

lives when we desperately wanted to recover as soon as possible. But, as we know, sometimes healing can take time and we have to be patient both with ourselves and with God.

The reading also reminds us that Jesus is always ready to help those who approach him with genuine faith. Whether it was the Centurion who sought healing for his servant or the synagogue official whose daughter had died, Jesus always responds to the requests of people of faith in every age.

In our society today, thank God, we do not have to deal with leprosy but, unfortunately, there are many people who are excluded or ignored for a great number of reasons. This may be due to poverty or race or religious beliefs or even due to family circumstances when a particular family member may have become estranged for different reasons. As Christian people, it is our duty and responsibility to reach out to those on the margins of society as Jesus did in today's gospel and to offer them comfort, healing and help.

Jesus is also reminding us today that faith can be found in different places and sometimes among people that we would not expect. Jesus did not offer the gift of healing to a member of the religious authorities of his day or even to a prominent citizen such as a lawyer but instead reached out to a poor man in desperate need who had been discarded by society.

Let us pray that, in the coming week, we may be inspired to pray for and assist those in need and also be aware that God may surprise us by placing before us people we did not expect to meet. By his grace, we may have the opportunity to improve their lives for the better (even in the smallest of ways) which can make a great difference to them as it did for the leper in our Gospel reading.

Gerard Reilly is a Permanent Deacon in Donaghmede and Ayrfield parishes

PARISH OF LARKHILL/WHITEHALL/SANTRY



NEWSLETTER



Parish of Larkhill/Whitehall & Santry Parish Office: Church of the Holy Child,
The Thatch Road, Dublin 9. Tel (01) 837 5274 Website: www.whitehall.dublindioocese.ie.

"If you want to, you can cure me."

11th February 2018

Today's Gospel reading gives us an interesting insight into Jesus's work and ministry. Jesus encounters a leper who says to him: *"If you want to, you can cure me."*

We are told by St Mark that Jesus was feeling sorry for him and responds with the gracious words that are also spoken to each one of us: *"Of course I want to! Be cured!"* And then the healing is immediate as *"the leprosy left him at once and he was cured."*

In the time of Jesus, lepers were regarded as untouchable and were excluded from society. That's why it would have been unheard of for the leper to approach Jesus in the way that he did. This act of courage shows his faith and determination and that's what Jesus responded to.

The story takes an interesting twist when Jesus issues what may appear to be two contradictory

statements. On the one hand he "sternly" warns the man to *"say nothing to anyone"* yet also says: *"Go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses."*

These diverse requests may show the respect that Jesus has for the Jewish law which required lepers who were cured to present themselves to a priest and to make an offering in thanksgiving for their recovery. But, as this was at a relatively early stage in his ministry, he may not have wanted to attract too much attention from the Jewish authorities by having huge crowds following him.

Nevertheless, the now fully recovered leper did not take his advice and promptly went telling everyone about his miraculous recovery.

This Gospel story may remind us of periods of illness in our own



**PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO
LOURDES**

7th -12th September 2018

Hotel Solitude ****

5 Nights – Full Board

Fully Inclusive Price €739

In conjunction with the
Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage
(single room subject to
confirmation – supplement €175)
To book please contact Anne in the
Parish Office Tel: 8375274

**World Meeting of Families Lent 2018
Invitation to Give, Pray, Fast – Scratch Card**
Scratch off the date to reveal your Lenten
daily challenge.

All daily quotations are taken from the
readings of Ash Wednesday to Easter
Monday. Scratch Cards will be available in
this Weekend. Please take one.

**Ash Wednesday 14th February 2018
Day of Fast & Abstinence**
Ashes will be blessed and distributed as part
of the Penitential Preparation for Mass.
Holy Child Mass Times: 9.15a.m. & 7.00p.m.
Blessed Margaret Ball Mass: 10am.

Liturgy Team - the next meeting for
members of the Liturgy Team will take place
on Wednesday 14th February at 7.30p.m. in
the Parish Centre.

Ministers of the Word: The new Group C
roster is now available for collection from the
reception area in the Parish Centre.

Recently Deceased:

You are asked to remember in
your Prayers:

**Patrick McDonnell
Brian Murphy**

*May they enjoy perfect peace
and reconciliation in the presence of God.*



**Whitehall, Beaumont
& St. Luke's Kilmore West**
are hosting a series of talks centred on
the 'Family of God' in preparation for
the World Meeting of Families (WMOF)
in August 2018. All parishioners & their
friends are very welcome.
Each evening will commence with a
presentation, with a break for tea/coffee
followed by time for discussion and
questions.

**Wednesday 21st February,
Whitehall Parish Centre at 7.30p.m.**
Fr. Robert Whiteside
Theme: Preparing to Minister to
Families

**Wednesday 14th March
Beaumont Church at 7.30p.m.**
Fr. Pat Collins
Theme: To be confirmed.

**Wednesday, 21st March
St. Luke's Church at 7.30p.m.**
Speaker to be confirmed
For further details & information
contact Noreen O'Prey
Tel: 086 2939935



We welcome in Baptism:
Emily Rose Ball
Thomas Charlie Barker
Victoria Osinachi Ogbuetti

*May these newly baptised Children always
know and love Jesus as their friend.*

The **Annual Collection of ACCORD**,
The Diocesan Agency for Marriage & the
Family, will be made at all Masses next
weekend 17th & 18th Feb. It will replace
the usual SHARE Collection.

Church Gate Collection:
This weekend
the Collection is in aid of the
Society of St. Vincent de Paul



Please Support your Parish Lotto

Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:

1st Jackpot: 14 18 25 29 2nd Jackpot: 5 11 29 30

No 1st Jackpot Winner. The 2nd Jackpot was won by B. Adderley.
The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were: B. Magee: R. Gorman: N. O'Beara:
G. Comiskey: BMB Tea Room: A. Rundle: S. Doyle.
The winners of the five special prizes of €100 were C. Kerrigan: E. Dempsey:
P. Downes: A. Hackett: BMB Tea Room.

Next Week's Lotto: First Jackpot €2,500 Second Jackpot €250
Plus Seven Consolation Prizes of €25

**Church of the Nativity of Our Lord
World Day of Prayer for the Sick**
Sunday 11th February 2018
Mass at 4p.m. including celebration
of the Sacrament of the Anointing.

Robyn Smyth Raffle & Coffee morning in aid of
Robyn's Life Trust on Sun 11th Feb. 10.30-12.00 in
Santry Community Centre. Lots of great prizes to
be won, raffle tickets on sale in the centre.
Money goes towards her treatment in America.

Mass Intentions for the coming week

Church of the Holy Child

Monday 12th Feb.	9.15a.m. Gerald Lingwood (R.I.P.) - Legion of Mary 7.00p.m. Paddy Coffey (Anniversary)
Tuesday 13th Feb.	9.15a.m. Patricia Mirolo (Anniversary) 7.00p.m. Available for Intention
Wednesday 14th Feb.	9.15a.m. & 7.00p.m. Ash Wednesday
Thursday 15th Feb.	9.15a.m. & 7.00p.m. Available for Intention
Friday 16th Feb.	9.15a.m. Cecilia Stapleton (Anniversary) 7.00p.m. Available for Intention
Saturday 17th Feb.	10.00a.m. Available for intention Vigil 7.00p.m. Niall McCann (Anniversary) Thomas Francis Hallinan (Anniversary) Rose & Thomas Doyle (Anniversary) John Wisley (Anniversary)
Sunday 18th Feb.	11.15a.m. People of the Parish 12.30p.m. Seán Brophy (1st Anniversary) Mary Waldron & James Domican (Annivs) Vera O'Brien & Hannah Raymond (Annivs.) Patrick Hannigan (Anniversary) Josephine & Roger Redmond (Anniversaries) 6.00p.m. Andrew Rogan (Month's Mind) Michael Deegan (Anniversary)

Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball

Wednesday 14th Feb.	10.00a.m. Terry O'Neill (Anniversary)
Sunday 18th Feb.	10.00a.m. Victoriano Dela Cruz Jnr. (1st Anniversary) Mary & Christopher Finn (Anniversaries) Corazon Joybanstista (Anniversary)