



REST IN PEACE

Your prayers are requested this weekend for the souls of Nancy Boyne, Helena Burling and Katriona Maguire who died during last week.

And also for the souls of the following whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Angela Murphy, Mollie & Dinny Foley, Declan O'Loughlin, Sadie Corcoran, Jeremiah Lincoln, Don Sheridan,

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
2 nd February 2020	€1,315	€905

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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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 McLraith, Tel: 6686845

www.stmarysstaroftheseasandymount.com

Sunday 9th February 2020

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World Day of the Sick

This Tuesday, February 11th, the Feastday of Our Lady of Lourdes is World Day of the Sick. 'Come to me all you who labour and are burdened' is the theme that Pope Francis chose for 2020. In his letter, to mark this 28th World Day of the Sick, he is urging the human warmth and personalised approach of Christ, the Good Samaritan, in health professionals, workers and volunteers. The mercy and comforting presence of Jesus, he says, embraces people in their entirety, each person in his or her health condition, discarding no one, but rather inviting everyone to share in His life and to experience His tender love. Only those who personally experienced suffering, he argues, are able to comfort others. Christ comforts because in his human suffering he received comfort from His Father.

In our country we are indebted to many wonderful health professionals doing their best, often in trying circumstances. We've become used also to trolleys and to a clinical approach capable of falling short in personal dimensions. I recall visiting a patient who in response to a simple – 'How are you today?' greeting, said – 'Today, I'm over the moon, I've met a human being in here'. Someone amid all the pressures had taken time to speak to him at a personal level and it was appreciated. Pope Francis touches on that when he writes – 'What is needed is a personalised approach to the sick, not just of curing but also of caring, in view of an integral human healing'. In addition to therapy and support, he says, they expect care and attention – 'in a word, love'. At the side of every sick person, there is also a family, which itself suffers and is in need of support and comfort.

In serving the ill, Pope Francis urges healthcare professionals that the noun 'person' takes priority over the adjective 'sick'. He urges them to "always strive to promote the dignity and life of each person, and reject any compromise in the direction of euthanasia, assisted suicide or suppression of life, even in the case of terminal illness." "Life is sacred and belongs to God; hence it is inviolable and no one can claim the right to dispose of it freely".

The Pope laments the attacks on healthcare workers during wars and violent conflicts and in some areas the attempt of political authorities to manipulate medical care for their own advantage. Noting too that across the world many have "no access to medical care because they live in poverty", he urges government leaders not to neglect social justice.

He concludes by thanking all healthcare volunteers who serve the sick, often compensating for structural shortcomings, while reflecting the image of Christ, the Good Samaritan, by their acts of tender love and closeness.

Dublin's celebration of World Day of the Sick

The World Day of the Sick will be celebrated today at Newtownpark Avenue, Guardian Angels Church. The Archbishop will lead the celebration of Mass there at 3.30pm. Anointing of the sick will take place during Mass.

Be Like the Good Samaritan

May the Holy Virgin comfort
those who are afflicted by illness
and support those who,
like the Good Samaritan,
sooth their physical and spiritual wounds.

Do this in Memory

This Sunday at 10.30am we again welcome the First Communion classes and their parents to the 'Do this in Memory Mass'. We thank parents for their preparation work with their children for this Mass. While we anticipate that the children are brought to Mass every Sunday, we note that our next 'Do this in Memory Mass' will be on March 15th. Meanwhile parents are asked to help their children to complete exercises on pages 56 and 57 of Thumbs with page 57 inviting a daily challenge beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 26th. In addition please share the material on pages 20 and 21 of Thumbs with them along with the material in Grapevine 6 to be given to you this week.

Grateful to those who have paid the €20 fee for materials in the programme, we will also welcome payment from those who have not yet done so.

Confirmation

With a little over a month to go we will invite the young people in preparation to begin an exercise of daily prayer during this week and invite all parishioners to keep these young people in their prayers also.

ACCORD Dublin

Catholic Marriage Care Service

The Annual Collection of ACCORD Dublin, the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family, will be made at all Masses next weekend - 15th & 16th February. The Collection for ACCORD will replace the usual Share Collection.

ACCORD Dublin throughout the Diocese offers:

- ❖ Marriage Preparation courses,
- ❖ Counseling for couples and individuals experiencing difficulties in their relationships.
- ❖ A Relationship and Sexuality Programme for schools.

ACCORD Dublin needs your support. Please give generously next weekend.

Baptisms in March

Our next meeting in preparation for Baptisms to be celebrated in March will be held on Monday 24th February 2020, at 8pm in the Parish Meeting Room.

The celebrations of Baptism in March will be on Sunday March 1st and 15th, after the 12 noon Mass.

Parents are asked to please register with the Parish Office in advance of Monday 24th February 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.

Clothing Collection for St. Vincent de Paul

The Society is seeking your help in its Annual Clothing Appeal in this Parish. The Appeal is for clean, good-quality clothes, bedclothes, curtains, shoes etc. Bags will be available outside the church next weekend, 16th and 17th February and the Society will collect the bags outside the church on the following weekend, 23rd / 24th February at the Vigil Mass and Sunday morning Masses.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The members of the Sandymount Branch of the Society would like to thank parishioners for their generosity to the monthly church gate collection last weekend which amounted to €1,665.

Thank You

Dear Parents and Guardians we would like to remind you that all children and vulnerable people should be accompanied by a parent or guardian when using the bathroom facilities in our church.