

of our baptism? It's a lovely thing to say a prayer sometime at the baptismal font in the church where you were baptised.

St. Peter, who was the first Pope, described the baptised in a very particular way. He said they are a "chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart." At Baptism, we become members of the Church for the first time, we are part of God's own people. In this way, each and every one of us share in the priesthood



and ministry of Jesus Christ.

At this time of the year, we too can make new beginnings as we try to make a definite commitment to our faith in the challenging times in which we now live. It may

be that we could attend mass more regularly or go to confession once a month or perhaps take the opportunity to pray more regularly. We could get involved with one of the parish groups or ministries or perhaps offer to volunteer with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul or at the World Meeting of Families in August.

Whatever we decide to do, it is an opportunity to use the gifts that we have received at the time of our baptism in a more effective way in order to be of service to our community. Then our own baptism will be more fruitful and become a blessing to those around us.

As we start this New Year, we ask that our Risen Saviour, whose baptism we recall today, will help us to use the graces and gifts that we have received from our baptism for the benefit of our Church and community. May this be a year of blessings of each of us as we continue on the next part of our Christian journey.

*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](http://www.whitehall.dublindioocese.ie).

**Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**

**7th January 2018**

When Saint John Paul II first visited France in the 1980s, he addressed a large crowd in the Parc de Princes in Paris and asked them:

*"France, what have you done with your baptism?"*

This same question could be equally addressed to each one of us today. When we were baptised, we were brought to the church by our parents and godparents who made promises on our behalf. As adults, it is now our responsibility to live out these promises in our lives. In the course of conversation, we will often recommend a film or a play to someone we meet but how often do we take the opportunity to offer them some insights into the Christian way of life either in conversation or by example when the opportunity arises? There are many such opportunities to share the faith with our friends, colleagues, fellow students and

neighbours.

In the Gospel today, Jesus encounters John in the Jordan and is baptised. Here we see Jesus, by his humility, showing by his own example that the least will become the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven.

God the Father speaks these words in our gospel reading: *"You are my Son, the Beloved, my favour rests on you."*

God also addresses these words to each of us individually. What a wonderful new year greeting to receive echoing as it does the words of the Archangel Gabriel to Mary at the Annunciation.

When Saint John Paul II was asked what was the most important day of his life, he replied "the day I was baptised." And how many of us can recall our birthday every year but probably not that date



**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.

**Family Prayer -World Meeting of Families**  
God, our Father, we are brothers & sisters in Jesus your Son, one family, in the spirit of your love.

Bless us with the joy of love.  
Make us patient and kind, gentle and generous, welcoming to those in need.  
Help us to live your forgiveness and peace.  
Protect all families with your loving care, Especially those for whom we now pray: (We pause and remember family members and others by name).  
Increase our faith, strengthen our hope, keep us safe in your love, make us always grateful for the gift of life that we share.  
Mary, mother & guide, pray for us.  
Saint Joseph, father and protector, pray for us.  
Saints Joachim and Anne, pray for us.  
Saints Louis and Zélie Martin, pray for us.  
This we ask through Christ our Lord.  
Amen

**Adult Faith Team** -The next meeting of this Team will be on Wednesday next the 10th of January in the Parish Centre at 7.30p.m.

**Recently Deceased:** You are asked to remember in your Prayers:  
Philomena Heaney  
Eileen McElroy  
Rita Kennedy  
Peter Heffernan  
Stephen Dillon



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

**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**

**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.

**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.**

**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.

**Highfield Healthcare** are looking for Volunteers to visit their residents in Highfield in Whitehall or Glasnevin? If available please contact Helen Hennessy Tel. 837 6235

**Church Gate Collection**  
Next 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: 1 3 19 25 2nd Jackpot: 13 20 22 25  
No Jackpot Winner.

The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were: T. Flood; S. Beades; D.O'Kane; W. Lindsay; M. Dineen; M. & A. Keyes; P. Moore.



**Next Week's Lotto: First Jackpot €1,250 Second Jackpot €2,000**  
**Plus Seven Consolation Prizes of €25**

**Message of Our Lady of Fatima** -On 10th December, 1925 Our Lady promised Sr. Lucia she would "assist at the hour of death, with the graces necessary for salvation, all those who on the first Saturdays of five consecutive months confess, receive Holy Communion, pray a Rosary, and keep me company for a quarter of an hour meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary with the intention of offering me reparation." There are four requirements to faithfully fulfil the five first Saturdays –Go to Confession, receive Holy Communion, say five decades of the Holy Rosary, and meditate for a quarter of an hour (separate from praying the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary (separate from praying the Rosary).

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

<b>Monday 8th Jan.</b>	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
	7.00p.m.	Sheila Callanan (R.I.P.)
<b>Tuesday 9th Jan.</b>	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
	7.00p.m.	Áine Holt (R.I.P.), Mairéad Mahon (Anniv.)
<b>Wednesday 10th Jan..</b>	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
	7.00p.m.	Philip O'Reilly, Mick & Mary Byrne (Annivs.) decd. members of the O'Reilly & Byrne families
<b>Thursday 11th Jan..</b>	9.15a.m.	Jimmy Comiskey (Anniversary)
	7.00p.m.	Carmel Butler (Anniversary)
<b>Friday 12th Jan.</b>	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
	7.00p.m.	Joe Kearney (Anniversary)
<b>Saturday 13th Jan.</b>	10.00a.m.	Kay O'Connor (Anniversary)
<b>Vigil</b>	7.00p.m.	Ethel Smith, Stephen Bolton, Keith Kenny (Anniversaries)
<b>Sunday 14th Jan.</b>	11.15a.m.	People of the Parish
	12.30p.m.	Marian Buckley (1st Anniversary) Bernard Hewitt (Anniversary)
	6.00p.m.	Maureen Smith (1st Anniversary) Eilish Salinger Anne O'Sullivan (Anniversary)

**Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball**

<b>Wednesday. 10th Jan.</b>	10.00a.m.	Available for Intention
<b>Sunday 14th Jan..</b>	10.00a.m.	Available for Intention