

apparition known to him in the world where the Lamb of God appears.

I was driving across the country a couple of weeks ago and it was wonderful to see the sheep and new born lambs out in the fields after the long winter. There was a great sense of life moving on, of energy and new birth.

Pope Francis has given the title, *The Joy of the Gospel*, to one of his writings. He writes *"the Gospel offers us the chance to live life on a higher plane, but with no less intensity: Those who enjoy life most are those who leave security on the shore and become excited by the mission of communicating life to others"*.

Saint John XXIII once said that *"the church is like an old village fountain and, from its tap, fresh water must always flow."*

Reflecting on these words, Father Martin Hogan says that the church always has the responsibility to ensure that the fresh water of Jesus is always flowing.

In the Gospel today, Jesus speaks about the very close relationship that exists between the shepherd and his flock. As is said in the letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians: *"the one who calls you is faithful."* (5:24).

The month of May is especially dedicated to Our Lady in the church. I remember the May altars at school when I was younger. Let us pray for the intercession of Our Lady especially during this month of May that she will guide and direct us to the work that her son Jesus wants us to do.

We might like to say a decade of the rosary or one of the familiar prayers like the Memorare:

"Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help or sought your intercession was left unaided."

*Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to you do I come, before you I kneel, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer me.
Amen" Gerard Reilly*

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.

"The Church is like an old village fountain and, from its tap, fresh water must always flow."

12th May 2019

Perhaps we might consider going on a retreat or simply taking some "time out" in the nearby National Botanic Gardens to appreciate the beauty of nature at this time of the year and to thank God for the many blessings in our lives.

The person reading today's Gospel has a relatively easy job as it is probably one of the shortest Sunday Gospel readings. But it is packed with meaning and resonance.

Today's Gospel speaks about sheep. St John tells us that Jesus said: *"the sheep that belong to me listen to my voice."* This image of sheep would have been much more familiar to the audience that St. John was writing for than it is for us today. Pope Francis has spoken about ministers having the *"smell of their sheep"*, which suggests being close to the people they are caring for.

There is also a focus on listening in this parable. The sheep "listen" to the voice of Jesus. We too need to be attentive to the word of God in our lives. Father Martin Hogan says: *"We need that element of silence in our lives in order to really listen to God's word."*

Jesus assures us that: *"I give them eternal life, they will never be lost and no one will ever steal them from me."* Father Martin suggests that, in this reading, Jesus is telling us that *"[he] won't let us go easily even if we are prone to wandering off."* He adds; *"the Lord who calls us is also working with us helping us to respond to his calling."*

When referring to sheep and lambs. I often think how Jesus chose to appear as a lamb on the altar at the apparition at Knock. The Cistercian writer, Father Berchmans Walsh, said that Knock is the only




Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2019
Wed. 4th – Mon. 9th Sept.
Hotel Solitude ** 5 Nights Full Board**
Fully Inclusive Price €759 per person sharing.
(single room €180 supplement)
In conjunction with the Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage.
To book please contact Anne in the Parish Office Tel: 8375274

The Exam Mass will be celebrated on **Sunday 26th May at 12.30pm in the Church of the Holy Child.** – This is the normal 12.30pm Family Mass with

special emphasis on those doing exams, especially the Junior and Leaving Cert. During this Mass students will be invited to light a candle and place it before the Altar and then in turn write their name on a piece of paper and place it in the basket in front of the Altar. The basket will remain there for all Masses during the month of June as a practical and prayerful way of remembering our young people during the exams. If you have a family member or friend or just know someone who is preparing for exams please feel free to place their names in the basket.



 **Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball** - Calling Local Painting and Decorating Firms: The Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball in Santry will celebrate its 25th Anniversary in December 2019. As part of the celebrations we would like to give the chapel a 'face lift' by painting and decorating it. Quotes for the job would be most welcome from local businesses. Please contact Canon John Flaherty, john.flaherty@dublindiocese.ie for further information. We'd also be delighted to receive financial assistance towards the cost of refurbishment. Donations from individuals, families or business sponsorship most welcome. Special Refurbishment Envelopes will be available in the churches shortly.



We welcome in Baptism:
Seán Patrick Harley

We pray that this newly baptised child will always know and love Jesus as his friend.



COFFEE MORNING IN AID OF H.U.D.T. (help us dry tears) Divine Mercy in Action, will be held on Thursday 16th May 2019 in the Coffee Shop, Pastoral Centre from 9.30a.m. to 12p.m.



Recently Deceased:

You are asked to remember in your Prayers:

Michael Crowley,
 Kathleen Crawford,
 Mary Dillon

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



WELCOME: to the North Dublin Community Gospel Choir who will sing at the 10.00a.m. Mass in Blessed Margaret Ball on **Sunday 12th May.**



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

Please Support your Parish Lotto

Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:

1st Jackpot: 6 9 29 30

2nd Jackpot: 6 13 26 29

No Jackpot winner. The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were:

A. Hackett, B. & M. Brady, J. Murphy, P. Smith, K. Bergin, T. Deegan, C. Corcoran.

The winners of the 5 special prizes of €100 were:

M. Reamond, A. Hackett, E. Dempsey, S. Lally, J. Coleman

Next Week's Lotto Draw: First Jackpot €15,000 Second Jackpot €850

Plus 7 Consolation Prizes of €25.



Mass Intentions for the coming week

Church of the Holy Child

Mon 13th May 9.15a.m. Decd. members & relatives of the Kelly Family (R.I.P.)

7.00p.m. Available for Intention

Tues. 14th May 9.15a.m. Decd. members & relatives of the Colley Family

7.00p.m. Available for Intention

Wed. 15th May 9.15a.m. & 7.00p.m. Available for Intention

Thurs. 16th May 9.15a.m. Available for Intention

7.00p.m. Annie Burke (Anniversary)

Fri. 17th May 9.15a.m. Available for Intention

7.00p.m. Denis Whooley, Mary Reilly (Anniversaries)

Sat. 18th May 10.00a.m. Available for Intention

Vigil 7.00p.m. Dympna Rourke (Anniversary)

Sun. 19th May 11.15a.m. For the People of the Parish

12.30p.m. Bernadette Brannigan (Month's Mind)

Batt, Margaret & Anne O'Mahony (Anniversaries)

6.00p.m. Joe & Rosaleen Shanahan (Anniversaries)

Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball

Wed. 15th May 10.00a.m. Available for Intention

Sun. 19th May 10.00a.m. Pat Kilgallon (1st Anniversary)

Mary & Seán Stanley (Anniversaries)

Henry Dillon (Anniversary)

World Day of Prayer for Vocations - This weekend of 11th & 12th May, we celebrate *Good Shepherd Sunday*.

This Sunday will continue to be an irreplaceable occasion to reflect on the importance of the ministerial priesthood and on prayer for vocations to the priesthood. There will no longer be a special collection due to smaller number of seminarians & sufficient funds. **Next weekend, 18/19 May**, we will for the first time hold a new collection which will be called the *Ministry Sunday Collection*. This new annual collection will replace the Share Collection and will be devoted to support the building up of new forms of lay ministry in our parishes.

Church Collections 5/5/2019

1st Collection €1,688

Share €1,620

Family Envelope €1,205

Sincere thanks

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

