

the place where young people like yourselves will learn the beauty of faith and the joy of living the Gospel."

Speaking at a General Audience in August 2017, Pope Francis spoke about the seasons. He asked, *"We are people of spring more than autumn."* He went on to explain: *"I would like to ask now – each one answer in his heart, in silence, but answer Am I a man, a woman, a boy, a girl of spring or of autumn? Is my soul in spring or in autumn?"*

This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. We have the wonderful Gospel reading from St. Luke which recalls Mary and Joseph bringing the child Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem where they meet two wonderful older people of faith who offer wise insights: Simeon and Anna. And we hear the inspiring words of Simeon which are part of the Night Prayer of the Church which is said every day: *"Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the gentiles and the glory of your people Israel."*



Then we are told that the prophetess Anna *"spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem."*

Needless to say, Mary and Joseph are concerned about what they are hearing: *"the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him."*

The Gospel today may be asking us to trust in God's plans. God has dreams for us that we can't fully imagine and he invites us to have faith in divine providence. As Saint John Henry Newman wrote: *"I have my mission. I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons."*

Let us pray that, as we begin this new season of Spring, that we will be inspired to become what God has called us to be and that we will follow the path that he has prepared for each and every one of us. Despite our challenges, we can be confident that Jesus will accompany us on our 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.

*"We are people of spring
more than autumn."*

2nd February 2020

This is the first Sunday of February and marks the beginning of the Celtic season of Spring, which started yesterday on the Feast of St. Brigid, on February 1st. We are already beginning to see the first signs of the season as the new flowers are starting to appear in our parks and gardens. I was delighted to see cherry blossoms in our back garden last week. As the song says: *"I've always loved spring time, the passing of winter. The green of the new leaves and life going on"*.

We also have a new Springtime in our Church with Pope Francis who is such a fantastic role model and example for all Christian people. I have recently read an article entitled *"The Last Monk of Clonmacnoise"* which spoke about what it must have been like for the last remaining monks to live out their days in the ruins of the once great monastic foundation near Athlone. And the writer asks *"who*

was the last monk to say mass there and to blow out the last candle?" There is a sense of the end of an era as one age of Christianity passes away but also the emergence of a time of transition as a renewed church emerges by the grace of the Holy Spirit.

It's a good time of the year to think again about our work and ministry and to ask Jesus if he is calling us to spread our wings a bit while also making sure that we have adequate time to refresh and renew ourselves.

Archbishop Diarmuid Martin has also been reflecting on the Springtime in the church. When speaking to young people he said:

"I have seen many changes and been called to challenges that I could not have imagined. My prayer is that your generation will now take on the challenge of renewing the Church for it to be

Parish Lotto

Please Support your Parish Lotto

Last Tuesday's winning numbers were: 1st Jackpot: 1 24 25 30
 2nd Jackpot: 8 14 16 21 No Jackpot winner.
 The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were: M. & A. Keyes;
 S. Thorne; G. Bradley; S. Beades; C. Barker; J. Martin; J. O'Hanlon.
 Next Week's Lotto Draw: First Jackpot €15,000
 Second Jackpot €800 Plus 7 consolation prizes of €25 & 5 Special prizes of €100



Blessed Margaret Ball Folk Group
25th Anniversary Mass
 On Sunday, 23rd
 February the Blessed
 Margaret Folk Group will
 celebrate their 25th Anniversary at 10a.m.
 Mass in Blessed Margaret Ball. They would
 like to invite past members to join them on
 the day.
 The first rehearsal will take place on
 Saturday, 1st February in Blessed Margaret
 Ball at 11a.m. For more details please
 contact Mary 083 3469029



We welcome in Baptism:
Jacob Walsh
Ruby Joan Bridget Kelly
 May these newly baptised
 children always know and
 love Jesus as their friend.



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



Recently Deceased: You are asked to
 remember in your Prayers:
 Bernadette Bonny
 John O'Connell
 Joseph Browne

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



Church Collections
26/1/20
1st Collection €1,743
SHARE €1,505
Family Envelope €1,065

Monday 3rd February
Blessing of Throats
 Church of the Holy Child at 9.15a.m. &
 7.00p.m. Masses

Friday 7th February – First Friday
Mass Schedule: Church of the Holy
Child – 9.15a.m. and 7.00p.m.
 Confessions on Thursday after the
 9.15a.m. and before the 7.00p.m. Masses.

World Day of the Sick Mass will take
 place on Sun. 9th February in Church of
 the Guardian Angels, Newtownpark
 Ave., Blackrock, Co. Dublin. Theme:
Hope in the Face of Suicide Further infor-
 mation contact Trish 087 6220349

Anniversary Frame
 If your loved one has an
 anniversary coming up
 please consider giving their
 name to the Sacristan or
 place in one of the safes.
 It will then be put in the
 Anniversary Frame, placed on the Altar
 and prayed for at all Sunday Masses.
 Small donation appreciated.



Mass Intentions
Church of the Holy Child
Sat. 1st Feb. 10.00a.m. Catriona O'Connell R.I.P. – Recently Deceased
 Frank Hughes – 1st Anniversary
 7.00p.m. Frank & Olive Heron – Anniversaries
 Paul & Beatrice Colfer – Anniversaries
 Fox & Murray Families – Anniversaries
 Mary – Month's Mind & Patrick Wall – Remembrance
Sun. 2nd Feb. 11.15a.m. Des Leech, Brian Murphy – Anniversaries
 12.30p.m. Justin Jose – Month's Mind
 Betty Whitford – Month's Mind
 William Elliott – Anniversary
Tues. 4th Feb. 7.00p.m. Maureen & John Halpin – R. I. P.
 Margaret Matthews – Anniversary
 Deceased members of the Colgan Family
Fri. 7th Feb. 9.15a.m. Altar List of the Dead
 Altar List of the Dead
Sat. 8th Feb. 7.00p.m. Florence Lynch – Month's Mind
 Patrick (Sonny) Kinsella – 1st Anniversary
 Martha Herron, Carmel Goodson – Anniversaries
 Hugh Lynch – Anniversary
Sun. 9th Feb. 12.30p.m. Patrick Mahon – 1st Anniversary
 6.00p.m. Gretta & Dominick Coll – Anniversaries
 Alice Craddock – Anniversary
Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball
Wed. 5th Feb. No Intention to date
Sun. 9th Feb. 10.00a.m. Douglas Virgo – Anniversary
 Raymond & Nora Hanley & son Ray – Anniversaries
 Linda Campelli, Seán MacGabhann – Anniversaries

CRC - Annual Exhibition of Paintings
 organised by the Parents & Friends
 Association of the CRC
 Saturday 22nd February 11a.m – 6.00p.m.
 Sunday 23rd February 11.00a.m. – 5.00p.m.
 Central Remedial Clinic, Vernon Ave.,
 Clontarf, 5 minutes from Killester
 Dart Station. Proceeds for:
 Summer Project, School Events,
 Droichead Club, CRC Local
 Centres. Admission Free.



St. Francis Hospice Memorial Walk
 RTE's Kathryn Thomas, Sr. Margaret
 Cashman, director of Nursing & Fintan
 Fagan CEO, launching this year's 5K
 Spring Memorial Walk. St. Anne's
 Park, Raheny Sunday, 8th March 2020
 at 1p.m. followed by refreshments and
 fun for all. Walk leader is Kathryn
 Thomas. Entry fee: €20 per Adult, chil-
 dren free. Register www.sfh.ie or call
 into St. Francis Hospice reception.

Church Gate Collection - Next
weekend this collection will be for
 the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul.**

ACCORD -Diocesan Agency for Marriage and
 the Family - Annual collection will take place
 on the weekend 15th & 16th February.