

To have a home is not just to have a house. It is to have a set of close ties with people who accept us for what we are, and who give us a feeling of belonging. But in spite of all the buildings we put up and roots we put down, here on earth we do not have a lasting home. All we have, as Paul says, is a kind of tent. At death the tent is folded up.

Hence, it is not only on earth that we need a home. We also need a home to go to when death brings down the curtain on the day of our life. Without such a home life would be a journey to nowhere.

During the Last Supper Jesus began to talk to the apostles about the fact that he was leaving them. On hearing this, they were plunged into sorrow. But he consoled them with these words, which are probably the loveliest words in the Gospel: 'There are many rooms in my Father's house. I am going to prepare a place for you. I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too.' This means that we have an eternal home to go to, namely the Father's house.

For a child home is not so much a place as a relationship of love and trust. A child can move around a lot and not feel homeless, as long as its parents are there. It is the same for those who have a close relationship with God.

We spend our lives searching for God, and groping our way towards him. To die is to find him, to meet him, and to see him. To die is to go to God, and to go to God is to go home.

Fr. Flor McCarthy, SDB

Reflection – Going Home!

I don't know when, pray do not ask me how.
Going to heaven! How dim it sounds! And yet it will be done as sure as
flocks go home at night unto the shepherd's arm.

If you should get there first,
save just a little place for me close to the two I lost.
The smallest 'robe' will fit me, and just a bit of 'crown';
For you know we do not mind our dress when we are going home.

(Emily Dickinson)

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.

Importance of Home

14th May 2017

It's impossible to exaggerate the importance of home. I once heard the governor of a prison say: 'If you were to give the prisoners a choice between going home and staying here in a luxury suite, complete with colour TV, a sauna, a cocktail cabinet, and so on, there isn't a single prisoner who wouldn't choose to go home.'

When things fail, when we feel tired and lonely, there is always home to go to. 'Let's go home.' 'I want to go home.' How many times and in how many different circumstances have we heard people say those words, or have said them ourselves. Home is where we are safe. Home is a place of communion. If you know you are going home, the trip is never too long or too difficult. We must go out into the world to know how lovely our own home is. Imagine if we had no home to

go to. Nelson Mandela tells how during the long years of his imprisonment on Robben Island he had a recurring nightmare. He says:

In the dream, I had just been released from prison - only it was not Robben Island but a jail in Johannesburg. I walked outside the gates into the city and found no one to meet me. In fact there was no one there at all, no people, no cars, no taxis. I would then set out on foot towards Soweto. I walked for many hours before arriving in Orlando West, and then turned the corner towards No. 8115. Finally I would see my home, but it turned out to be empty, a ghost house, with all the doors and windows open but no one there at all. (Long Road to Freedom, 1994, Little, Brown and Company).



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.



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

Blessing for Expectant Mothers will take place on Thursday 25th May at 8.00p.m. in Our Lady of Mercy Church, Brookwood Grove, Artane.

First Holy Communion – Congratulations to the boys and girls who received their First Holy Communion yesterday. Thanks to the Family Mass Team for their dedication and commitment to the Parish Preparation Programme. They have journeyed with the children and their families throughout the past year. Thanks to Jim Soden and our Sacristans for all their help during rehearsals and on the day itself. Thanks also to Dorothy Gray for the beautiful Church Décor, to Marie Tuohy for the lovely flower arrangements, to God's Housekeepers for the clean Church. Sincere thanks also to the Teachers & School Principals, Cathy Timmons & Patricia Boyle for their excellent work of preparation during the year and on the day itself. *Fr. John & Fr. Tom*

We welcome in Baptism:

Noah Matthew Lawrence
 Elliott Thomas Maguire
 Joel Frankie White



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

Magenta Ladies' Club - Deceased Members Mass Thursday 18th May at 7.30p.m. in Blessed Margaret Ball



Recently Deceased: You are asked to remember in your Prayers: Paddy Rogers Taiwo
May they enjoy perfect peace and reconciliation in the presence of God.

Parish Pastoral Collection

This important Parish collection will take place NEXT weekend 20th/21st May.

The money we receive goes towards the training and requirements of all the Pastoral Teams. It ensures that each Team can be resourced and trained and therefore can give the best service to their ministry.

Could those who have agreed to help with this collection please come to the Sacristy before Mass next weekend and collect a basket. Many thanks for your continued help with this important Parish Collection.

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

Mass Intentions for the coming week Church of the Holy Child

Monday 15th May	9.15a.m. 7.00p.m.	Available for Intention Bernie O'Sullivan (Month's Mind)
Tuesday 16th May	9.15a.m. 7.00p.m.	James & Cecilia Stapleton (Anniversaries) Brian Quigley (Anniversary)
Wednesday 17th May	9.15a.m. 7.00p.m.	Robert & Winifred McShane (Anniversaries) Catherine O'Carroll (R.I.P.)
Thursday 18th May	9.15a.m. 7.00p.m.	Valerie McDonald & Patrick Smith (Anniv.) Terri Holt (R.I.P.)
Friday 19th May	9.15a.m. 7.00p.m.	Available for Intention Margaret Fagan (Anniversary)
Saturday 20th May Vigil	10.00a.m. 7.00p.m.	Edward McGrath (Anniversary) Michael Whelan (Month's Mind) Paddy O'Farrell (Month's Mind) Denis Whooley (Anniversary) People of the Parish Michael Eccles (Anniversary)
Sunday 21st May	11.15a.m. 12.30p.m. 6.00p.m.	Imelda Eccles (R.I.P.), Ellen Lawlor, (R.I.P.) Maureen Murray (R.I.P.) (Birthday Remem.) John & Ella Beades (Anniversaries) Delia (Brigid) Whelan (Month's Mind) Rosaleen Meehan (Anniversary)

Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball

Wednesday 17th May	10.00a.m.	Available for Intention
Sunday 21st May	10.00a.m.	Adalgisa Levins, May & Seán Stanley, Arthur Scott (Anniversaries)



Please Support your Parish Lotto

Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:

1st Jackpot: 3 5 19 23 2nd Jackpot: 1 12 16 28

There was no Jackpot winner. The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were: V. Cullen: J. Noonan: D. Barry: J. Doyle: M. & B. Meehan: E. Meehan: O. O'Reilly.



Next Draw: **1st Jackpot €7,500 2nd Jackpot €2,000**

Plus seven consolation prizes of €25



The Exam Mass will be celebrated on **Sunday 28th May at 12.30pm** in the Church of the Holy Child. This is the normal 12.30pm Family Mass with special emphasis on those doing exams, especially the Junior and Leaving Cert. During this Mass students will be invited to light a candle and place it before the Altar and then in turn write their name on a piece of paper and place it in the basket in front of the Altar. The basket will remain there for all Masses during the month of June as a practical and prayerful way of remembering our young people during the exams. If you have a family member or friend or just know someone who is preparing for exams please feel free to place their names in the basket.