

words of the Archangel Gabriel to Mary at the Annunciation.

When Saint John Paul II was asked what was the most important day of his life, he replied “the day I was baptised.” And how many of us can recall our birthday every year but probably not that date of our baptism? It’s a lovely thing to say a prayer sometime at the baptismal font in the church where you were baptised.

St. Peter, who was the first Pope, described the baptised in a very particular way. He said they are a “chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart.” At Baptism, we become members of the church for the first time, we are part of God’s own people. In this way, each and every one of us share in the priesthood and ministry of Jesus Christ.

In our Church today, I think it is very important that we should ask ourselves how do we use this priesthood that we have received at our baptism? The grace of baptism nurtures and supports us throughout our lives and guides us in the way of God’s plans. The grace of the Sacrament of Baptism is a dynamic force that inspires us to do good.

At this time of the year, we turn over a fresh page and are ready to make a new start. It may be that we could attend mass more regularly or go to confession once a month or perhaps take the opportunity to pray more regularly. We could get involved with one of the parish groups or ministries or perhaps offer to volunteer with the Society of St Vincent de Paul or another charity that supports those in need. Whatever we decide to do, it is an opportunity to use the gifts that we have received at the time of our baptism in a more effective way in order to be of service to our community. Then our own baptism will be more fruitful and become a blessing to those around us.

As we start this New Year, we ask that our Risen Saviour, whose baptism we recall today, will help us to use the graces and gifts that we have received from our baptism for the benefit of our parish, our Church and our community. We pray that this new year of 2020 will be a time of blessings for each of us, our friends and families as we continue on the next part of our Christian journey.

*Gerard Reilly - 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](http://www.whitehall.dublindioocese.ie).

### Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

*“The grace of Baptism is a dynamic force that inspires us to do good.”*

12th January 2020

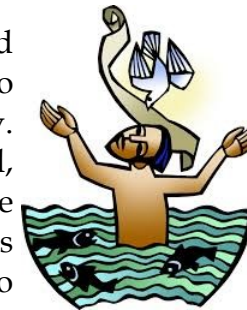
When Saint John Paul II first visited France in the 1980s, he addressed a large crowd in the Parc de Princes in Paris. He addressed them as follows:  
*“France, what have you done with your baptism?”*

This same question could be equally addressed to each one of us today. When we were baptised, we were brought to the church by our parents and godparents who made promises on our behalf. As adults, it is now our responsibility to live out these promises in our lives. In the course of conversation, we will often recommend a film or a play to someone we meet but how often do we take the opportunity to offer them some insights into the Christian way of life either in conversation or by example when

the opportunity arises? There are many such opportunities to share the faith with our friends, colleagues, fellow students and neighbours.

In the Gospel today, Jesus encounters John in the Jordan and is baptised. In a dramatic encounter John says to Jesus: *“It is I who need baptism from you’ he said ‘and yet you come to me.”* However, in a gesture of humility, Jesus says to John the Baptist: *“Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands”.*

God the Father speaks these words in our gospel reading: *“‘This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him’”* God also addresses these words to each of us individually. What a wonderful new year greeting to receive echoing as it does the



# Parish Lotto

Please Support your Parish Lotto

Last Tuesday's winning numbers were: 1st Jackpot: 1 10 11 20  
 2nd Jackpot: 3 6 13 25 No Jackpot winner.  
 The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were: L. Lawlor; V. Hickey;  
 T. Madden; M. Keyes; R. Mullins; I. Molloy; N. Keenan  
 Next Week's Lotto Draw: First Jackpot €15,000 Second Jackpot €650  
 Plus 7 consolation prizes of €25



**Our Thanks** – The Priests of the Parish wish to acknowledge with grateful thanks all, who have forwarded Christmas dues. If you wish to receive an individual acknowledgement please contact the Parish Office.

**Holy Child National School**  
 Enrolments are now taking place for September 2020 for Junior Infants in Holy Child National School. Closing date for enrolments is 31st January 2020. Please call to the school for an enrolment form or download one from their website [www.holychildns.ie](http://www.holychildns.ie)  
 Holy Child National School are having an Open Evening on Thursday, 30th January 2020 from 7p.m. – 8.30p.m. All are welcome to attend.

**Catholic Schools Week 2020 26th Jan. to 2nd Feb. 2020:** This year's theme is Catholic Schools: Living in harmony with God's - Creation- God, neighbours, all generations, Earth, and our Catholic school

**Recently Deceased:** You are asked to remember in your Prayers:  
 Elizabeth Whitford  
 Eileen Connolly  
 Jack O'Byrne  
 Carmel Young  
 John Wright



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

## Church Collections

<b>22/12/19</b>	
1st Collection	€1,685
SHARE	€1,625
Family Envelope	€1,775
<b>25/12/19 Christmas Day</b>	
1st Collection	€4,551
SHARE	€3,845
Family Envelope	-
<b>29/12/19</b>	
1st Collection	€1,180
SHARE	€1,245
<b>5/1/20</b>	
1st Collection	€1,084
SHARE	€1,030
Family Envelope	€2,225

Sincere thanks for your continued generosity.

## Parent Support Evening

Anam Cara North Dublin, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding an Evening for parents on Wednesday 15th January at 7.20p.m. in the Carnegie Court Hotel, Swords, Co. Dublin. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, or whether death was recent or not. Please contact Anam Cara on [info@anamcara.ie](mailto:info@anamcara.ie) or 085 2888 888 for any queries.

Holy Communion is available to all communicants under both kinds at the Main Altar, Priest's Chair side.



Christmas Crib - Don't forget to visit our beautiful crib and say a little prayer there with wonder and awe at the birth of Our Saviour. It is situated at the top left hand



## Mass Intentions from the 4th January

### Church of the Holy Child

Sat. 11th Jan.	10.00a.m.	Christy Baker – Anniversary
Vigil	7.00p.m.	Patrick McGrath & James Crampton – Anniversaries Dominick Duffy – Anniversary & Deceased Members of the Boland Family Monica Burke, Keith Kenny – Anniversaries
Sun. 12th Jan.	11.15a.m.	McArdle & Russell Families – R. I. P. Maureen Smith, Bernard Hewitt – Anniversaries
	12.30p.m.	William Seymour – Anniversary Jack & Rose Leonard – Anniversaries
	6.00p.m.	Kay O'Connor – Anniversary
Mon. 13th Jan.	7.00p.m.	Christine Hilda Nolan – 1st Anniversary Peter Nolan – Anniversary
Tues. 14th Jan.	7.00p.m.	Walsh Family -Special Intention
Thurs. 16th Jan.	9.15a.m.	Tom & Catherine Neary – Anniversaries
Fri. 17th Jan.	9.15a.m.	Daniel (Don) Kearns – Anniversary
Sat. 18th Vigil	7.00p.m.	Nora Reid – 1st Anniversary Margaret (Rita) Cloake – R.I.P. Ethel Smith, Bridie Goggin – Anniversaries Bridie Williams – Anniversary Kathleen & Patrick Maples – Anniversaries Mary Elizabeth Crowley – Anniversary Derek O'Connor – Anniversary
Sun. 19th Jan.	11.15a.m.	Rose Fannin - Anniversary Deceased members of the O'Hara Family Michael Cushnahan – Anniversary
	12.30p.m.	Noel O'Reilly, Andrew Kevin Rogan – Annivs. Colette O'Carroll – Anniversary
	6.00p.m.	Patrick Hannigan, Robert, Josephine Redmond-Annivs
		<u>Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball</u>
Sun 12th Jan.	10.00a.m.	Maureen (Máirín) Holt – Month's Mind Rita Cloake – Month's Mind
Wed 15th Jan.	10.00a.m.	No Intention
Sun 19th Jan.	10.00a.m.	No Intention

**Church Gate Collection**  
 this weekend is for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul

**Mercy Centre, St. Brendan's Drive, Coolock, Dublin**  
 5 – An Oasis for Body, Mind and Soul Programme for Spring 2020 now available. Tel. 848 7259