

have much time to stop but I think the reading is reminding us of the tremendous power of a smile or of a kind gesture. We don't know what kind of day the other person is having or what may be going on in their lives.

The Season of Lent begins this Wednesday March 6th. In his message for Lent this year, Pope Francis tells us that: *"Each year, through Mother Church, God gives us this joyful season when we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed... as we recall the great events that gave us new life in Christ"* (Preface of Lent I). *We can thus journey from Easter to Easter towards the fulfilment of the salvation we have already received as a result of Christ's paschal mystery – "for in hope we were saved" (Rom 8:24)."*

He adds: *"Let us not allow this season of grace to pass in vain! Let us ask God to help us set out on a path of true conversion. Let us leave behind our selfishness and self-absorption. Let us stand beside our brothers and sisters in need, sharing our spiritual and material goods with them. In this way, by concretely welcoming Christ's victory over sin and death into our lives, we will also radiate its transforming power to all of creation."*

Let us pray that this Season of Lent will be a time of grace for us and an opportunity to reflect on the direction of our own lives. We can often spend a lot of time thinking about what we should "give up" and this is a good thing but we should also consider what else we might *do* which could include allowing more time for prayer, attending mass when we can, visiting people who may not have many people crossing their door and helping others in practical ways.

I wish you all a peaceful, reflective and prayerful Lent.

Gerard Reilly is a Permanent Deacon in Donaghmede and Ayrfield parishes

Eucharistic Adoration in Holy Child Oratory: Beginning on Ash Wed. 6th March, daily Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in the Oratory from after the 9.15a.m. Mass until 11.45a.m. This will continue from Monday to Friday 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. They will also advise on how to organise the Adoration. Meanwhile, would you consider spending a little time with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration during Lent? It could be for a few minutes or an hour daily or weekly depending on your commitments. Maybe this is Jesus's personal invitation to you to enter into a deeper intimacy with Him during Lent.

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.

"Compassion is when we can walk in another's shoes"

3rd March 2019

In our Gospel reading today, Jesus tells us that:

"A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart... For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart."

Reflecting on today's Gospel, Father Donal Neary makes the following points: *"A compassionate heart reaches out to many; the Gospel today reaches beyond our own circle to reach many others. This will be the constant call of Jesus. When he wants to say what His father is like he says 'Be compassionate like him.'"*

He goes on to explain: *"Compassion is when we can walk in another's shoes, and try to see, hear and feel the world of another, particularly in bad times. It flows from mercy, which is the biggest quality in Jesus."*

The Augustinian writer, Father Kieran O'Mahony tells us that: *"This parable invites us to examine the motivation behind what we do. If our basic motivation is love, then our lives will bear good fruit. If love is absent from our lives then the fruits will be conflict,*

disharmony and abuse of people for our own selfish ends."

Father Kieran O'Mahony concludes his reflection with this prayer: *"O God, our teacher and judge, hear our prayer as we gather at the table of your word. Enrich our hearts with the goodness of your wisdom and renew us from within, that all our actions, all our words, may bear the fruit of your transforming grace. We make our prayer through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen."*

Our First Reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus makes an interesting point: *"The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation."*

When we meet people, we have an opportunity to influence them for the better or the worse. We might say a word of encouragement or perhaps of compassion. Or we might be abrupt with them and leave them with a bad impression of us. Of course, we could be in a hurry somewhere else and not

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.



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, 13th March 2019

Church of the Nativity, Beaumont
 at 7.30p.m. – Fr. John Joe Spring
 Topic: Celtic Spirituality with a key focus on St. Patrick

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.

Wednesday 6th March Ash Wednesday
Day of Fast & Abstinence. Ashes will be blessed and distributed as part of the Penitential Preparation for Mass.
Holy Child Mass Times: 9.15am & 7pm
Blessed Margaret Ball: 10am.

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 December 1994. As we approach the 25th Anniversary 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 that was formed recently. Please leave written suggestions c/o the Sacristy or speak to the Sacristans or one of the Priests.



Ministers of the Word needed for 6pm Mass on Sundays. If you would like to become a Minister of the Word at 6pm Mass on Sundays, please leave your name & phone number in the sacristy, marked for the attention of Mary Gormley. You will be contacted within a few days. Training will be provided.

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

Gerard (Anthony) McCormack
 Thomas Byrne, Kathleen O'Hara
 Richard Byrne, John Doherty



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

Church Collections 24-02-2019

1st Collection €1,678.00
 Share €1,630.00
 Family Envelope €1,230.00

Sincere thanks for your continued generosity

Please Support your Parish Lotto – Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:
 1st Jackpot: 9 10 11 15 2nd Jackpot: 5 10 15 23 No Jackpot winner.
 The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were: B. Brown, D. & A. O'Brien, A. Flood, M. McAllister, A. Meehan, G. Bergin, M. Gallagher.
 Next Week's Lotto: First Jackpot €15,000 Second Jackpot €400
Plus 7 Consolation Prizes of €25 +5 Special Prizes of €100.



Mass Intentions for the coming week Church of the Holy Child

Mon. 4th Mar. 9.15a.m. Thanksgiving
 7.00p.m. Desmond Costello (Anniversary)
Tues. 5th Mar. 9.15a.m. & 7.00p.m. Available for Intention
Wed. 6th Mar. 9.15a.m. Available for Intention
 7.00p.m. Vincent Kavanagh (Anniversary)
Thurs. 7th Mar. 9.15a.m. James Tully (Anniversary)
 7.00p.m. Michael Matthews (Anniversary) & Deceased Members of the Matthews Family
Fri. 8th Mar. 9.15a.m. St. Joseph's Young Priests' Society
 7.00p.m. Available for Intention
Sat. 9th Mar. 10.00a.m. Available for Intention
Vigil 7.00p.m. Eileen Sinnott, Tony Mulvey (Month's Mind)
 Patrick Kinsella (Month's Mind)
 Eileen Gibson (1st Anniversary)
Sun. 10th Mar. 11.15a.m. Mary Teresa Gavaghan (1st Anniversary)
 Phyllis Mellon & decd. Members of the Mellon Family
 12.30p.m. Moira Fitzgerald (Anniversary)
 Owen & Nellie O'Reilly (Anniversaries)
 Loretto Dempsey (Anniversary)
 Seán & Paul Crowe (Anniversaries)
 6.00p.m. Available for Intention
Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball
Wed. 6th Mar. 10.00a.m. Available for Intention
Sun. 10th Mar. 10.00a.m. Richard Dignam (Anniversary)
 Lauren Johnson (Anniversary)
 Tom Tyrrell (Anniversary)

Criost Linn Prayer Group Meeting in Holy Child Oratory: "Criost Linn is a spiritual community called to contemplate the presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist and to experience with Mary his love for us and for others through us". It was founded and guided by the recently deceased Fr. Kevin Scallen CM and met for many years in All Hallows College which was managed by Fr. Kevin's Religious Community, the Vincentians. With their departure from All Hallows and the transfer of the College to DCU the local Criost Linn group have been looking for a new home. From Ash Wednesday 6th March they will meet each Wednesday in our Oratory from after 7pm. Mass until 9pm for Eucharistic Adoration, Scripture reading, reflection and sharing. All welcome.
 Directed by Gemma and Triona King.