

What gifts do you bring with you on your journey?
At times the wise men lost sight of the star.

What clouds have obscured your star on our journey of faith?

At the beginning of this New Year, we can start afresh as we try to make a definite commitment to our faith in the challenging times in which we live. It may be that we could attend mass more regularly or go to confession once a month or perhaps take the opportunity to pray more regularly. We could get involved with one of the parish groups or ministries or perhaps offer to volunteer with the Society of St Vincent de Paul or a different charity that supports the homeless. Whatever we decide to do, it is an opportunity to use our own gifts that we have received in a more effective way in order to be of service to our parish community. Then the ministry that we received at our own baptism will be more fruitful and become a blessing to those around us.

May this be a year of blessings of each and every one of us as we continue on the next chapter of our Christian journey in 2019. Like the wise men in today's Gospel, may it be a journey of enlightenment and hope that will bring us closer to Jesus as we travel together and share our gifts with others. As someone recently said when speaking about the journey of faith in terms of pilgrimage: *"Sure we are just walking each other home."*

I will conclude with a short prayer written by Father Kieran O'Mahony:

*"You are the mystery at the heart of all that exists:
draw us to yourself, O Lord,
that knowing you we find our true selves,
and finding our true selves,
we may come to know you. Amen."*

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.dublindioocese.ie.

*"Each of us is really on a pilgrimage,
or better on a quest – a quest to
become my true self, in the image and
likeness of God."*

6th January 2019

Father Kieran O'Mahony describes our quest for faith very well:

Happy New Year to you all. Hope you had a peaceful and relaxing Christmas. The Feast of the Epiphany this year falls on a Sunday. We celebrate the arrival of the three wise men in Bethlehem to honour and worship the infant Jesus.

By tradition, they were astrologers who had come in search of the nativity by following a star. In our times, we might use satellite navigation, Google maps or perhaps a printed map to find somewhere unfamiliar but, back over 2,000 years ago, these wise men used the stars in the sky to find their way to their destination.

It's a time for New Year resolutions which may include giving some time to our own search for Jesus in our busy lives.

"In our deepest selves, each of us is a mystery: Where do I come from? Where am I going? Why am I here? How should I live? The risk in our present culture is to sleepwalk through life, to be satisfied with a merely material existence. But the human "project" is much greater. Each of us is really on a pilgrimage, or better on a quest – a quest to become my true self, in the image and likeness of God."

When reflecting on the wise men, Father Kieran makes three interesting points:

Like the wise men, our life journey is not one we travel alone.

Who are the people who share you life journey now?

The wise men travelled bearing gifts.

New Year – As this is the New Year edition of our Parish Newsletter, words of appreciation are due to so many. We were uplifted in spirit by taking part in our annual Carol Service before Christmas. Sincere thanks to all those involved in music ministry in our Parish.

Christmas brings out the best in people and the talents and gifts of parishioners are generously expressed to enhance liturgy, worship and service. I would like to offer thanks to all involved in ministry in our Parish, they provide a great support to people at the various stages in spiritual life.

Our gratitude is also due to our dedicated Sacristans in both Churches which are always spic and span, many thanks to God's Housekeepers who work throughout the year. Thanks also to Dorothy Gray for the seasonal Church décor and our beautiful Crib which as usual this year is splendid and well worth a visit to say a little prayer. Thanks to Margaret & Peter Grimes who decorated the Parish Christmas Tree & a special thank you to Margaret who also prepared the beautiful floral arrangements.

To Parishioners and visitors among us; may I wish you all the blessings and grace of this holy time and may 2019 be filled with joy, peace and happiness.

Canon John Flaherty



Sacristan required for the Church of the Holy Child
A position is available for Sacristan for Holy Child Church. Please apply in writing to Canon John Flaherty, Church of the Holy Child, The Thatch Road, Whitehall, Dublin 9.

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



Liturgy Meeting – The next meeting of the Liturgy Team will take place on Wednesday, 9th January 2019 at 7.30p.m. in the Parish Centre.

We welcome in Baptism:
Harper Willow McGovern-Lynch
Leo Oliver Canavan
May these newly baptised children always know and love Jesus as their friend.



Ministers of the Eucharist – The Roster for the month of January is available on the table in the Reception area of the Parish Centre.

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

Vera Connolly, Angela Kilcawley, Brendan Mulvey

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



Our Thanks – The Priests of the Parish wish to acknowledge with grateful thanks all, who have forwarded Christmas dues. If you wish to receive an individual acknowledgement please contact the Parish Office.

Parish Lotto

The next draw will take place on Tuesday, 8th January 2019



Church Collections 23-12-2018

1st Collection €1,606.00
Share €1,210.00
Family Envelope €1,125.00

Christmas Day

1st Collection €4,159.00
Share €3,910.00

Weekend 30-12-18

1st Collection €1,631.00
Share €1,525.00

Sincere thanks for your continued generosity.

Christmas Crib

Don't forget to visit our beautiful crib and say a little prayer there with wonder and awe at the birth of Our Saviour. It is situated at the top left hand side of the Church.



Mass Intentions for the coming week

Church of the Holy Child

Mon. 7th Jan. 9.15a.m. & 7.00p.m. Available for Intention
Tues. 8th Jan. 9.15a.m. & 7.00p.m. Available for Intention
Wed. 9th Jan. 9.15a.m. Available for Intention
7.00p.m. Mairead Mahon (Anniversary)
Thurs. 10th Jan. 9.15a.m. Available for Intention
7.00p.m. Carmel Butler (Anniversary)
Fri. 11th Jan. 9.15a.m. St. Joseph's Young Priests' Society
7.00p.m. Joe Kearney (Anniversary)
Sat. 12th Jan. 10.00a.m. Christy Baker (1st Anniversary)
Vigil 7.00p.m. Monica Burke (1st Anniversary)
Ethel Smith, Dominic Duffy, Keith Kenny (Annivs.)
Sun. 13th Jan. 11.15a.m. Marion Buckley (Anniversary)
12.30p.m. Jack & Rose Leonard (Anniversary)
6.00p.m. Kay O'Connor (Anniversary)
Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball
Wed. 9th Jan. 10.00a.m. Michael O'Hanlon (R. I. P.)
Deceased Members of the Mitchell Family
Sun. 13th Jan. 10.00a.m. William, Bridget and Carole Knowles (Anniversaries)
Patrick Behan (Anniversary)

Volunteer In Your Community

Highfield Healthcare are looking for Volunteers

Would you have some time to come visit their residents in Highfield Healthcare in Whitehall or Glasnevin? The main role of volunteers in Highfield is befriending the residents- just there to talk, listen, reminisce and empathise. You could also bring residents to and from activities. Further info. Tel. Helen Hennessy at 01 886 5435. This can be a challenging role therefore applicants should be in sound health.