

fish in this Gospel story are also a metaphor for the people who will be converted through Peter's ministry.

The readings also tell us about the vocations of Isaiah, Saint Paul and Saint Peter. And, while we immediately think of vocations to the priesthood, the diaconate and religious life, we should also remember that each and every one of us have our own vocation in life. As Saint 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. Pope Francis tells us that: *"In carrying out our mission, let us draw inspiration from Mary, Mother of Evangelization. May the Virgin Mother help us to say our own "yes", conscious of the urgent need to make the Good News of Jesus resound in our time."*

When reflecting on the nature of vocations, I can recall various nuns and priests that were "home from the missions" for their holidays when I was growing up which might only have been once every three years or so. I was always very impressed by their faith and commitment as well as their dedication to the third world countries where they worked. Also, in hindsight, they came over as happy, contented and fulfilled in their missionary work despite the sacrifices they had to make. They were all a great inspiration to me. Many have already gone to their eternal reward. In this regard, I think particularly of Sister Betty Kennedy of Nazareth House who died this week and I ask you to remember her in your prayers.

Please God, as restrictions ease and our parish life starts to return to normal, we might consider if we are ready to resume a parish ministry or perhaps begin a new one. This is also a time when new volunteers will come forward in our parishes to assist with the liturgy and the pastoral ministry of the church. As in our readings today, we should ask ourselves if God is also calling us in our time to share our gifts and talents with our parish community.

As always, we should remember that small things can make a big difference to people and even a kind word of welcome or encouragement to someone when leaving mass can mean a great deal to them.

Let us pray in the coming week that we may be able to discern about our own calling in the church as Isaiah, Saint Paul and Saint Peter did in our readings today. And may we be inspired by their prayers and example as we follow our own vocations in the church of our times.

Gerard Reilly - Permanent Deacon in Malahide and Portmarnock 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.dublindioocese.ie.

"We might consider if we are ready to resume a parish ministry or perhaps begin a new one."

6th February 2022

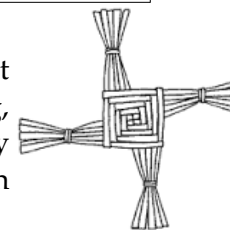
answer in his heart, in silence, but answer

'Am I a man, a woman, a boy, a girl of spring or of autumn? Is my soul in spring or in autumn?'

He added: *"We do not delude ourselves in nostalgias, regrets and*

laments: we know that God wants us to be heirs of a promise and tireless cultivators of dreams".

This is the first Sunday of February and marks the start of the Celtic season of Spring, which began last Tuesday with the Feast of St Brigid on February 1st.



We also have a new Springtime in our Church with Pope Francis who is such a fantastic role model and example for all Christian people. There is a sense of the end of an era as one age of Christianity passes away but also the emergence of a time of transition as a renewed church emerges by the grace of the Holy Spirit.

It is a good time to think again about our work and ministry and to ask Jesus if he is calling us to spread our wings a bit.

When speaking at a General Audience, Pope Francis spoke about the seasons. He asked: *"We are people of spring more than autumn?"*

He went on to explain:

"I would like to ask now - each one

Our readings today are all about people receiving a call for mission from God. The first reading speaks about the call of Isaiah who responds in a generous way to God's request: *"Whom shall I send? Who will be our messenger?"* I answered, *'Here I am, send me.'*

In the second reading St Paul recalls his own conversion and how *"last of all he [Jesus] appeared to me too."* In our Gospel reading, St Peter has a moment of divine revelation when he declares *"Leave me, Lord; I am a sinful man"* when he realised the great power of God in his life. The

The Office of Vocations for Priesthood

The Office for Vocations to Priesthood invite you to join in praying for Deacon Joe Keegan. Joe will be ordained to the Priesthood by Archbishop Dermot Farrell. The Ordination takes place on Sunday 20th February at 3pm in the Church of the Most Precious Blood, Cabra West, Dublin 7.



The Ordination can be viewed on the parish webcam link;

<https://www.churchservices.tv/cabrawest>. This is a great joy & blessing for Deacon Joe and for the whole diocese. Please include a prayer for vocations in your daily prayer.

Special Collection next Weekend The Annual Collection for ACCORD, Dublin,

the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family will be made at all Masses next weekend **12th & 13th February 2022**. **It will replace the usual SHARE Collection** ACCORD Dublin throughout the Diocese offers:- Marriage Preparation Courses – online and for small groups. Counselling for couples & individuals experiencing difficulties in their relationships, currently online or by phone, A relationship & Sexuality Programme for Schools. Please use the SHARE envelopes provided.

Recently Deceased:

You are asked to remember in your Prayers:

Paul McGrane
Colm Maher

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



30th World Day of The Sick

Celebrate the 30th World Day of the Sick/ Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes by joining with the Redemptoristine Sisters, Drumcondra (rednuns.comwebcam) online at **8.00 p.m. on Friday 11th February.**



Volunteers needed

Volunteers needed to help with keeping the Church of the Holy Child clean. If you have some time to spare and would be willing to help please contact the Sacristan 01 837 5274



Anam Cara North Dublin, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Meeting on Wednesday 16th February at 7.20pm in the Carnegie Court Hotel, Swords, Co. Dublin. This event is free and is open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. Please contact them on info@anamcara.ie or tel: 085 2888 888

We welcome in Baptism:

Kai Ryan
Lewis Wayne Foster

May these newly baptised children always know and love Jesus as their friend.



Please Support your Parish Lotto

Last weeks' results :

1st Jackpot 2 6 8 28 2nd Jackpot 3 10 19 29

No Jackpot winners.

The winners of the €25 prizes were as follows:

B. & L. Devine, A. Flanagan, A. Fox, T. Purdue, E. de Lacey, M. Maher & A. O'Meara

Next weeks' Prizes are as follows; 1st Jackpot €15,000 2nd Jackpot €1,500

Plus seven Consolation Prizes of €25 and 5 extra prizes of €100.

Envelopes available at the church doors and in the Parish Centre.

Entries must be received by 9.45a.m on Tuesday morning. Results will be published at the Church doors and in the Parish newsletter.



Mass Intentions for the coming week

Church of the Holy Child

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|-----------------------|-----------|--|
| Sat 5th Feb | 7.00p.m. | Eileen Herbert – 1st Anniversary
Sidney Herbert – 1st Anniversary
Joe Kearney – Anniversary
Martha Herron – Anniversary |
| Sun 6th Feb | 10.30a.m. | May Connolly – Month's Mind
May Fallon – R.I.P.
Larry Roe – R.I.P.
David Ruddell – 1st Anniversary
Pauline Dunphy – Anniversary
Patrick Mahon, Stephen Atkins & Brendan Quinn – Annivs. |
| Mon 7th Feb | 9.15a.m. | Larry Mahony & Helen Duffy – Anniversaries
Fintan McMahan – Anniversary |
| Tues 8th Feb | 9.15a.m. | Carmel Goodson – Anniversary
Francis O'Connor – Anniversary |
| Wed 9th Feb | 9.15a.m. | Grainne Reynolds – Anniversary |
| Thurs 10th & Fri 11th | | Available for Intention |
| Sat 12th Feb | 7.00p.m. | Robert Donnelly – 1st Anniversary
Margaret Donnelly & Molly Fahy – R.I.P.
Hugh Lynch & John Farrelly – Anniversaries |
| Sun 13th Feb | 10.30a.m. | Moyra de Lacy – Anniversary
Brendan & Louisa Hynes – Anniversaries |
| | 12.30p.m. | Michael Holland – Month's Mind
Rita McKiernan – 1st Anniversary
Linda Campelli – Anniversary |
| | | <u>Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball</u> |
| Sun 6th Feb | 10.00a.m. | Martin Power – Anniversary |
| Wed 9th Feb | 10.00a.m. | Available for Intention |
| Sun 13th Feb | 10.00a.m. | Sean MacGabhann – Anniversary |