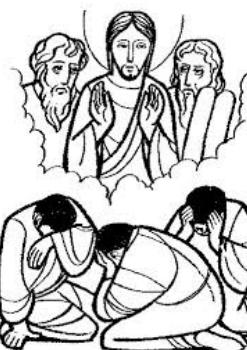


In his love for us, God allows us to taste on earth the joys of the world to come. He gives us glimpses of the promised land towards which we are travelling in faith.

Though these experiences are very beautiful, they should not become a preoccupation, for then religion would be degenerate into a search for 'highs'. Too much emphasis on peak experiences, which are by definition rare and unpredictable, narrows the scope of God's influence in our lives, and renders the rest of life religiously unimportant. The religious dimension is always present. And in a strange way, the low moments may be just as enriching as the high ones. 'Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory.'



After that wonderful experience on the mountain Jesus and the apostles had to go back down and resume the journey to Jerusalem. After a peak experience we too have to come down from the 'mountain' and return to the plain or valley, where life goes on in the darkness of faith. True religion does not encourage escape from life, but helps us to commit ourselves more deeply to it. This has been expressed beautifully by Emily Dickinson in a short poem which goes as follows:

*Exhilaration is the breeze that lifts us from the ground,
and leaves us in another place whose statement is not found;
Returns us not, but after time
we soberly descend,
a little newer for the term upon enchanted ground.*

Fr. Flor McCarthy SDB

Family Mass Sunday 12.30

We have a vibrant group of young people involved in ministry in the Church of the Holy Child. New members are always welcome to join the Youth Choir, the young Ministers of the Word or the Altar Servers. If you are interested please come to the Mass at 12.30 and speak with a member of the Family Mass Team or one of the Priests. Why not give it a go! We look forward to meeting you.



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.

A Peak Experience

Experiences influence us much more profoundly than talks and lectures. Even though we may not be able to analyse them, we know they affect us (for good or ill), and continue to do so for years afterwards.

The experience on Mount Tabor had great significance, first of all for Jesus himself. It came at a crucial moment in his public life - at the start of his journey to Jerusalem. He knew that the same fate awaited him there as befell all the prophets, namely, a violent death. Naturally he recoiled from such a fate. In order to reflect on it and pray about it, he climbed to the top of Mount Tabor, taking Peter, James and John with him.

As soon as they reached the top, Jesus began to pray. During his prayer, Moses and Elijah appeared to him and spoke to him about his forthcoming passion. More important, he experienced the presence of God. And he heard again the wonderful words of affirmation he had heard at his Baptism: 'You are my beloved Son; I am pleased with you.'

12th March 2017

On Mount Tabor Jesus felt himself comforted, reassured, affirmed and strengthened for the ordeal ahead. It wasn't that everything became rosy. In fact nothing changed. He still had to face a dark and threatening future. But he knew that somehow it was what God wanted from him, and that God would give him the strength to face it.

But the experience was also of great importance for the three apostles who were with him on the mountain. It confirmed their faith in Jesus and helped them to face that dark future with him.

The Tabor experience could be called 'a peak experience'. We too can have peak experiences or moments of transfiguration. We can have intense experiences of light, peace, unity, joy, exhilaration, meaning... and of the presence of God. These are true moments of grace which can be triggered off not only by prayer, but by poetry, music, nature... but they are more likely to be the fruit of suffering and painful struggle.

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



Gluten Intolerance - The Chalice is offered at Sunday Masses but this is only for those who are gluten intolerant. When approaching the Priest at Communion time please indicate that you have an intolerance to gluten and he will offer you the Chalice. We would ask parishioners who have received the host not to ask for the Chalice because even the merest hint of gluten in the Chalice can cause a severe reaction to someone who is intolerant to gluten.



St. Patrick's Day
Friday 17th March 2017
 Holyday of Obligation
 Mass Schedule:
Holy Child:
 9.15a.m., 11.15a.m.
 & 7.00p.m.
Blessed Margaret Ball:
 10.00a.m.

We welcome in Baptism:
Jack Alan Finnegan
Matilda Rose Beatty
Holly Sibéal Love
May these newly baptised children always know and love Jesus as their friend.



Ministers of the Word
 Ministers of the Word are needed for Sunday (and Saturday Vigil) Masses. If you would like to join this Ministry, please leave your name and phone number in the Sacristy or Parish Office.

Ministers of the Word -Group B readers are asked to collect their new Roster from the Reception area in the Parish Centre please

Recently Deceased:

You are asked to remember in your Prayers: Vivian Byrne
 Ellen Lena Walsh
 William Fenelon Gerard Cooney
May they enjoy perfect peace and reconciliation in the presence of God.



Holy Child Church Organ Fund
 The Church 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, Santry.



Church Gate Collection this weekend is in aid of the 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 13 24 29 2nd Jackpot: 7 8 26 30

There was no Jackpot winner. The winners of the seven

prizes of €25 were: C. Smith; M. & J. Kearney;

N. Thompson; J. Nugent; A. Montague; A. Flanagan; C. Corcoran.

The winner of the five special prizes of €100 are: J. McGuigan; J. Corcoran; E.

McGinley; A. Madden; M. Lynch. **Next Week. First Jackpot €5,500**

Second Jackpot €2,000 plus consolation prizes of €25



Mass Intentions for the coming week

Church of the Holy Child

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|--------------------------------|---|
| Monday 13th March | 9.15a.m. Ed Kelly (Anniversary) |
| Tuesday 14th March | 7.00p.m. John O'Keeffe (Anniversary) |
| Wednesday 15th March | 9.15a.m. Special Intention |
| | 7.00p.m. Available for Intention |
| Thursday 16th March | 9.15a.m. Betty & Ned O'Leary (Anniversary) |
| Vigil St. Patrick's Day | 7.00pm. Available for Intention |
| Friday 17th March | 9.15a.m. George Hooper, Ciarán Cottell (Anniversaries) |
| | 11.15a.m. May Tyrrell (1st Anniversary) |
| Saturday 18th March | 11.15a.m. Elizabeth & Frederick Gorman (Anniversary) |
| Vigil | 7.00p.m. Available for Intention |
| Sunday 19th March | 10.00a.m. Available for Intention |
| | 7.00p.m. Mary King, Mary Walsh, (1st Anniversaries) Finbarr Hourihane (Anniversary) |
| | 11.15a.m. People of the Parish |
| | 12.30p.m. Pauline (Anniv.) and Gerry O'Farrell (Remem.) |
| | 6.00p.m. Brendan McDonnell (Anniversary) |

Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball

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|--------------------------|---|
| Wed. 15th March | 10.00a.m Available for Intention |
| Friday 17th March | 10.00a.m. Available for Intention |
| Sunday 19th March | 10.00a.m. Joseph Shiels (1st Anniversary) |
| | Patrick & Elizabeth Foy, (Anniversaries) |
| | Victoriano Dela Cruz (Anniversary) |
| | Frederick Calaguin (Anniversaries) |