

boat and rail over a couple of days. Today it is an easier journey but we still have the sense of travelling on pilgrimage, making a journey of faith.

And one of the good things about a pilgrimage is that it gives us an opportunity to step out of our daily lives and try to gain some fresh perspectives on the challenges that we face and to try to learn a bit more about ourselves. It's also a good opportunity to reflect on our faults and failings, as we all have them, and to ask Our Lady to pray to her Son Jesus to help us to overcome them. After the pilgrimage is over, we hope that we may return home as better people with fresh insights into how God is present in our lives and what he is calling us to do.

In the eighth apparition to Bernadette on February 24th 1858, Our Lady asked Bernadette to pray for the conversion of sinners. And then in the ninth apparition Our Lady asked Bernadette to "go and drink at the spring and wash yourself"

at the miraculous spring that appeared when Bernadette dug in the earth. The message here is that an act of penitence can lead to purification and to forgiveness, which is particularly appropriate to recall during Lent. Here we have an image of Our Lady inviting us to wash ourselves and to be cleaned spiritually by our Pilgrimage to Lourdes. The message of Lourdes is an invitation to reconciliation with God.

When speaking about Lourdes, Pope Francis referred to the very special place that sick people have there. He said :

"Like Saint Bernadette, we stand beneath the watchful gaze of Mary. Let us ask Mary Immaculate for the grace always to relate to the sick as persons who certainly need assistance, at times even for the simplest of things, but who have a gift of their own to share with others."

Whether we go on pilgrimage to a near or far destination in the coming year, let us pray for the grace that, like our ancestors before us, we may be inspired by the journey and may find peace and greater meaning in life from our efforts.



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**

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.

"Why go on Pilgrimage?"

4th March 2018

The idea of going on pilgrimage goes back hundreds of years in the Church. In the middle ages, crusaders went to Jerusalem to try to liberate the Holy City. Later on, we have the tradition of pilgrimages to places like Santiago de Compostella commencing in Dublin, as many of you know, from St James Gate at Guinness brewery.

The latter pilgrimage has grown in popularity in recent years and is now more popularly referred to as the *Camino*. Many students or people who want to take time out for various reasons or simply enjoy the exercise have walked this ancient pilgrimage route in recent years.

Closer to home we know from our history books about great monastic saints such as Columbanus going on great journeys across dangerous seas and oceans with the aim of spreading the faith.

Some of us may have been fortunate to go on pilgrimage to the Holy Land but for many our pilgrimage destination may be nearer to home such as Lourdes, Fatima and, of

course, our own beloved Marian shrine of Knock.

Pilgrimages provide us all with a bit of space to step out of our ordinary lives for a short time and to make a spiritual journey in the footsteps of those who have travelled the same road many times before us.

We have a great devotion to Lourdes in Whitehall parish and this year we will once again go on pilgrimage to Lourdes from September 7th-12th, details of which are elsewhere in this newsletter. This year we celebrate the 160th anniversary of the apparitions in 1858, so it might be a good time to think about going.

Our Lady did not appear there in South Western France to boost the tourist industry but this has certainly been one of the side effects as thousands of people from all over the world go to Lourdes on pilgrimage every year.

Of course, the first pilgrims from Ireland would have experienced some hardship travelling there by

'Ways to Wellbeing' Talk – Wed, March 7th at 7.30p.m. - The Larkhill/Whitehall/Santry Adult Faith Development Team have invited John Doran, Author, Speaker and Teacher, to talk about resilience and positive mental wellbeing for teenagers on Wednesday March 7th at 7.30p.m. in the Parish Centre, Larkhill/Whitehall/Santry Parish. This is a free talk specifically aimed at parents and teachers of senior cycle students (4th, 5th and 6th Year secondary school). To register, please contact Catherine on 087 6711421 by Monday March 5th.

We welcome in Baptism:
Brody Robert Michael Whelan Kearney
Bayley Rose Murphy



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

BAPTISM

**Ireland of the Welcomes
 Hosting Families for WMOF2018**

Thousands of people will be travelling from very distinct places to participate in World Meeting of Families. Do you have a spare room? Would you be willing to host a couple or family next August? www.worldmeeting2018.ie/hostfamily or Tel: 015676800

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

John Kelly
 Ken O'Connor
 Margaret (Dorrie) Farrell

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



Coffee Shop
The Parish Centre The
 Coffee Shop will **not be**
 open this Sunday 4th March 2018 due to weather conditions.



Holy Child Boys' School Larkhill
 If you would like to enrol your boy in the school for next September, please ring the school secretary on 01 8372472 for full details. Holy Child Boys' School caters for boys from **1st to 6th Class**.

Whitehall, Beaumont & St. Luke's Kilmore West
 are hosting a series of talks centred on the 'Family of God' in preparation for the World Meeting of Families (WMOF) in August 2018. All parishioners & their friends are very welcome. Each evening will commence with a presentation, with a break for tea/coffee followed by time for discussion and questions. **Wednesday 14th March Beaumont Church at 7.30p.m.**
 Fr. Pat Collins
 Theme: The importance of Family Prayer – Some Suggestions
Wednesday, 21st March St. Luke's Church at 7.30p.m.
Speaker to be confirmed
 For further details & information contact Noreen O'Prey
 Tel: 086 2939935

Anthony Meehan R.I.P.
 The family of the late Anthony Meehan deeply appreciate and will always hold in grateful remembrance the kind expression of sympathy shown to them by their friends and neighbours at the time of their sad loss. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass has been offered for their intentions.

LOTTO Please Support your Parish Lotto
 Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:
 1st Jackpot: 3 6 7 29 2nd Jackpot: 3 15 16 22
No Jackpot Winner.
 The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were: O. Bolton: P. Kavanagh: C. Barker: G. Levins: R. Kelly: M. Mullery: E. Kelly.
 Next Week's Lotto: First Jackpot **€3,250** Second Jackpot **€400**
Plus Seven Consolation Prizes of €25 & Five Special Prizes of €100

Registering to attend the World Meeting of Families -Pope Francis personally chose Ireland to host this event. If you would like to attend all or part of it you can register now for the three-day Pastoral Congress through website at ww.worldmeeting2018.ie. Places for the Congress are limited and guarantee a ticket for the Festival of Families and the Final Mass which are expected to be led by Pope Francis.

| <u>Mass Intentions for the coming week</u> <u>Church of the Holy Child</u> | | |
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| Monday 5th March | 9.15a.m. 7.00p.m. | William O'Keeffe (Anniversary) Thomas Norris (Anniversary) Special Intention |
| Tuesday 6th March | 9.15a.m. 7.00p.m. | Available for Intention Special Intention |
| Wednesday 7th March | 9.15a.m. 7.00p.m. | James Tully (Anniversary) Michael Mathews (Anniversary) Special Intention |
| Thursday 8th March | 9.15a.m. 7.00p.m. | Rosemary Savage (Anniversary) Gerry Lingwood (R.I.P.) |
| Friday 9th March | 9.15a.m. 7.00p.m. | St. Joseph's Young Priest Society Loretta Dempsey (1st Anniversary) |
| Saturday 10th March | 10.00a.m. Vigil 7.00p.m. | Available for Intention Brendan Downey (1st Anniversary) Imelda McDonnell (Anniversary) Michael & Theresa Whelan (Anniversaries) |
| Sunday 11th March | 11.15a.m. 12.30p.m. 6.00p.m. | People of the Parish Des Leech (Month's Mind) Joan Waldron, Vincent Kavanagh (Anniversaries) Nellie & Owen O'Reilly (Anniversaries) Caroline O'Keeffe (Month's Mind) Paddy McDonnell (Month's Mind) John O'Keeffe (Anniversary) |
| <u>Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball</u> | | |
| Wednesday 7th March | 10.00a.m. | Available for Intention |
| Sunday 11th March | 10.00a.m. | Tom Tyrrell, Bernadette Devine, Durkan Family, Pat Philbin & Family (Anniversaries) |