

ordinary fish with them. Somehow it is getting through. They have remembered other meals of fish and the way he ate it. Faith is growing in them in the simple act of sharing a meal together."

There is a great call to action in this reading. Jesus says "Repentance for the forgiveness of sins [will] be preached to all the nations." This includes ourselves and those to whom we share our own faith.

This week Pope Francis published a new Apostolic Exhortation entitled "Rejoice and be Glad" which is about the call to holiness in ordinary daily life. In the document the Pope says:

*"We need a spirit of holiness capable of filling both our solitude and our service, our personal life and our evangelizing efforts, so that every moment can be an expression of self-sacrificing love in the Lord's eyes. In this way, every minute of our lives can be a step along the path to growth in holiness."*

He goes on to say that:

*"Do not be afraid of holiness. It will take away none of your energy, vitality or joy. On the contrary, you will become what the Father had in mind when he created you, and you will be faithful to your deepest self."*

In this document, Pope Francis is telling us that holiness is a realistic achievement in each of our lives and he is inviting us to take up the challenge with the assurance that we will be assisted by God's grace. This is a great challenge to reflect on over the Easter season as we all consider how we can all progress on the path to holiness throughout the challenges of our busy work and family lives. I think that the Pope (who visits Ireland in August) is reminding us that God's call to holiness is there for everyone to embrace. You can access "Rejoice and Be Glad" on the Vatican website [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va) and I am sure it will be soon available in Veritas and other religious bookshops.

Gerard Reilly is a Permanent Deacon in Donaghmede and Ayrfield parishes.



**PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES**

**7th -12th September 2018**

**Hotel Solitude \*\*\*\***

**5 Nights – Full Board Fully Inclusive Price €739**

**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**

**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](http://www.whitehall.dublindioocese.ie).

***"Do not be afraid of holiness"***

**15th April 2018**

It may surprise you to learn that the season of Easter is the longest season in the Church's year. It lasts for 50 days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost, longer than the six weeks of Lent, Advent and the season of Christmas.

This shows the importance that the Church gives to this time of the year which is highlighted by our recent Gospel readings recording the post resurrection appearances of the Risen Lord. These include his appearance to Mary Magdalene at the tomb, his meeting with the two disciples on the Road to Emmaus, the two appearances with the apostles in the upper room, one without Thomas present and eight days later when he was there, his appearance at the Sea of Galilee with the disciples when he shared a piece of fish and, of course, his final appearance immediately prior to the Ascension near Bethany where Jesus left us all his tremendous parting promise to be with us until the end of time.

Today's Gospel is the last part of the

Gospel of Saint Luke who, of course, went on to write The Acts of the Apostles. It begins with the final part of the story of the Road to Emmaus:

*"The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread."*

In fact, we are told that "they were still talking about this" when Jesus himself appeared amongst them. He begins with his now familiar greeting "Peace be with you", something that we say at every Mass. However, the disciples need more reassurance, so Jesus says to them: "Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed."

The Jesuit writer, Father Donal Neary, describes the background to today's gospel very well:

*"Jesus is in a bit of a fix. Faith is still weak in his followers – how can he get to them? Though the doors are closed, he comes among them in their fear. He said 'Peace again'. This doesn't seem to get through. Finally He tried a meal of*

**Registering to attend the World Meeting of Families -Pope Francis** personally chose Ireland to host this event. If you would like to attend all or part of it you can register now for the three-day Pastoral Congress at [www.worldmeeting2018.ie](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie). Places for the Congress are limited & guarantee a ticket for the Festival of Families and the Final Mass which are expected to be led by Pope Francis.



**We welcome in Baptism:**  
**Tessa Veronica Garwe**  
**Abhay Lee Byrne**  
*May these newly baptised children always know and love Jesus as their friend.*



 **Easter Garden** - Have you seen the beautiful Easter Garden in the Church of the Holy Child? It will be in place until Pentecost so don't forget to visit and say a little prayer. It is located at the top left hand side of the church. Many thanks to all who donated flowers and a special thanks to Dorothy Gray and helpers who created the prayerful space.



**Archdiocese of Dublin Pilgrimage to Knock Saturday 21st April 2018**  
**Led by Archbishop Diarmuid Martin.**  
**Knock invites you to Healing and Peace.** Coach from Whitehall Church at 8.00a.m. For more information contact **Marie McAllister 8425678**

**Church of the Holy Child** presents **'You Raise Me Up'** starring Red Hurley with special guests Whitehall Adult Choir. **Fri. 27th April 2018 at 8pm.** Tickets €20 available from Church Shop or call (01) 837 5274 Mon to Fri 10a.m. – 5p.m. Proceeds in aid of the New Church Organ. Raffle on the night includes 2 tickets to the Rolling Stones Concert in Croke Park on 17th May 2018.

**Liturgy Team Meeting on Wednesday 18th April 7.30p.m.** in the Parish Centre

**Recently Deceased:** You are asked to remember in your Prayers:



**Tommy O'Donnell**  
**Reginald (Reg) Rumgay**  
**Laurence O'Reilly**  
**Winifred O'Rourke**  
*May they enjoy perfect peace and reconciliation in the presence of God.*

**Beaumont Parish World Meeting of Families – A Six Part Parish Programme** will start on Tuesday 24th April at 8pm in Beaumont Parish Centre in preparation for the World Meeting of Families. This user friendly programme will reflect on Pope Francis' letter "The Joy of Love" and hopefully will be enriching for all who may participate in the sessions. If interested, please contact the Parish Office, Beaumont, Monday to Friday 10am – 1pm on 8477740.

**Charismatic Prayer Meeting**  
 A Charismatic Prayer Meeting takes place in Beaumont Parish Centre **every Monday** night at 8pm. All are welcome to join them. Hymns, Prayer, Scripture Readings, Sharing our Faith and Intercession Prayer. No meetings on Bank Holidays.

**Open evening DCU All Hallows Campus: Join other young adults on Thursday 26th** April at DCU All Hallows Campus, Gracepark Road, Drumcondra – the new home of Mater Dei Institute's programmes in theology, philosophy & ethics. The Open House will run from 6-9pm with a series of short lectures and updates from 7-8pm.

**LOTTO** Please Support your Parish Lotto  
 Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:  
 1st Jackpot: 5 17 19 30 2nd Jackpot: 9 22 26 29  
**No Jackpot Winner.** The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were:  
 D. & A. O'Brien: K. Gibson: F. Davis: P. Devine:  
 P. Dunne: D. & J. Taylor. M. Dempsey.  
**Next Week's Lotto: First Jackpot €4,750 Second Jackpot €700**  
**7 Consolation Prizes of €25**

**Mass Intentions for the coming week**  
**Church of the Holy Child**

<b>Monday 16th April</b>	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
	7.00p.m.	Tommy Holden (Birthday Remembrance)
<b>Tuesday 17th April</b>	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
	7.00p.m.	Jack Merriman ,Noleen Kelly (Anniversaries)
<b>Wednesday 18th April</b>	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
	7.00p.m.	Paddy O'Farrell (1st Anniversary)
<b>Thursday 19th April</b>	9.15a.m.	Mary McDermott (Anniversary)
	7.00p.m.	Available for Intention
<b>Friday 20th April</b>	9.15a.m. &	7.00p.m. Available for Intention
<b>Saturday 21st April</b>	10.00a.m.	Peggy & Michael Kearns & Daughter Theresa Doolan (Anniversaries)
<b>Vigil</b>	7.00p.m.	Annie Pierce (1st Anniversary) John Joyce, Kay & Tom Smith (Anniversaries) Mary Clarke (Anniversary)
<b>Sunday 22nd April</b>	11.15a.m.	People of the Parish
	12.30p.m.	Marian Soden (1st Anniversary) Christina Traynor (Anniversary) Seán & Ismay O'Connell (Anniversaries)
	6.00p.m.	Delia Bridget Whelan (1st Anniversary)
		<b>Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball</b>
<b>Wednesday 18th April</b>	10.00a.m.	Available for Intention
<b>Sunday 22nd April</b>	10.00a.m.	Laura Nelson (Anniversary)

**World Youth Day Panama – Jan 2019**  
 Pope Francis has invited young people from all over the world to join him in Panama next January 22nd – 27th. The theme will be "I am the servant of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). It is hoped that young people aged 16-29 from the Archdiocese of Dublin will travel. Bookings will open end of April 2018. Cost €1,500-€1900 For further information [wyd@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:wyd@dublindiocese.ie) [www.evangelisation.ie](http://www.evangelisation.ie)

**Resting under the Tree**  
 An evening of reflection and music on the Hospitality of Abraham (Genesis 18:1:14) and Rublev's icon of the Trinity in the Monastery of St. Alphonsus, St. Alphonsus Road, Drumcondra on **Monday 16th April at 8.00pm.** Music will be led by the Dublin Diocesan Music Group.