

In our times, let us also pray that we may build ourselves up as a community of faith and be guided by the Holy Spirit as we prepare for the World Meeting of Families and the visit of Pope Francis in four months time.

Pope Francis has given that title, *The Joy of the Gospel*, to one of his writings. He writes appropriately for the Season of Easter: *"There are Christians whose lives seem like Lent without Easter."* However, he goes on to say that: *"I realise of course that joy is not expressed the same way at all times in life, especially at moments of great difficulty. Joy adapts and changes, but it always endures."* He adds *"the Gospel offers us the chance to live life on a higher plane, but with no less intensity: Those who enjoy life most are those who leave security on the shore and become excited by the mission of communicating life to others"*.

Father Hugh Duffy SJ, a Jesuit friend who died last April, once expressed the hope that a *"fresh flowering of faith may take place."* Another priest I know when explaining the nature of the Christian life to students used the words of Jesus when he said: *"I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full"* when describing the joy of the Gospel message.

As we journey together into our long awaited Springtime this year, let us pray that the vineyard of our own lives will be fruitful with good works and blessed by the Holy Spirit during this Season of Easter.

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
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(single room subject to confirmation –
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**To book please contact Anne in the
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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.

*"I am the vine
and you are the branches"*

29th April 2018

In this beautiful Gospel from St John, which we read today, Jesus tells us that *"I am the vine and you are the branches"*. This image suggests that Jesus is especially close to us, as a people he is caring for and is concerned about.

The reading reminds us of the importance of keeping Christ at the front and centre of our lives and remaining connected with him. In our world today, we are always online with mobile phones, iPads and computers. But how much time do we give to being connected to Jesus?

Jesus tells us *"if you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish and it will be done for you."* What an extraordinary promise that is spoken to each and every one of us today.

This passage reminds us of the importance of prayer in our busy lives and also of the need to support each other in a loving way and to remember that Christ is at the very

centre of our lives. Through faith, we are all connected as Christian people in the invisible web of God's love.

In the Gospel today, Jesus speaks about the very close relationship that exists between the vine and its branches. He knows each branch individually. He is aware of their strengths and weaknesses. He cares for the weakest and most vulnerable branches. And so it is for us. Jesus has called us to follow our vocations in the church and knows the contribution we can make despite the different challenges in our lives and our own limitations.

As Blessed John Henry Newman said, God has made us for a definite purpose and that each of us has a special role and path to follow in the eyes of God.

In our first reading today, from The Acts of the Apostles, we are told that: *"The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit."*

Sacrament of Confirmation - Last Friday, 20th April our Parish celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation. We were delighted to welcome V. Rev. Mgr. Eoin Thynne as Celebrant. The ceremony itself was beautiful and prayerful and the young people can be very proud of themselves. The outstanding liturgy was due to the hard work of the two Principals Patricia Boyle & Cathy Timmons. The Schools, the young people, their families and the Parish all journeyed together in preparation for this Sacrament. Thanks to all who helped create the beautiful and prayerful environment. The Church of the Holy Child as usual looked splendid, decorated for the Holy Spirit by Dorothy Gray. The fantastic floral arrangements were put together by Marie Tuohy. God's Housekeepers also played their part in the preparation. Thanks to Denice Doyle and the School Choir, the beautiful music enhanced the Liturgy. Thanks also to the Family Mass Team who led the Parish preparation programme for the Sacrament Not forgetting our Sacristans on the day who were vital to the smooth running of the occasion. Sincere thanks to all.



Fr. John

Parish Pastoral Collection Church Gate Collection

This important Parish collection will take place this **weekend 28th/29th April**. 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 this weekend and collect a basket. Many thanks for your continued help with this important Parish Collection.**

Friday 4th May - First Friday
 Mass Schedule: Church of the Holy Child – 9.15a.m. & 7.00pm.
 Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball 10a.m.
 Confessions on Thursday after the 9.15a.m. and before the 7p.m. Masses.

Ministers of the Word: The new Group B roster is available for collection from the reception area in the Parish Centre.

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



Marie McCausland

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

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.

Ministers of the Eucharist: Rosters for June are available on the table in the reception area in the Parish Centre.

World Meeting of Families: 21-26 August 2018. Thousands of volunteers required, as individuals or groups, to assist in organising and running this series of events. They will be essential to the success of the World Meeting of Families in Ireland. If you are willing to help please apply to www.worldmeeting2018.ie/volunteer



Please Support your Parish Lotto

Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:

1st Jackpot: 3 14 25 27 2nd Jackpot: 3 13 20 25

No Jackpot Winner. The winners of the seven prizes of

€25 were: P. Troy: A. Byrne: A. Marmion: D. & H. McGrath:

M. Kelly: M. Hanrahan: A. Dooley & F. Byrne.

Next Week's Lotto: First Jackpot €5,250 Second Jackpot €800

7 Consolation Prizes of €25 and 5 Extra Prizes of €100.

Mass Intentions for the coming week

Church of the Holy Child

Monday 30th April	9.15a.m. Special Intention
	7.00p.m. John & Mary O'Neill, Margaret Kelly (Annivs.)
Tuesday 1st May	9.15a.m. Joan Murphy (Birthday Remembrance)
	7.00p.m. Paddy Rogers (1st Anniversary)
Wednesday 2nd May	9.15a.m. Stephen Neary (Anniversary)
	7.00p.m. Patrick McEvoy (Anniversary)
Thursday 3rd May	9.15a.m. Bridget & Patrick Ford (Anniversaries)
	7.00p.m. Available for Intention
Friday 4th May	9.15a.m. & 7.00p.m. Altar List of the Dead
Saturday 5th May	10.00a.m. Available for Intention
Vigil	7.00p.m. Nora O'Hanlon (Anniversary)
Sunday 6th May	11.15a.m. People of the Parish
	12.30p.m. Reginald (Reg.) Rungay (Month's Mind)
	Andrew James Murray, Gerard Kavanagh (Annivs)
	6.00p.m. Available for Intention

Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball

Wednesday 2nd May	10.00a.m. Available for Intention
Friday 4th May	10.00a.m. Altar List of the Dead
Sunday 6th May	10.00a.m. Jack & Matt McCormack (Anniversaries)

World Youth Day Panama – Jan 2019 - Pope Francis has invited young people from all over the world to join him in Panama next Jan 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. Cost €1,500-€1,900. For further information wyd@dublindiocese.ie

Beaumont Parish World Meeting of Families A Six Part Parish Programme continues 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 Parish Office, Beaumont, Monday to Friday 10am – 1pm on 8477740.

Emmanuel 2018 rescheduled Dates – 1st & 2nd May at Helix 7.30pm. 30 schools comprising 1200 Students (600 per night) from different parts of the Diocese are participating in a massed choir with a full orchestra. Tickets € 12 at Helix Tel: (01) 700 7000