

There are many such opportunities to share the faith with our family, friends, colleagues, fellow students and neighbours. In life, there can be moments of grace where we are given some precious time to share our gift of faith with others.



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 be become the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. This is a Gospel that I often read when celebrating baptisms. It perfectly describes the drama of the moment when Jesus is baptised. We then have one of the very few occasions in the Bible when the voice of God the Father is heard: *“You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you”*.

God also addresses these words to each of us individually. What a wonderful greeting to receive at the beginning of a new year 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 didn't say it was the day he was elected Pope or even the day he was ordained as a priest but instead he replied: *“the day I was baptised.”* I think he said this because he realised that none of the other blessings and graces of his life might have occurred if he had not first been baptised.

We can all recall our birthdays but how many of us can remember the day that we were baptised? If the Church where we were baptised is nearby, perhaps we could visit it during the year and say a prayer at the Baptismal font.

As we start 2019, we ask that our Risen Saviour, whose baptism we recall today, will help us to *use* the graces and gifts that we have received at the time of our own baptism. Throughout the week ahead, God will give us opportunities, however small, to do this. We pray that God will give us the energy and encouragement to share our faith and be inspired by our baptism. May this coming year be a time of blessings of each of us as we continue on our journey of faith.

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.

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

13th January 2019

“In life, there can be moments of grace where we are given precious time to share our gift of faith with others.”

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

“France, what have you done with your baptism?”

This same question could be equally addressed to each and every 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.

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. We have

all received this gift of ministry through the Sacrament of Baptism and there was surely never a time in the Church when these gifts were needed more than they are today.

In the course of conversation, we will often recommend a film, television programme 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?

Sacristan required for the Church of the Holy Child
A position is available for Sacristan for Holy Child Church. Please apply in writing to Canon John Flaherty, Church of the Holy Child, The Thatch Road, Whitehall, Dublin 9.

Church Collections 6-1-2019
1st Collection €1,916.00
Share €1,580.00
Family Envelope €2,890.00

Sincere thanks for your continued generosity.

Baptism of the Lord
On the feast of the Baptism of the Lord we pray for all the children who were baptised in our Parish during the past year.
We pray that they may always know and love Jesus as their friend.



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.



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
The inaugural service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, organised by Dublin Council of Churches, takes place Friday, 18th January at 8p.m. in the Church of St. John the Baptist, Seafield Road, Clontarf, Dublin 3. This year's theme is "Justice and only Justice you shall pursue." All welcome

Holy Communion is available to all communicants under both kinds at the Main Altar, Priest's Chair side.



Ministers of the Word
The new GROUP B roster is available for collection from the reception area in the Parish Centre.

Parish Shop
The revised edition of Donal Harrington's book, 'Tomorrow's Parish' is available in the church shop, price €14.99.

Save the Date: World Day of the Sick 2019 will take place on 9 February 2019 in All Hallows, Drumcondra 9.30a.m. to 1.00p.m. on the topic Community struggle with addiction. A Pastoral response Mass for World Day of the Sick will be held on the 10th February in Corpus Christi Church at 3pm.

Open Day
Thursday January 24th 2019 2-6p.m.
Whitehall College of Further Education
At Colaiste Caoimhin, Mobhi Road, Glasnevin.
For more information Tel: 01 8376011
Or email: info@whitehallcollegcefcfe.cdctb.ie

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.

Church Gate Collection this weekend is in aid of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Parish Lotto
Please Support your Parish Lotto
Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:
1st Jackpot: 1 8 16 17 **2nd Jackpot: 5 9 17 21**
No Jackpot winner
The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were: T. Deegan; F. McMahon; M. & J. Stanley; A. Fry; R. Gorman; M. McSweeney; P. & K. Tolan.
Next Week's Lotto: First Jackpot €14,000 Second Jackpot €1,350



Mass Intentions for the coming week
Church of the Holy Child

Mon. 14th Jan.	9.15a.m.	James Keogh, Mary McNulty (Anniversaries)
	7.00p.m.	Maureen Smith (Anniversary)
Tues. 15th Jan.	9.15a.m. & 7.00p.m.	Available for Intention
Wed. 16th Jan.	9.15a.m. & 7.00p.m.	Available for Intention
Thurs. 17th Jan.	9.15a.m. & 7.00p.m.	Available for Intention
Fri. 18th Jan.	9.15a.m.	Liam & Vera Doyle
	7.00p.m.	Kathleen & Patrick Mapies (Anniversaries) Mary Elizabeth Crowley (Anniversary)
Sat. 19th Jan.	10.00a.m.	Brendan Hickey (1st Anniv.), Rose Fannin & Decd. Members of the O'Hara Family (R.I.P.)
	Vigil 7.00p.m.	Bridie Williams (1st Anniv.), Susan O'Connor, Bridget Goggin, Derek O'Connor (Anniversaries)
Sun. 20th Jan.	11.15a.m.	People of the Parish
	12.30p.m.	Mary Flynn, Joseph O'Connor (Months' Mind), Noel O'Reilly, Andrew Rogan (1st Anniversaries) Charlotte & Patrick Tracey (Anniversaries)
	6.00p.m.	Helen Whelan (Month's Mind)

Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball

Wed. 16th Jan.	10.00a.m.	Available for Intention
Sun. 20th Jan.	10.00a.m.	Available for Intention

Volunteer In Your Community
Highfield Health Care are looking for Volunteers -Would you have time to visit the residents in Highfield Healthcare in Whitehall or Glasnevin? The main role of volunteers in Highfield is befriending the residents- just there to talk, listen, reminisce and empathise. Tel: Helen Hennessy 886 5435.

Anam Cara North Dublin, the organisation which supports bereaved, is holding a Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 16th January at 7.20p.m. in the Carnegie Court Hotel, Swords, Co. Dublin. 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.

Further information see anamcara.ie or call Information Line on 085 2888 888.