

words if necessary. In other words, the example of how we live our lives can be at least as important as the words that we speak. There can be many opportunities for us to share our faith and to encourage others. It may be a supportive word at a difficult moment, giving time to someone who comes to us for advice or simply be present and attentive to the person we are speaking to.

I recall someone recently saying *"I understand exactly what you mean"* which is an ordinary phrase in some ways but also shows that the person is listening very attentively to what is being said to them. Sometimes, as in the case of John the Baptist, our advice may send the person off in a different direction in their lives. In our Gospel today, he encourages Andrew to go to Jesus. This is a very selfless act as John might have preferred to continue to have Andrew's companionship but instead he realised that the time had come for Andrew to move on with his life and he was willing to facilitate that.

Jesus clearly made a big impression on Andrew because we are told that he *"stayed with him the rest of that day."* Andrew clearly recognised something very important in the person of Jesus and decided to remain with him. Having made this great discovery, Andrew does not keep the news to himself but immediately wants to share it with his brother Peter. We are told that he meets his brother and says to him: *"We have found the Messiah"*. What an extraordinary moment of revelation! Andrew was obviously a man of faith but his first reaction is to share the good news, echoing Mary's decision to visit Elizabeth when she heard the news of the annunciation. As Christians, our duty is to share the good news and not to hide it away or keep it to ourselves.

Let us pray in the coming week that we will be able to share our faith and insights on life with those in need of guidance and support in whatever circumstances we may encounter them.

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.

"We have found the Messiah"

14th January 2018

People often talk about the importance of having a mentor. Someone who will inspire and help us often at an important part of our life's journey.

This may be a family member, perhaps an uncle or aunt. It may be a teacher or work colleague who may have been particularly helpful to us when giving advice about our careers. Or perhaps a priest or nun or lay person who has inspired us on our journey of faith.

I can certainly recall a priest who was extremely supportive and helpful to me when the Permanent Diaconate was first discussed in Ireland over ten years ago now. At the time, people did not know very much about it and some were sceptical about what it might achieve. But I do recall that this particular priest was unfailingly supportive and encouraging from day one and

regularly checked in with me to see how things were going as I progressed through the various stages of the programme.

We can see a number of mentors at work in today's readings. Eli is advising Samuel about the meaning of God's call in the first reading and, in our Gospel today, we see John the Baptist directing his disciples to Jesus. Later in the reading, Andrew having found Jesus goes and tells his brother Peter: *"We have found the Messiah"*.

So, here we have three mentors, Eli, John the Baptist and Andrew helping other people on their journey of faith by showing them the way to God. In our lives, we may have opportunities to show Jesus to those we meet in the different circumstances of our lives. Saint Francis of Assisi once said to preach the gospel and to use



**Church of the Holy Child
Diamond Jubilee
1957- 2017**



**Book on sale now
in the Parish Shop
and at Reception in the Parish Centre
Cost €5**



**All proceeds will go
towards a new
Parish Organ**



**We welcome in Baptism:
Ellen Rose Maughan Diaz**

*May this newly baptised Child
always know and love Jesus as
her friend.*

Liturgy Team – the next meeting of the Liturgy Team will take place on Wednesday, 17th January 2018 at 7.30p.m. in the Parish Centre.

Parish Pastoral Council – the next meeting of the Pastoral Council will take place on Wednesday 17th January 2018 at 7.30p.m. in the Parish Centre

Parish Calendar – the Parish Calendar & Information Sheet is available at the doors of the Churches and at Reception in the Parish Centre. Please take one.

Recently Deceased: You are asked to remember in your Prayers:

**Tom McArthur
Frances Buckley
Monica Burke**

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



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 side of the Church.

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.

**Catholic Schools Week
January 28 – February-3rd**
Theme Catholic Schools: 'Called to be a Family of Families.'

Laudate Festival 2018 Catholic Schools Week Tuesday 30th January at 7p.m. Our Lady of Victories Church Ballymun Rd.
This Festival brings children from forty five primary schools along with parishioners and choirs together to celebrate the gift of one another, the gift of family and Catholic education and to sing an enjoyable, shared and engaging repertoire.
All Welcome

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
18th – 25th January. Theme 'That All May Be Free'

Legion of Mary Project – One Day Conference on Mary DCU All Hallows Campus, Drumcondra Saturday January 20th, 2018 9.30am-5pm Cost €20 (LIGHT LUNCH INCL.) Contact Liam 086 8888918 or Mary 087 2256833.

Church Gate Collection
This weekend this Collection is for the Society of St. Vincent De Paul



Please Support your Parish Lotto

Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:

1st Jackpot: 10 15 24 29 2nd Jackpot: 1 13 15 18

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

J. Fitzgibbon: P. Smith: E. Mooney: P. Grogan: M. Breen N. Molloy: B.M.B. Tea Room.

Next Week's Lotto: First Jackpot €1,500 Second Jackpot €2,000

Plus Seven Consolation Prizes of €25

Anam Cara North Dublin, an organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its next monthly Parent Evening on Wednesday 17th Jan. from 7.30pm –9.00pm in the Carnegie Court Hotel, Swords, Co. Dublin. Anam Cara North Dublin offers a safe and comfortable setting where you can 'drop the mask' and be yourself among people who understand. This event is open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether this was recent or not.

OPEN DAY Whitehall College FE at Coláiste Caoimhín St. Moibhí Rd. Thursday 25th January from 2-6pm. Tel: 837 6011

Due to a number of recent robberies the Gardai have requested that Parishioners be vigilant when opening their door. Please make sure you do not open your door to strangers.

**Mass Intentions for the coming week
Church of the Holy Child**

Monday 15th Jan.	9.15a.m. Available for Intention 7.00p.m. Mary & Jim Molloy (Anniversary)
Tuesday 16th Jan.	9.15a.m. Joseph Matthew (Anniversary) 7.00p.m. Available for Intention
Wednesday 17th Jan..	9.15a.m. & 7.00p.m. Available for Intention
Thursday 18th Jan..	9.15a.m. Available for Intention 7.00p.m. Kathleen & Patrick Maples, Mary Elizabeth Crowley & Derek O'Connor (Anniversaries)
Friday 19th Jan.	9.15a.m. Available for Intention 7.00p.m. Rose Fannin (Anniversary) Deceased members of O'Hara Family
Saturday 20th Jan.	10.00a.m. Available for Intention 7.00p.m. Susan O'Connor (Anniversary) Michael & Bridget Rogers (Anniversaries) Dominic Duffy, Bridie Goggin (Anniversaries)
Sunday 21st Jan.	11.15a.m. People of the Parish 12.30p.m. Liam & Vera Daly (Anniversaries) Fox & Murray Families (Anniversaries) 6.00p.m. Raymond McGuire (Month's Mind)
<u>Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball</u>	
Wednesday. 17th Jan.	10.00a.m. Available for Intention
Sunday 21st Jan.	10.00a.m. Patrick & Michelle O'Toole (Annivs.) Pat & Mike Farrelly (Anniversaries)