office.
- By phoning their local helpline 086 8461273, for assistance.

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Parish Pastoral Council

The newly formed Parish Pastoral Council meets this Monday, 10th December, at 7.30pm for its first meeting.

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Evening Prayer (Vespers) in Advent

The Advent Evening Prayer continues this Tuesday, 11th December at 6.30pm. It is a simple yet inspiring way of preparing for Christmas and well worth the time. Both young and old are invited.

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Church Bookshop

The bookshop has a number of items for both Advent and Christmas for adults and for children. Copies of the Advent book 'Walk with Me' with daily reflections for each day in Advent and Parish Christmas cards are also available.