



Society of the St. Vincent De Paul

Church Gate Collection this **weekend 7th/8th January** is in aid of the Society of St. Vincent De Paul, please be as generous as you can.

The Society is urgently in need of new Members. If you have some time to spare and would be interested in volunteering please contact the Head Office of the Society at 01 8848200.

'Curfá', a brand new TG4 music show that's being filmed in the Helix on the weekend of the 14th and 15th of January.



The show sees 18 of the best choirs in the country go head-to-head in the battle to be crowned Ireland's Best Choir. The heats took place in November, and we're now gearing up for the semi-final and final featuring very special guests John Spillane and Sibéal.

They currently have a call out for an audience for the shows. It's totally free - anyone who's interested in coming along should simply email Alanna MacNamee at amacnamee@tyrone-productions.ie to confirm attendance and to get further details.

Anam Cara North Dublin, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 18th January at 7:15pm in the Hilton Hotel, Malahide Rd, Northern Cross, Dublin, D17 Y924. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. Please contact us on info@anamcara.ie or 085 2888 888 for any queries.

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 -

Helen McGeough, Sean McGroarty, Charles Scott, Elizabeth Hallinan, Dermot Craddock, Carmel Domican, Christine Fitzpatrick, Betty Harris, Paul O'Hara, Myles Duffy

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.dublindioocese.ie.

Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord

8th January 2023

"It is very important that we ask ourselves how we use the priesthood that we received at our baptism?"

When Saint John Paul II first visited France in the 1980s, he addressed a large crowd in the Parc de Princes in Paris. He addressed them as follows: "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. In a dramatic encounter John says to Jesus: "It is I who need baptism from you" he said 'and yet you come to me.'" However, in a gesture of humility, Jesus says to John the Baptist: "Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands".

God the Father speaks these words in our gospel reading: "'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him'. 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 the most important day was 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 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.

In our Church today, I think its very important that we should ask ourselves how do we use this priesthood that we have received at our baptism? The grace of baptism nurtures and supports us throughout our lives and guides us in the way of God’s plans. The grace of the Sacrament of Baptism is a dynamic force that inspires us to do good.

At this time of the year, we turn over a fresh page and are ready to make a new start. 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 another charity that supports those in need. 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 parish, our Church and our community.

We pray that 2023 will be a time of blessings of each of us, our friends and families as we continue on the next part of our Christian journey.

Gerard Reilly - Permanent Deacon in Malahide and Portmarnock parishes.



Mass Intentions for the coming week Church of the Holy Child

Sat 7th Jan	7.00p.m.	William (Bill) Anderson – Month’s Mind Florence Lynch – Anniversary
Sun 8th Jan	10.30a.m.	John & Anne Madden – Anniversaries Rachel Partridge – Birthday Remembrance
Mon 9th Jan	12.30p.m. 9.15a.m.	Audrey Scott – Anniversary Gladys Fagan – Anniversary Mathew Crowley – Anniversary
Tues 10th Jan	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
Wed 11th Jan	9.15a.m.	Jimmy Comiskey – Anniversary
Thurs 12th Jan	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
Fri 13th Jan	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
Sat 14th Jan	7.00p.m.	Maureen Smith – Anniversary Bridie Goggins – Anniversary Monica Burke – Anniversary Ethel Smith – Anniversary
Sun 15th Jan	10.30a.m. 12.30p.m.	Seamus Fogarty – 100th Birthday Remembrance Philomena Gray – Month’s Mind Christine Hilda & Peter Nolan – Anniversaries Kay O’Connor – Anniversary Jack & Rose Leonard – Anniversaries

Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball

Sun 8th Jan	10.00a.m.	Kathleen O’Neill – Month’s Mind
Wed 11th Jan	10.00a.m.	Available for Intention
Sun 15th Jan	10.00a.m.	Available for Intention

ARCHBISHOP’S HOMILIES

Archbishop Farrell’s homily at Christmas Eve Mass in the Pro-Cathedral can be found at <https://dublindiocese.ie/christmas-2022/>. His homily for World Day of Peace, January 1, also in the Pro-Cathedral, can be read at <https://dublindiocese.ie/world-day-of-peace-2023/>.

Holy Child NS

Enrolment for Junior Infants and our Junior ASD class for September 2023 will open on Monday 9th January. The Junior Infant enrolment will close on 30th January and the Junior ASD class will close on 10th March. Please see the enrolment section of our website www.holychildns.ie for more information.