must not be content with tiding the poor over the poverty crisis: You must study their condition and the injustices which brought about such poverty, with the aim of a long term improvement".

The people of Nazareth would have known Jesus more as someone who might fix chairs or mend tables rather than curing the sick and announcing the Kingdom of God. It may have been a big jump for them to accept and the gap between the Jesus they grew up with the Messiah he had recently become.

When reflecting to today's Gospel, Father Donal Neary writes:

"Much of the culture today goes against God and religion. Parents cannot fight the culture. But they can hand on the best of the gospel by their own faith and by the way they live their lives, by their love and by speaking the truth as they see it. What is handed on in faith is beyond words."

He adds that:

"Teachers and chaplains play a big role in handing on our faith. The Church owes a huge gratitude to teachers, chaplains, priest and lay, who have held that role in very difficult times over the last number of years."

I would like to mention a book which Pope Francis has written entitled "The Name of God is Mercy". The Pope tells us that "Mercy is the first attribute of God. The name of God is mercy. There are no situations we can't get out of, we are not condemned to sink into quick sand." When describing the calling of Matthew, Pope Francis says "Jesus saw the tax collector and by *having mercy* chose him as an apostle saying "Follow Me." Mercy is therefore key to our Christian calling.

Let us pray today that we will be instruments of the love and mercy in the way we live our lives. And while none of us may have the opportunity to speak in the synagogue in Nazareth, God will give us other opportunities to share his Gospel with those who are willing and open to hearing it.

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

PARISH OF LARKHILL/WHITEHALL/SANTRY



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.

"Parents can hand on the best of the gospel by their own faith and by the way they live their lives"

We have elections to the European Parliament on the way in June. One of the features of elections is that politicians tend to make lots of speeches, some of which are better received than others!

In our Gospel today, Jesus is making a speech on home ground in his native town of Nazareth. This can be seen as the launching pad for his ministry back in his home town.

Jesus quotes directly from the Prophet Isaiah:

"The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour." 27th January 2019

Father Kieran O'Mahony describes this as "one of the most inspirational passages in the New Testament, underlining, as it does, the gift of the Spirit and the anointing of Jesus as prophet and Messiah."

St Vincent de Paul often quoted this passage *"He sent me to bring good news to the poor"* (Luke 4:18) as the basis of his ministry among the less well off. St Vincent de Paul got his inspiration from prayer, reflection, his friends and the poor. St. Vincent sent his followers into the streets and among the poor, but he also encouraged them to withdraw and regenerate when necessary.

Later, Blessed Frederic Ozanam who founded the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul wrote: "The poor person is a unique person of God's fashioning with an inalienable right to respect. You

A warm welcome to Sr. Philomena Hynes FMDM who joins the Team of Sacristans this week. Sr. Philomena is no stranger to the parish as she was one of the founding sisters of the Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood House on the Swords Road during Monsignor John Fitzpatrick's time as Parish Priest. Sr. Philomena returns to the Parish having spent 15 years in the service of her congregation including an assignment at their Motherhouse in England. She is looking forward to her work as Sacristan, which she sees as an important service to the people of the parish. Be sure to say hello and welcome Sr. Philomena on board. <i>Canon John</i> Friday 1st February - First Friday Mass Schedule: Church of the Holy Child: Masses: 9.15a.m. & 7.00p.m. Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball: 10.00a.m.Confessions on Thursday: after 9.15a.m. Mass and before the 7.00p.m. Mass. We welcome in Baptism: Harry Michael Murphy Lara Paula O'Farrell We pray that these newly baptised children will always know and love Jesus as their	Fully inclusive price €759.00 per person sharing. In conjunction with the Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage. For more information and to book please contact Anne in the Parish Office. Tel: 01 8375274	Please Support your Parish LottoLast Tuesday's winning numbers were:1st Jackpot: 10 15 18 192nd Jackpot: 4 5 7 21No Jackpot winner – The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were:P. O'Connor; A. Dooley; A. Marron; J. Duffy; B. Devine; M. Clarke; G. Levins.Next Week's Lotto: First Jackpot €14,500Second Jackpot €1,450Plus 7 Consolation Prizes of €25
	Doth Kinds at the Main Anal, Priest's Chair side.Church Collections 20-1-20191st Collection $\in 2,036.00$ Share $\in 1,840.00$ Family Envelope $\in 1,245.00$ Sincere thanks for your continued	Sun. 3rd Feb. 10.00a.m. Mike & Pat Farrelly (Anniversaries)
Ministers of the Eucharist: Rosters for February are available at Reception Area in the Parish Centre Recently Deceased: You are asked to remember in your Prayers: Mary O'Connor Edward Martin Colette O'Carroll Nora Reid Peter Farrell May they enjoy perfect peace and reconciliation in the presence of God.	Praying the Scriptures An Introduction to Lectio Divina: A three evening introduction to praying the Bible with Fr. Séamus O'Connell in the Margaret Aylward Centre for Faith and Dialogue, Holy Faith Sisters Old Finglas Road, Glasnevin. All welcome, no experience necessary. Tuesdays 19th, 26th February & 12th March 7.30– 9.00p.m. Cost €35. Tel. (01)797 9364	Des Bourke (Anniversary)Holy Child National SchoolEnrolments are now taking place for school year 2019/2020 in the above school. Closing date for enrolment is 28th Feb. Forms available to download from the school website www.holychildns.ie or alternatively call to the school office or Tel: 837 5870.Church of the Nativity Beaumont – Centennial Pilgrim of Our Lady of Fatima on Sunday 10th Feb. 2.30pm Eucharistic Adoration. 3.30 pm Mass World Day of Prayer for Sick. Rosary & Investiture of Brown Scapular."Mary, Lift Our Spirits" One Day Conference on Mary DCU All Hallows Campus, Drumcondra Saturday, February 2nd, 2019 9.30a.m. – 5p.m. €20 (Light Lunch incl.) Contact: Liam 086-8888918 Legion of Mary Project