

In Lourdes and Fatima, for example, there was one or more seers. The other people present did not experience the vision but, at Knock, the vision of heaven was there for all to see. This reminds us that the love and mercy of God is available for everybody without exception, something that Pope Francis often talks about.

When I think of Knock, I often recall the words of Jesus to Nathanael in John 1:51 when he says: *“Very truly I tell you, you will see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”* These words perfectly describe the Knock apparition, where we have the beautiful image of the Lamb of God on an Altar surrounded by angels. There is a plain cross behind the Altar, signifying the resurrection.

I recall my mother telling me that when she attended mass in the Parish Church in Knock as a child, she remembered hearing a young boy of 3-4 years old screaming at the top of his voice. As the Mass went on, she wondered why his parents did not bring him outside. After the Mass was over, she found out the reason: the young boy had not uttered a word up to that point and had been cured through the intercession of Our Lady of Knock.

Let us pray to Our Lady of Knock who gave hope to our people at a challenging time in our history, just after the famine, that she will continue to inspire and help the Church in our times as we prepare for our Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock and the World Meeting of Families later this summer. I would invite you to consider joining the Dublin Pilgrimage to Knock on Saturday April 21st and perhaps asking your family, neighbours and friends to join you. If you would like more information, see the advertisement elsewhere in this week's newsletter or contact the parish office. www.knock-shrine.ie

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

Archdiocese of Dublin Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine Saturday, April, 21st 2018

This Pilgrimage will be led by Archbishop Diarmuid Martin. The theme of the Pilgrimage will be *“Knock invites you to Healing and Peace.”* As we prepare for the World Meeting of Families in August, we hope that as many parishioners as possible will join the Pilgrimage.

The programme commences in Knock at 11.00am, concluding at 4.30p.m. There are a variety of events planned, with something for all ages. There will be a programme for children and young adults, a workshop on the apparition, Stations of the Cross, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the Sacrament of the Sick and time for personal prayer & reflection. The Pilgrimage Mass will be celebrated in the Basilica at 3.00p.m. Pilgrims will be invited to gather for a picnic style lunch. **To book please contact Marie McAllister at 01 8425678.**

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.

“On the 21st August, 1879, at about 8 o'clock, Our Lady, St. Joseph, and St. John the Evangelist appeared in a blaze of Heavenly light.”

18th March 2018

The Archdiocese of Dublin is relaunching our Pilgrimage to Knock Shine, Co Mayo which will take place on Saturday April 21st.

Despite being the largest Diocese in the country, we have not had a large pilgrimage to Knock for a number of years. The date has been moved from a Sunday to a Saturday to better suit priests and parish groups who have Sunday Mass commitments.

The pilgrimage is also taking place earlier in the year to hopefully encourage greater attendance from schools and colleges. There will be a programme to suit all ages and the pilgrimage will be led by His Grace, Archbishop Diarmuid Martin.

Towards the end of his life, one of the visionaries John Curry testified about Knock in New York in 1936: He said *“I remember it as well as I do last night...It appeared to me that [the figures] were alive, but they didn't speak. One of the women there, Bridget Trench, kissed the Blessed Virgin's feet and tried*

to put her arms around the feet but there was nothing there but the picture. I saw her do that. The figures were life size and I will remember them till I go to my grave.”

Another witness, Patrick Hill, described what he saw as follows: *“I distinctly beheld the Blessed Virgin Mary, life size, standing about two feet or so above the ground clothed in white robes which were fastened at the neck. Her hands were raised to the height of the shoulders, as if in prayer.”*

While Knock is called a Marian Shrine, many writers describe Knock as Eucharistic apparition as the Lamb of God appears on the Altar, along with St Joseph and St John. The Cistercian writer, Father Berchmans Walsh, said that Knock is the only holy apparition known to him in the world where the Lamb of God appears.

I'm sure that many of you will have visited Knock over the years and will have your own particular reflections and memories. For me, the fact that the vision at Knock was so accessible is of great significance.



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

Annual Collection for CROSSCARE Youth Services - Social Support Agency - will take place this weekend at all Masses 17th/18th March. It will replace the usual SHARE Collection. Crosscare Youth Services work with some of the most vulnerable young people in disadvantaged areas. Their services include engaging with young people and encouraging them to realise their full potential. Their programme includes after schools programmes, outdoor learning opportunities, Garda Youth Diversion Projects, film making, music technology and game design projects.

Ministers of the Word

The new Group A roster is now available for collection from the reception area in the Parish Centre.

Easter Reconciliation Service Monday 26th March at 7.30p.m. in the Church of the Holy Child. Join us as we begin our preparation for the Easter ceremonies.

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

Mary Relihan (Fr. Tom's Sister)
Peter Hopkins , Joseph Reilly,
Anne Donohoe,
Kathleen Nangle

*May they enjoy perfect peace
and reconciliation in the
presence of God.*



Ireland of the Welcomes Hosting Families for WMOF2018 Thousands of people will be travelling from distant places to participate in WMOF 2018 (Dublin, 21-26 August 2018) Many would be unable to come if they had to cover the cost of accommodation. Do you have a spare room? Would you be willing to host a person, a couple or a family next August? Help us welcome visiting families to Ireland and have a home-from-home experience.

Learn more at www.worldmeeting2018.ie/hostafamily or Tel: 01 5676800.

Whitehall, Beaumont & St. Luke's Kilmore West – final talk in series centred on the 'Family of God' in preparation for the World Meeting of Families (WMOF) in Aug 2018. All parishioners & their friends are very welcome. The evening will commence with a presentation, a break for tea/coffee followed by time for discussion and questions **Wed, 21st Mar St. Luke's Church at 7.30p.m.**

Speaker :Breda O'Brien (Irish Times Columnist) Theme: 'Nurturing Faith in the Family – Lessons from a lived experience'. For further details & information contact Noreen O'Prey Tel: 086 2939935

Church Gate Collection

No Collection this weekend.

Next weekend this Collection will be the **Advocate Collection** for the Society of **St. Vincent de Paul's Sunshine Fund.** This Fund enables less fortunate children from Dublin the opportunity of a holiday.



Please Support your Parish Lotto

Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:

1st Jackpot: 16 20 25 30 2nd Jackpot: 14 16 20 29

No Jackpot Winner.

The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were: J. MacDonald: O. Bolton: H. Murphy: J. Clarke: G. Quinn M. & J. Stanley: M. & B. Meehan.

Next Week's Lotto: First Jackpot €3,750 Second Jackpot €500

Plus Seven Consolation Prizes of €25

Mass Intentions for the coming week Church of the Holy Child

Monday 19th March	10.00a.m.	Marian O'Friel (R.I.P.)
	7.00p.m.	No Evening Mass
Tuesday 20th March	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
	7.00 p.m.	John Spellacy, Patrick & Ellen Lalor (Annivs.)
Wednesday 21st Mar.	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
	7.00 p.m.	Mary O'Toole (Month's Mind) Ciarán Kelly (1st Anniversary)
Thursday 22nd March	9.15a.m.	Michael & Mary Nolan (Anniversaries)
	7.00p.m.	Available for Intention
Friday 23rd March	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
	7.00p.m.	Ken O'Connor (Month's Mind)
Saturday 24th March	10.00a.m.	Available for Intention
Vigil	7.00p.m.	Finbar Hourihane, (Anniversary) Robert Halpin, John Breslin (Anniversaries) Thomas Kelly (R.I.P. Remembrance)
Sunday 25th March	11.15a.m.	People of the Parish
Palm Sunday	12.30p.m.	Annette Murphy (Month's Mind) Michael Ennis, William Brady (Anniversaries) Seán & Paul Crowe (Anniversaries)
	6.00p.m.	John Kelly (Month's Mind) James Dixon (R.I.P.)

Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball

Wednesday 21st March	10.00a.m.	Bridie & Tom Dunne (Anniversaries)
Sunday 25th March	10.00a.m.	June Besagni (Anniversary)
Palm Sunday		Bernard & Elizabeth Connolly (Anniversaries) Anthony Fry (R.I.P. Birthday Remembrance)

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. 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.