

many things are ruined by haste. The main influences in his life would have been home, school, and synagogue.

The first thirty years he spent in Nazareth were not a waste of valuable time. They were of crucial importance to him. During those years he was growing, maturing, and ripening. The day he was baptised by John he did not suddenly become a different person. 'No single event can awaken in us a stranger completely unknown to us.' (Antoine de Saint Exupery). On that day he began to reap the harvest from what had been growing within him. On that day he answered another call.

The desire to give himself to serving his brothers and sisters of the wider Community did not come to him suddenly. It had been sounding inside him during his years in his homeland of Nazareth. Nevertheless, baptism was a very special moment in his life. This was the moment when he decided to commit himself to it and begin it.

There is a great lesson for us in all of this. We must not write off any part of our lives as useless, or any experience as a waste. Everything gives us an opportunity to grow. Life calls for a lot of patient waiting. But we must not wait for something great to happen. We must live the present moment to the full. The future is contained in the present. The future will be the blossoming of the present.

We too are called to grow in wisdom and grace. It took Jesus thirty years to reach maturity and to acquire wisdom. It will take us a lifetime to grow, to mature, and to ripen as human beings and children of God.



The feast of the baptism of Jesus reminds us of our own baptism, and provides us with an opportunity to commit ourselves once again to the Christian life, which is essentially a life of service.

We are not called to save the world, or to solve all its problems. Nevertheless, each of us has our own unique call, in our families, in our work, in our world. We need God's help to be able to be faithful to that call.

Faithfulness to small, everyday tasks is our way of responding to the problems of our time and participating in the work of Jesus.

Source: Fr. Flor McCarthy SDB

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.

The Call to Service

Nelson Mandela will go down as one of the greatest leaders of this century. He was instrumental in ending apartheid and bringing about a multiracial society in South Africa. Mandela belongs to the Xhosa people, and grew up in the Transkei. But how did he come to play such a crucial role in the history of his country.

In his autobiography, *Long Walk to Freedom* (1994, Little, Brown and Company), he tells us that all the currents of his life were taking him away from the Transkei. Yet, he had no epiphany, no singular revelation, no moment of truth. He says: A steady accumulation of insights helped me to see that my duty was to the people as a whole, not just to a particular section of it. The memory of a thousand indignities produced in me an anger, a rebelliousness, a desire to fight the system that imprisoned my people. There was no particular day on which I said, Henceforth I will devote myself to the liberation of my people; instead I

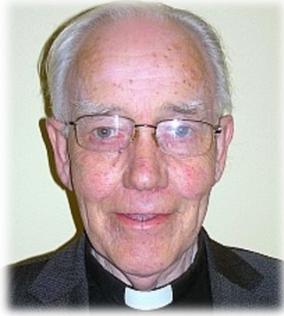
8th January 2017

simply found myself doing so, and could not do otherwise.

Jesus was thirty years old when he began his public ministry. How did he come to that decision and why did he wait so long to begin the real work of his life? The simple answer is: prior to this he wasn't ready. Jesus was a teacher, not of a subject such as history which can be learnt out of books, but of religion, or better, spirituality. Spirituality has to be lived before it can be taught effectively. This is why time is important. Before the age of about thirty, what experience has a person to draw on?



In Nazareth he was able to grow quietly in the shadows. There were no pressures. No burden of expectations. There was no hurry -



**Fr. Bernard Collier
R.I.P.**

Sadly Fr. Bernard passed away peacefully in Beaumont Hospital on Friday 30th December 2016. He was a much loved and respected member of the Parish Team and we are all going to miss him and all he brought to our Parish in his own gentle way.

Fr. Bernard was born on 13th December 1942 in Dublin. He was ordained a priest on 26th May 1968 in Clonliffe by Abp John C. McQuaid.

He was a Priest Teacher: Vocation School Dundrum from 1968 – 1970; Vocation School, Balbriggan from 1970 – 1972.

He ministered as a Curate in Balbriggan from 1971 – 1976; Rathdrum from 1976 – 1983; Iona Road from 1983 – 1993; Newtownpark from 1993 – 1995; Clogher Road from 1995 – 2007.

He was Administrator in Clogher Road from 2007–2008. C.C. in Donaghmede 2008 – 2009.

He then came to join us in 2010.

Fr. Bernard shared in the priesthood of Jesus Christ, leading God's people in prayer and worship, particularly at the Eucharist.

We pray that he be welcomed into the company of the saints in his eternal home. May he rest in peace.

We will print a tribute to Fr. Bernard in next week's Newsletter.

Recently Deceased: You are asked to remember in your Prayers: Fr. Bernard Collier C.C. Maurice Coffey, Mandy McDonagh Farrell Christine Ryan, Walter Murphy

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



We welcome in Baptism:

Noah Gavin Reilly



May this newly baptised child always know and love Jesus as his friend.



Please Support your Parish Lotto

Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:
1st Jackpot: 3 16 17 18 2nd Jackpot: 2 23 26 28
There was no Jackpot winner.

The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were:

M. Gormley; R.McCormack; A. McQueen; P. Hayden; M. Murphy; B.M.B. Tea Room; G. Comiskey.

Next Week. First Jackpot €3,250 Second Jackpot €2,000 Plus 7 consolation prizes of €25 and 5 extra prizes of €100



Mass Intentions for the coming week

Church of the Holy Child

Monday 9th January	9.15a.m. Carmel Rooney (Month's Mind) 7.00p.m. John Hanlon (Month's Mind) Joseph McGrath & Sunny Thomas(Annivs.)
Tuesday 10th January	9.15a.m. & 7.00p.m. Available for Intention
Wednesday 11th January	9.15a.m. & 7.00p.m. Available for Intention
Thursday 12th January	9.15a.m. Available for Intention 7.00p.m. Carmel Butler (Anniversary)
Friday 13th January	9.15a.m. St. Joseph's Young Priests' Society 7.00p.m. Michael Hickey (1st Anniversary) Joe Kearney (Anniversary)
Saturday 14th January	10.00a.m. Available for intention
Vigil	7.00p.m. Stephen Bolton John Watson, Bridie Goggin, Dominick Duffy, Keith Kenny (Anniversaries)
Sunday 15th January	11.15a.m. People of the Parish 12.30p.m. Hilda King (Month's Mind) Rose Leonard, Bernard Hewitt (First Annivs.) 6.00p.m. Anne O'Sullivan (Anniversary) Thomas Hanlon & Anne McCarney (Bir. Rem.)

Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball

Wed. 11th January	10.00a.m. Available for Intention
Sunday 15th January	10.00a.m. Mike & Pat Farrelly (Anniversaries)

Liturgy Team – The next meeting of the Liturgy Team will take place on Wed, 11th Jan 2017 at 7.30p.m. in the Parish Centre.

Adult Faith Development Team
The next meeting of the above team will take place on Wed, 11th Jan 2017 at 7.30p.m. in the Parish Centre.

Anam Cara, the national organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Bereavement Information Evening on Wed 18th of Jan from 19.30 to 21.30p.m. in the Carnegie Court Hotel, Swords. The guest speaker for the evening is Brid Carroll. This is a free event open to all bereaved parents. Please RSVP to info@anamcara.ie before Tuesday 17th January or call the information Line on 085 2888 888

Church Gate Collection St. Vincent de Paul.