

Parish Liturgy Team

The next meeting of the Parish Liturgy Team will take place on Wednesday, 8th February at 7.30p.m. in Room 2 of the Parish Centre.



W.A.R.A.

W.A.R.A. Bowls will return on Mondays 2.00p.m. to 4.00p.m.

Holy Child National School

Enrolment for Junior Infants September 2023 is now open until 30th January. Please log onto their website www.holychildns.ie and fill in a pre-enrolment form. The Open Evening will be held in the school on Thursday 26th January from 6.30 p.m.– 7.30 p.m. for parents of incoming Junior Infants September 2023.



Laudate Festival The Laudate 2023 festival events will be celebrated as a follow-on from Catholic Schools Week in the Archdiocese of Dublin. The Laudate Festival brings a large choir of several hundred children together in each of the venues below to raise the roof in songs of praise to God and to lead us in reflection. You are invited to add your voice to the gathered singers. The repertoire is suitable for parish choirs and congregational singing for all occasions. Entry is free for all. All are welcome.

Laudate 2023 Festival Celebrations:

- Church of Our Lady of Victories, Ballymun Road, on Tuesday, January 31st 7-8.15pm
- Church of St Therese, Mount Merrion, on Wednesday, February 1st, 7.00-8.15p.m.
- Church of the Holy Spirit, Greenhills, on Thursday, February 2nd, Laudate Festival Night

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT -The Irish Hospice Foundation provides a free Bereavement Support Line. This National Freephone Service is available from 10am to 1pm, Monday to Friday, by calling 1800 807077. Visit www.hospicefoundation.ie for more information.

Recently Deceased:

We remember our friends and loved ones who have recently died in Christ - Paul Monks, Marjorie Coleman, Joseph (Joe) Seery, Peter O'Reilly

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



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.

The Beatitudes

In today's Gospel from Saint Matthew, Jesus gives us some very important advice. The Beatitudes have been described as a template for Christian living or as a picture of what Jesus himself was like as a person. They are part of the Sermon on the Mount is the first of five great discourses in Matthew's Gospel. They are also found in the Gospel of Saint Luke (Luke 6:20-26). They go to the very centre of our lives as Christians and invite us to follow a way of life that may not always come naturally to us. We may reflect on the Beatitudes if we have time in the coming week and see what God may be saying to us.

In the Beatitudes, Jesus said "*Blessed are the pure in heart, they shall see God*". It's the people whose hearts are turned towards God that he especially appreciates. The blessings in the Beatitudes are primarily future blessings but there can be an anticipation of the blessings in the present. They turn the expectations of our current society on their head and tell us that it is the meek, the

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merciful, the gentle and the pure in heart who are most pleasing to God. As Saint Bernard, said "*the merciful reach out to others in compassion and identify with them in love.*" The Beatitudes also reveal that those who mourn will be comforted.

The words or the Beatitudes which refer to those who "*hunger and thirst for what is right*" well describe people who work for diligently and persistently for social justice in our community.

The Beatitudes have been described as a charter for Christian living. It appears to be counter cultural in our world today as they turn many of today's values

on their head. They go to the very centre of our lives as Christians and invite us to follow a way of life that may not come naturally to us. However, the very words that Jesus uses here “gentle”, “merciful”, “pure in heart”, “peacemaker”. Jesus also challenges us by referring to those who “hunger and thirst for what is right”. An acknowledgment, perhaps, that we are sometimes called to look outside of our families and homes to bring the Christian message to those in most need wherever we may encounter them, especially during the winter months.

Archbishop Farrell recently spoke about the challenge of making a convincing case for the catholic faith, a life of virtue and a just society. He said that the person of faith reads the world through the lens of the Word of God. Reading the Beatitudes today provides us with such a lens. It allows us to see the message of the gospel through the eyes of faith. They challenge us to bring out the very best of ourselves.

Pope Francis proposed Six New Beatitudes in Malmo, Sweden in 2016:

- ◆ Blessed are those who remain faithful while enduring evils inflicted on them by others and forgive them from their heart.
- ◆ Blessed are those who look into the eyes of the abandoned and marginalised and show them their closeness.
- ◆ Blessed are those who see God in every person and strive to make others also discover him.
- ◆ Blessed are those who protect and care for our common home.
- ◆ Blessed are those who renounce their own comfort in order to help others.
- ◆ Blessed are those who pray and work for full communion between Christians.

Next Wednesday February 1st is the first day of our Celtic Springtime and the following Monday February 6th will become a Bank Holiday in Ireland for the first time to celebrate St. Brigid’s Day. 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. As the song says: “*I’ve always loved springtime, the passing of winter. The green of the new leaves and life going on*”.

We pray as well for a new Springtime in our Church as we continue to journey with the *Building Hope* programme in our Archdiocese. May the coming months be a time of new life and hope in our church as we continue to find news ways to minister together and share the Good news of the Gospel with those who are most in need.

Gerard Reilly - Permanent Deacon in Malahide and Portmarnock parishes.

Mass Intentions for the coming week Church of the Holy Child

Sat 28th Jan	7.00p.m.	Elizabeth Hallinan – Month’s Mind Sean McKenna – Anniversary Annie & Jack Morrissey – Anniversaries James Kane – Anniversary
Sun 29th Jan	10.30a.m.	Paul O’Hara – Month’s Mind Robert Power – Anniversary
	12.30p.m.	Carmel Domican – Month’s Mind Martin Malone – 1st Anniversary John Hanlon – Anniversary Des Leech – Anniversary
Mon 30th Jan	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
Tues 31st Jan	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
Wed 1st Feb	9.15a.m.	St. Brigid’s Day
Thurs 2nd Feb	9.15a.m.	Presentation of the Lord
Fri 3rd Feb	9.15a.m.	Altar List of the Dead
Sat 4th Feb	7.00p.m.	Ellen Herbert – Anniversary Sydney Herbert – Anniversary
Sun 5th Feb	10.30a.m.	Christina Fitzpatrick – Month’s Mind
	12.30p.m.	Patrick Mahon – Anniversary Stephen Atkins – Anniversary Brendan Quinn – Anniversary David Ruddell – Anniversary Catherine Gilmer – Anniversary

Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball

Sun 29th Jan	10.00a.m.	Mike & Pat Farrelly – Anniversaries Agnes Murphy – Anniversary Des Bourke – Anniversary
Wed 1st Feb	10.00a.m.	St. Brigid’s Day
Sun 5th Feb	10.00a.m.	Sheila Donovan – 1st Anniversary

