

nor 'Give me this day my daily bread'; nor does each one ask that only his or her own debt should be forgiven.... Our prayer is public and common; and when we pray we pray not for one but for the whole people, because we the whole people are one."

The spirit of the Lord's Prayer has shaped Christian consciousness from the beginning. Cyril of Jerusalem (c. 315 AD - 386), instructed those about to be baptised: "If you have anything against anyone, forgive it: you come here to receive forgiveness of sins, and you also must forgive the one who has sinned against you."

We are now about half way through the Season of Lent. The word Lent is derived from an old English word for spring. If you have been out and about recently, you will have noticed the new life of spring literally breaking through in the countryside and in our parks and forests. Of course we will never find God fully this side of eternity. But we do see signs and imitations of him throughout our lives. Pope Benedict spoke in Lourdes about the "thin veil" that separates this world from the next. Sometimes, during a retreat or while walking in the countryside or recalling the kindness of another person to us, this veil can seem to be a bit thinner and more transparent.

So, let us pray that this Easter will be a time of renewal and rebirth in our own lives. That we may be enlightened and encouraged by the Holy Spirit as we continue on our journey of faith.

The writer Thomas Merton said: "Not all are called to be hermits but all need enough silence and solitude in their lives to enable the deep inner voice of our true self to be heard at least occasionally."

It is really important that we give ourselves the time and space in the coming weeks before Easter to reflect on the love of Jesus for each and every one of us. Whether that may be at the beginning or end of the day or for a few moments with a piece of scripture, we should allow ourselves some time and space for prayer and reflection.

I will conclude with the words of Pope Leo the Great once said, "Jesus is the hand of God's mercy stretched out towards us". May we all embrace this mercy through prayer during this Lenten season.

Source: Deacon 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.dublindiocese.ie](http://www.whitehall.dublindiocese.ie)

### Prayer and the Christian Life

2nd April 2017

A Carmelite priest once told me that "We [should] turn to God who is our help both now and always."

Archbishop Oscar Romero once said "No prayer fully expresses our faith."

But what should we be seeking in prayer? Our lives are a journey to find God. Sometimes it is difficult to acknowledge God's presence in the midst of our busy lives and, on other occasions, we can feel loved by God. We can sometimes pray to be enlightened so that we can recognise God's presence in our lives, even if we can only realise it in retrospect.

Throughout the Gospels, there are many examples of Jesus at prayer most notably in the Garden of Gethsemane. He also encouraged his disciples to go to a lonely place to pray and, when they asked him how to pray, Jesus gave us the Our Father.

The Our Father focuses, in the first instance, on God and then on our

own needs. We acknowledge who God is and, in the second part, who we are before God. It is a prayer that shows us what is at the heart of all prayer.

Brother John of Taizé says of the Our Father: "They want to learn Jesus's prayer. In other words, they wish to be introduced into his own particular relationship with God. We cannot fail to be struck by two things: first, its utter simplicity – it is almost a child's prayer."



The scripture scholar Father

Martin Hogan says: "prayer is not about informing God about something God is not aware of. There is no need for many words, he says, because your Father knows what you need before you ask him."

St Cyprian (c. 200 - 258), the Third century Saint, said of on the Our Father: "We do not say 'My Father, who art in heaven,'



**Eternal City, Rome**  
**Thurs 28th Sep – Tues 3rd Oct 2017**  
**Mgr. John Fitzpatrick will lead our tour to Rome**  
**Hotel Domus Carmelitana 3\***  
 is centrally located in Rome about 10 mins walk  
 from St. Peters. Price €799.00 per person sharing B & B. For more information and to  
 book please contact Anne in the Parish Office. Tel: 01 8375274.  
**Booking subject to availability.**

**WMOF 2018 Special Collection:**  
 The World Meeting of Families Collection  
 will take place this weekend **1st & 2nd**  
**April 2017 at all Masses.** This collection  
 will replace the SHARE collection.

**Friday 7th April - First Friday**  
**Mass Schedule :**  
**Church of the Holy Child**  
 9.15a.m. and 7.00p.m.  
**Blessed Margaret Ball** 10.00a.m.  
 Confessions on Thursday after the 9.15a.m.  
 Mass and before the 7.00p.m. Mass.

**Property & Finance Committee**  
 The next meeting of the Property and  
 Finance Committee will take place on  
 Monday 3rd April at 7.30p.m. in the  
 Parish Centre.

**Divine Mercy Sunday 23rd April**  
**Pilgrimage to Knock**  
**Coach from the Church of the Holy**  
**Child at 8.30a.m. For details and to book**  
**contact Marie McAllister at 01 8425678**

**Recently Deceased:**  
 You are asked to  
 remember in your  
 Prayers:  
 Ciaran Kelly



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

**We welcome in Baptism:**  
**The Sacrament of Baptism**  
  
**Hannah Eve Cooke**  
**Shay Whelan**  
**Lexi Madison Doyle**  
**Sebastian Anthony Hughes**

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

**Holy Child Church Organ Fund**  
 The Organ Fund has been nominated to  
 take part in the Tesco  
 Community Fund. But we need  
 your help! We're asking you to  
 simply drop into our local  
 Tesco store and pick up a blue  
 token to Vote for us. Our local  
 Tesco store is in Omni Park.



**Easter Garden** – We shall have  
 our beautiful Easter  
 Garden again this  
 year and we would  
 be glad of your  
 usual contributions.  
 Potted flowers of all  
 kinds and colours, greenery etc  
 are very welcome. Please leave in  
 the Sacristy Holy Child on Holy Thursday/  
 Good Friday. Many thanks for your  
 continued contribution of beautiful flowers.



**Church Gate collection on the 8th/9th**  
**April, next weekend, is in aid of Sunshine**  
**House, Society of St. Vincent de Paul.**



**PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 7th -12th September 2017**  
**Hotel Solitude \*\*\*\***  
**5 Nights – Full Board – Fully Inclusive Price €725**  
**Spiritual Director Rev. Tom Kearney**  
**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**

**Please Support your Parish Lotto**  
 Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:  
**1st Jackpot: 7 11 15 25 2nd Jackpot: 1 12 13 22**  
 There was no Jackpot winner. The winners of the seven  
 prizes of €25 were: C. Holden; B. Lyons; S. Beades;  
**F. Burke; D. Smith; J. O'Byrne; S. Moore. Next Week: 1st Jackpot**  
**€6,250 2nd Jackpot €2,000 plus consolation prizes of €25 + 5 special prizes of €100.**



The Easter Raffle in aid of the Parish Centre will be held in the Main Hall  
 this Sunday April 2nd at 12.30p.m. Many prizes of hampers, toiletries, wines,  
 chocolates etc. Tickets €1 each or a strip of 5 for €4 available in Main Hall  
 from 10.30a.m. Please show your support for our Parish Centre.



<u>Mass Intentions for the coming week</u>		
<u>Church of the Holy Child</u>		
<b>Monday 3rd April</b>	9.15a.m.	<b>Maureen &amp; Susan Cassidy (Anniversary)</b>
	7.00p.m.	<b>Special Intention, John Kearney (Anniv.)</b>
<b>Tuesday 4th April</b>	9.15a.m.	<b>Thanksgiving,</b>
	7.00p.m.	<b>Mary O'Connell (1st Anniversary)</b>
<b>Wednesday 5th April</b>	9.15a.m.	<b>Michael &amp; Mary Nolan (Anniversary)</b>
	7.00pm.	<b>Mechtilde Mullins (Anniversary)</b>
<b>Thursday 6th April</b>	9.15a.m.	<b>Available for Intention</b>
	7.00p.m.	<b>Tommy Hayward (1st Anniversary)</b>
<b>Friday 7th April</b>	9.15a.m.	<b>Altar List of the Dead</b>
	7.00p.m.	<b>Altar List of the Dead</b>
<b>Saturday 8th April</b>	10.00a.m.	<b>Loreto Dempsey (Month's Mind)</b>
<b>Vigil</b>	7.00p.m.	<b>Lelia Butler (Nee Boles) Laura Clarke,</b> <b>Jane O'Reilly, Peter Boland (Anniversaries)</b>
<b>Sunday 9th April</b>	11.15a.m.	<b>People of the Parish</b>
	12.30p.m.	<b>James Dean (1st Anniversary)</b> <b>Niamh Oglesby (Anniversary)</b>
	6.00p.m.	<b>Stephen Walsh (Anniversary)</b>
<u>Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball</u>		
<b>Wed. 5th April</b>	10.00a.m	<b>Bridget &amp; John Barry (Anniversaries)</b> <b>Mary Clarke (Thanksgiving)</b>
<b>Friday 7th April</b>	10.00a.m.	<b>Altar List of the Dead</b>
<b>Sunday 9th April</b>	10.00a.m.	<b>Marie Sheridan (1st Anniversary)</b> <b>Tony Hannon (R.I.P.)</b>