

a soccer match over the weekend where the team had not performed well in the first half but came out fighting in the second half and went on to win the match. The coach was asked what he said to them during the break. He said that he told them that they could do a lot better and he believed that they had the capability to succeed.

We should never underestimate the power we have to influence others for the better, no matter what our circumstances. It may be a simple smile or a word or two whether “good luck in your exams” or “I believe that you can do it!” or “you are the right person to succeed with this task”. This can make all the difference in the world.

Father Donal Neary reflects on this reading from a different perspective: “Never give up on his love! We may need to give God another chance. We know we get angry at times. People find that many good things can happen even in bad times. Let’s have that faith and pray for it. God gives us chance after chance in our lives, as He wants our faith in him to grow.” He goes on to explain that: “We ask also that we now give the Church another chance. So this is a day of more chances that life never folds up. We need to return more and more to the Gospel and the goodness of so many people, which will lead us in our Church communities to Christ. We do not belittle some terrible things that happened, nor lessen our care for those abused, but ask to take a deeper step to the God who is the one giving and asking us for another chance!”

Let us pray in the coming week that we will have the grace to give each other a second chance and to be open to the power of God’s love in our lives, whatever the circumstances.

It is really important that we give ourselves the time and space in the coming weeks before Easter to reflect on the love of Jesus for each and every one of us. Whether that may be at the beginning or end of the day or for a few moments with a piece of scripture, we should allow ourselves some time and space for prayer and reflection.

I will conclude with the words of Pope Leo the Great who said, “Jesus is the hand of God's mercy stretched out towards us”. May we all embrace this mercy through prayer during this Lenten season.

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

*“Jesus is the hand of God's mercy stretched out towards us”*

**24th March 2019**

Jean Claude Junker, the President of the European Commission, recently spoke at a press conference concerning Brexit with the British Prime Minister, Theresa May. He said: “Sometimes in politics, you get a second chance.”

In our Gospel reading today, Jesus is offering us all a second chance. He tells us the story of the fig tree which is not bearing fruit. The owner of the vine yard wants to chop it down as it is taking up space that could be used to cultivate a more productive crop. However, the gardener has a different approach and wants to save the tree. He suggests that more manure is dug around the tree in the coming year and that it is given more time to bear some fruit.

In our lives, we can go through times when we feel we are not being very productive, that our work is not appreciated and that we are not making much progress. At times

like this, we need people in our lives like the gardener who believes in us, supports us and encourages us to try again.

We can think of a sport coach, a teacher or a colleague at work who have spoken words of inspiration and belief in us when we were feeling discouraged or disappointed. Often all we need is that vital word of support that can help us to reach a bit higher and to achieve a bit more.

We can have opportunities where we can offer this vital support to others. It may be a niece or nephew, a friend or someone we work with. They may be struggling a bit or feeling that they are not up to the task, when all they need are a few words of belief that they can do it, that they can succeed at what they are undertaking. I was watching commentary on

**Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2019**  
**Wed. 4th – Mon. 9th Sept.**  
**Hotel Solitude \*\*\*\* 5 Nights Full Board**  
**Fully Inclusive Price €759 (single room**  
**€180 supplement) In conjunction with the**  
**Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage. To book**  
**please contact Anne in the Parish Office Tel: 8375274**



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



## **Parish Lotto** Please Support your Parish Lott

Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:  
**1st Jackpot: 10 14 16 20 2nd Jackpot: 6 9 23 26 No Jackpot winner.**  
**The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were: B. Brown; A. Meehan;**  
**D. Smith; P. & P. Doyle; N. & C. McDonnell; N. Fox; A. Reilly.**  
**Next Week's Lotto: First Jackpot €15,000 Second Jackpot €550**  
**Plus 7 Consolation Prizes of €25**



### **Whitehall, Beaumont & St. Luke's Kilmore West - Parish Pastoral Councils** **are hosting a series of two talks**

**Theme: Ireland the Land of Saints and Scholars. Where to now?**

All parishioners and their friends are very welcome. Each evening will commence with a Presentation – break for tea/coffee & time for Discussion and Questions

**Wednesday, 27th March 2019** Church of the Holy Child, Whitehall at 7.30p.m.  
 Sr. Dorrie Balfe O.P. Topic: Creation Spirituality with a key focus on St. Brigid.



#### **Silver Jubilee of the Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball**

The official opening and dedication of Blessed Margaret Ball Chapel, by then Archbishop and later Cardinal Desmond Connell, was on 18th Dec. 1994. It is important that we mark this significant milestone in an appropriate way. Any ideas on how to celebrate will be most welcome by the small Jubilee Committee. Please leave written suggestions c/o the Sacristy or speak to the Sacristans or one of the Priests.

**Divine Mercy Sunday**  
**28th April: Pilgrimage to Knock**  
 From Church of the Holy Child  
 Whitehall at 8.00a.m. Contact Marie  
 McAllister Ph. 01 842 5678.

#### **Trócaire Lent 2019 - Stations of the Cross:**

Go along for an evening of prayer on the  
**27 March at 7.30p.m. in St. Paul's Church,**  
 Arran Quay, Dublin 1. All Welcome.

#### **Eucharistic Adoration in Holy Child**

**Oratory:** Daily Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in the Oratory from after the 9.15am Mass until 11.45am. This will continue from Mon to Fri throughout Lent and if sufficiently supported will continue indefinitely. During Lent members of the Diocesan Apostolate of Perpetual Eucharistic Devotion will visit the Parish and speak of their experience of the benefits of frequent Eucharistic Adoration in the life of many parishes. Meanwhile, would you consider spending a little time with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration during Lent? Maybe this is Jesus's personal invitation to you to enter into a deeper intimacy with Him during Lent.

#### **Church Collections 17-3-2019**

1st Collection €1,818  
 Share €1,765  
 Family Envelope €1,065

Sincere thanks for your continued generosity

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

**Angela Gibbons**  
**Ursula Stobie**

**Thomas Kennedy Thomas Henshaw**

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



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

<b>Mon. 25th March</b>	<b>10.00a.m. &amp; 7.00pm.</b>	<b>Available for Intention.</b>
<b>Tues. 26th March</b>	<b>9.15a.m.</b>	<b>Available for Intention</b>
	<b>7.00p.m.</b>	<b>Michael Brady (Anniversary)</b>
<b>Wed. 27th March</b>	<b>9.15a.m. &amp; 7.00p.m.</b>	<b>Available for Intention</b>
<b>Thurs. 28th March</b>	<b>9.15a.m. &amp; 7.00p.m.</b>	<b>Available for Intention</b>
<b>Fri. 29th March</b>	<b>9.15a.m.</b>	<b>Margaret Vogelsang (Anniversary)</b>
		<b>Michael &amp; Margaret Padden (Anniversaries)</b>
	<b>7.00p.m.</b>	<b>Kathleen McCarty (R.I.P. Birthday Remembrance)</b>
<b>Sat. 30th March</b>	<b>10.00a.m.</b>	<b>Peter &amp; Ciss Kearney (Anniversaries)</b>
<b>Vigil</b>	<b>7.00p.m.</b>	<b>John Breslin (Anniversary) Stephen &amp; Kathleen Kennedy &amp; Stephen Junior (Anniv.)</b>
		<b>Mary O'Connor (Anniversary)</b>
		<b>Patricia &amp; Gerard Quinn (Thanksgiving 40th Wedding Anniversary)</b>
<b>Sun. 31st March</b>	<b>11.15a.m.</b>	<b>Thomas Henshaw (R.I.P.)</b>
	<b>12.30p.m.</b>	<b>Brendan Doherty (Month's Mind)</b>
		<b>Catherine (Kay) Mullen (Anniversary)</b>
		<b>William (Willie) Brady (Anniversary)</b>
	<b>6.00p.m.</b>	<b>Available for Intention</b>
		<b>Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball</b>
<b>Wed. 27th March</b>	<b>10.00a.m.</b>	<b>Teresa Campelli (Anniversary)</b>
<b>Sun. 31st March</b>	<b>10.00a.m.</b>	<b>June Besagni (Anniversary)</b>
		<b>Jimmy Pepper (R.I.P.)</b>

**Life to the Full Book Club** is now a monthly event. Join other **young adults** (20s & 30s) on April 4th from 7pm. - 8.30pm. in St. Paul's Church Arran Quay. They will be reflecting on Bear Gryll's autobiography, Mud, Sweat, & Tears. [st.pauls@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:st.pauls@dublindiocese.ie)



**Stations of the Cross** – Rehearsals will begin on Wed. in the Church of the Holy Child 4p.m. – 5p.m. We are inviting young people (from the age of 9) to get involved. Just come along and join us as we prepare for the Stations of the Cross.

**Lent in St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral:** Go along to St. Kevin's Oratory, (Entrance from Cathedral) for *Lent Wednesdays A Springtime of Faith* with Fr. Kieran O'Mahony, OSA from 11.15a.m. to 12.30p.m. continues on the 27 March, 3rd and 10 April. Masses will be at 10.30am and 12.45pm. All welcome.