

before we celebrate the birth of Jesus on December 25th."

John's role was to direct people towards Jesus and we should remember that we all have that mission as well, whether it is by word or example.

Father Martin asks: "The question of the neighbours and relations ask of the child John in the gospel reading, 'What will this child turn out to be?' could be asked of any of us. It is a question that could be asked of us at any stage of our lives, 'What will I turn out to be?', or to put the question in other terms, 'Who is God calling me to be?' 'What is God's purpose for my life?'"

Let us remember that even small gestures on our part can make a big difference in spreading the Gospel whether it is by assisting others, taking time for prayer and reflection or getting involved in the life of our parish. Other people can be encouraged by the example of our lives and we must never underestimate how a good life, well lived can be a great example to people on their journey of faith. "

We pray this weekend that we will all be workers, like John the Baptist, helping to create the kingdom of God in the world that we live in today. And let us ask the Holy Spirit to assist us in our work.

NOTE: The quotations included in this Gospel reflection come from an excellent book *Weekday Reflections for the Liturgical Year 2017/2018* by Father Martin Hogan, published by *The Messenger*.

Website: [www.messenger.ie/bookshop](http://www.messenger.ie/bookshop)

*Gerard Reilly is a Permanent Deacon in Donaghmede and Ayrfield parishes.*

### **Dardistown Cemetery Mass Sunday, 1st July 2018.**

This annual Mass is a huge undertaking for our Parish and many people are required to help our Parish Team. We invite Ministers of the Eucharist to volunteer to minister at this Mass. We also require people to accompany each Minister carrying an umbrella (this will enable people attending the Mass to see clearly where each Minister of the Eucharist is standing during the distribution of the Blessed Sacrament). Maybe each Minister could bring along another person to help with this. People are also needed to help with the Collection before and after the Mass. If you can help in any way please leave your name and contact details on the list available on the table in the Parish Centre or with the Sacristan in the Church of the Holy Child or in Blessed Margaret Ball. Our sincere thanks for your continued help with this special Mass in our Parish.



## **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).

*"What is God's purpose for my life?"*

**24th June 2018**

I once knew a parish sister in my home parish who was, with the benefit of hindsight, far ahead of her time. From her many years working as a missionary in Africa, she realised the importance of encouraging parishioners to take on roles in the church and assisted them in getting qualifications that helped them in their later ministry.

Several people I know from that time, went on to work in ministry in the Diocese and I know that the advice they got from the parish sister really helped to shape their work in ministry.

Unfortunately, the parish sister did not live to see the fruits of her efforts but I think she would very much approve of the far greater involvement of lay people in the church in recent years which has been facilitated by courses in places like Mater Dei, which is now part of Dublin City

University. I thought of her when I read today's Gospel about John the Baptist preparing for the Kingdom of God and was also reminded of words written about Archbishop Oscar Romero, who will be canonised by Pope Francis later this year:

*"We plant seeds that one day will grow, we water seeds already planted."*

John the Baptist, whose birth we celebrate today, was also someone who prepared the way for the kingdom of God. He prepared the ground for the ministry of Jesus to come. The gospel today describing his birth only appears in St Luke. Father Martin Hogan explains:

*"John the Baptist is the only saint, after Jesus himself, whose birth the church celebrates with a solemn feast. We celebrate the birth of John the Baptist on June 24th, six months*



**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



**The Strawberry Fayre Sunday, 22nd July from 10.30a.m. – 1.30p.m.**

Any new or nearly new unused gifts gladly accepted for the stalls. If you would like to bake bread, cakes or scones for the cake stall, donate bottles of alcohol or juices for the Wheel of Fortune or if you can help in any way, it would be very much appreciated.



**Ministers of the Eucharist:**  
**No roster for month of July.**  
**Please refer to June roster.**

**Ministers of the Word:**

The new Group C roster is available for collection from the reception area in the parish centre.

**Cemetery Masses/Prayers**

**Glasnevin** Cemetery – June 24th at 3pm.  
**Dardistown** Cemetery - July 1st Mass at 3pm.  
**Balgriffin** – 1st July Mass at 12pm.

**Church Gate Collection:**

The church gate collection this weekend is in aid of St. Michael’s House

**Recently Deceased:**

You are asked to remember in your Prayers – **Una McKeon Paul Leo Poynton Thomas Stafford Dan Breen May O’Flynn Teresa Dunne Kathleen Kendlin**



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



**We welcome in Baptism:**  
**Liam Lorenzo di Filippo**  
**Megan Maria Payne**  
**Matilda Angela McLoughlin**

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

**Let’s Talk Faith**

“Let’s Talk Faith” is an initiative of adult faith development for parishioners. Donal Harrington, Dublin Diocesan Co-ordinator of Catechetical Formation, has facilitated a number of people who have been willing to come together and engage in a pilot project. We are deeply grateful to them for their willingness to take part in a venture that has proved very successful. Participants gathered for four sessions; the experience has been an enriching one for them giving them a sense of confidence about their faith. They explored how this process could help to build a strong faith community in the future life of the parish. The general consensus in the end was that it would be a positive experience for interested parishioners who would be willing to take part in similar sessions.

Our Parish Pastoral Council and Adult Faith Development Team, among many other projects, support faith development in the Parish and are giving their commitment to this project. In the Autumn, we will explain it a little further and invite parishioners to participate. The only requirement is to have an open and exploring spirit. *Fr. John Jones*

**Please Support your Parish Lotto** Last Tuesday’s winning numbers were:

1st Jackpot: 5 9 17 22 2nd Jackpot: - 6 12 19 27 No Jackpot Winner.

The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were: P. Moore: B. Devine: T. Tierney:

J. Clarke: K. Beyu: M. Meehan: M. Hogan.

**Next Week’s Lotto: First Jackpot €7,250 Second Jackpot €1,200**

**7 Consolation Prizes of €25**

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

<b>Monday 25th June</b>	<b>9.15a.m.</b>	<b>Sarah Hannon (Anniversary)</b>
	<b>7.00p.m.</b>	<b>Michael Clancy (Anniversary)</b> <b>Bridie Courtney (R. I. P.)</b>
<b>Tuesday 26th June</b>	<b>9.15a.m.</b>	<b>Available for Intention</b>
	<b>7.00p.m.</b>	<b>Bridget Kilcommons (1st Anniversary)</b>
<b>Wednesday 27th June</b>	<b>9.15a.m. &amp; 7.00p.m.</b>	<b>Available for Intention</b>
<b>Thursday 28th June</b>	<b>9.15a.m.</b>	<b>Thomas Viu (1st Anniversary)</b>
	<b>7.00p.m.</b>	<b>Available for Intention</b>
<b>Friday 29th June</b>	<b>9.15a.m.</b>	<b>Robert McShane (Anniversary)</b>
	<b>7.00p.m.</b>	<b>Available for Intention</b>
<b>Saturday 30th June</b>	<b>10.00a.m.</b>	<b>Brendan Lynch (Month’s Mind)</b>
<b>Vigil</b>	<b>7.00p.m.</b>	<b>Hanora Ryan (Month’s Mind)</b>
<b>Sunday 1st July</b>	<b>11.15a.m.</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b>
	<b>12.30p.m.</b>	<b>Larry Clare (Month’s Mind)</b>
	<b>6.00p.m.</b>	<b>Available for Intention</b>

**Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball**

<b>Wednesday 27th June</b>	<b>10.00a.m.</b>	<b>Available for Intention</b>
<b>Sunday 1st July</b>	<b>10.00a.m.</b>	<b>Available for Intention</b>

**Papal Mass in the Phoenix Park** – Pope Francis celebrates Mass in the Phoenix Park on Sunday 26th August – the Parish has organised two buses to take parishioners to the Phoenix Park (to the designated drop off point, there will be some walking to the Mass area). Returning to the Church of the Holy Child after the Mass. Anyone interested is asked to leave their name and contact details with the Parish Office. We will have more information regarding tickets etc., in the coming weeks. Cost €6.

**Volunteers needed for Aware**

Aware, Ireland’s leading organisation providing support, education and information services for people impacted by depression, bipolar disorder and related conditions, is urgently seeking new volunteers. Comprehensive training available. Tel: Emma on 01 2374926 for further information.

**Ewe Thina: We Walk God’s Way**

Join other **young adults** (20’s & 30’s) for reflective hikes around Dublin area. Monthly event. The next hike will be Sunday 1st July at 12 noon around Glendalough. If you need a lift to Glendalough email [st.pauls@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:st.pauls@dublindiocese.ie) and follow [www.facebook.com/wewalkgodsway](http://www.facebook.com/wewalkgodsway)