



NEWSLETTER



Parish of Larkhill/Whitehall & Santry Parish Office: Church of the Holy Child,
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“Learn how to place the tenderness that is in your hearts at the service of the sick.”

9th February 2020

We are all familiar with the story of St. Bernadette in Lourdes but perhaps a little less so with dozen or so years she later spent in Nevers where she worked in the infirmary as a member of the Daughters of Charity of Nevers. In the convent garden in Nevers, there is a statue of Our Lady of the Waters where St. Bernadette would often go to pray. She said: *“It is she who reminds me most of the lady I saw.”*



Let us pray to Our Lady of Lourdes and to Saint Bernadette this weekend for all who are sick both in mind and in body that they may experience the healing grace of God’s love.

Our parish pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place from September 9th-14th this year and is advertised elsewhere in this newsletter. You might consider going especially if you have not done so in recent years and would like to return.

I was fortunate to join the Whitehall pilgrimage last year and

Last week, we began the Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes in preparation for the Feast day which is also World Day of the Sick next Tuesday February 11th.

Pope Francis reminds us: *“Like Saint Bernadette, we stand beneath the watchful gaze of Mary. Let us ask Mary Immaculate for the grace always to relate to the sick as persons who certainly need assistance, at times even for the simplest of things, but who have a gift of their own to share with others.”*

Pope Benedict once said that the thin veil that separates heaven and earth is a little more transparent in Lourdes. Let us pray that we may remember that our lives are not just about us. They are part of God’s providential plan, part of a story that stretches infinitely beyond what we can immediately grasp...for people of faith, there are no coincidences, only aspects of God’s providence that we have not yet fully understood.

I must say that it was a very inspiring and enjoyable experience. One of the things that makes Lourdes truly special is the extraordinary care that is taken of the sick pilgrims who travel there. They are greeted with tremendous warmth, dignity and respect. When speaking to some of the helpers, I was amazed that how many of them return to Lourdes year after year and it’s lovely to see the great friendships that develop between them.

Speaking in Lourdes last year, Archbishop Diarmuid Martin said the following: *“Bernadette was humble and uneducated, yet she understood the call of Mary even if she did not understand some of the words that Mary used. It was the rich and the powerful who placed obstacles in the path of Bernadette. There is a sense in which the affluence and commercialism that surround Lourdes weakens the authenticity of its message. It is here in the quiet and prayerfulness of the Sanctuary and especially of this Grotto that we come in touch with the true message of Lourdes and that message touches and changes our hearts.”*

Then the Archbishop added an important point. When addressing the young people present he said: *“[Learn how to place the tenderness that is in your hearts at the service of the sick](#) and bring that experience with you as you prepare for your life and work.”*

The writer Thomas Merton said: *“Not all are called to be hermits but all need enough silence and solitude in their lives to enable the deep inner voice of our true self to be heard at least occasionally.”* I think that being part of a pilgrimage to Lourdes can provide us with such an opportunity. One of the good things about a pilgrimage is that it gives us some time out to step out of our daily lives and try to gain some fresh perspectives on the challenges that we face and try to learn a bit more about ourselves. Archbishop Martin spoke about the “quiet prayerfulness” of the Sanctuary at Lourdes where there is an opportunity for us to be that little bit more open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit when visiting there.

When we return from a pilgrimage, we hope that we will be in some way better people with fresh insights into how God is present in our lives and what he is calling us to do.

I would encourage you to consider visiting Lourdes this year and you may know of sick or elderly family, friends or neighbours who might benefit from going on the pilgrimage. You can contact the Lourdes office at 01-837 6820 or email info@lourdes.dublindiocese.ie for enquiries about sick pilgrims travelling or contact the Parish Office here in the Church of the Holy Child.

Gerard Reilly - Permanent Deacon in Donaghmede and Ayrfield parishes

Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Larkhill – Whitehall – Santry Parish

9th – 14th September - Hotel Solitude 5 nights – Full Board

Fully inclusive Price €765. (Single rooms subject to availability €180).

In conjunction with the Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage

For details contact The Parish Office Tel : 8375274.



Parish Lotto

Please Support your Parish Lotto

Last Tuesday's winning numbers were: 1st Jackpot: 1 4 7 26

2nd Jackpot: 3 5 12 19 No Jackpot winner.

The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were: P. Conlon; M. Gill; C. Brady; A. McChesney; J. O'Loughlin; M. Hammond; B. M. B. Tea Room.

The winners of the five special prizes of €100 were B. Mahon; P. Dunne; M. Elliott; K. Fox; M. Adderley. Next Week's Lotto Draw:

First Jackpot €15,000 Second Jackpot €850 Plus 7 consolation prizes of €25



Blessed Margaret Ball Folk Group -25th Anniversary Mass

On Sunday, 23rd February the Blessed Margaret Folk Group will celebrate their 25th Anniversary at 10a.m. Mass in the Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball. They would like to invite past members to join them on the day. Rehearsals will take place on Monday 10th & 17th February at 8.30p.m. For more details please contact Mary 083 3469029



We welcome in Baptism:

Eoghan Edward Brady

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



Anniversary Frame -If your loved one has an anniversary coming up please consider giving their name to the Sacristan or place in one of the safes. It will then be put in the Anniversary Frame, placed on the Altar and prayed for at all Sunday Masses. Small donation appreciated.



Church Collections

02/02/20

1st Collection	€1,739
SHARE	€1,490
Family Envelope	€1,230

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

Anne Bergin
Martin Power

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



Special Collection for ACCORD (The Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family) will take place at all Masses next weekend **15th/16th February** It will replace the usual SHARE Collection.

Church Gate Collection This Collection this weekend, 8th/9th February, is for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Mass Intentions – Church of the Holy Child

Sat. 8th Feb. Vigil	10.00a.m. 7.00p.m.	Special Intention Florence Lynch – Month's Mind Patrick (Sonny) Kinsella – 1st Anniversary Martha Herron, Carmel Goodson – Anniversaries Hugh Lynch – Anniversary
Sun. 9th Feb.	11.15a.m. 12.30p.m. 6.00p.m.	Josie Duffy & Eileen Cooney R. I. P. recently decd. Annie & Jack Morrissey & Family – Anniversaries Patrick Mahon – 1st Anniversary Gretta & Dominic Coll – Anniversaries Alice Craddock – Anniversary
Wed. 12th Feb.	7.00p.m.	Brendan & Louisa Hynes – Anniversaries
Thurs. 13th Feb.	9.15a.m. 7.00p.m.	Fr. Patrick Staunton – Anniversary John Towell – Anniversary
Fri. 14th Feb.	7.00 p.m.	Aleyamma Mathew – Anniversary
Sat. 15th Feb. Vigil	7.00p.m.	Mary Moran, John Wisley – Anniversaries
Sun. 16th Feb.	11.15a.m. 12.30p.m. 6.00p.m.	Rose Doyle & Josie Connolly R. I. P. Mary Waldron, Gerry Higgins – Anniversaries Peter & Ciss Kearney – Anniversaries John Kavanagh – 1st Anniversary Vera O'Brien, Hannah Raymond – Anniversaries Seamus Lehane – Anniversary Niall McCann – Anniversary
Sun. 9th Feb.	10.00a.m.	Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball Douglas Virgo – Anniversary Raymond & Nora Hanley & son Ray – Anniversaries Lynda Campelli, Seán MacGabhann – Anniversaries
Wed. 12th Feb.	10.00a.m.	Terry O'Neill – Anniversary
Sun. 16th Feb.	10.00a.m.	Deceased members of the Finn Family – Anniversaries Joe Maguire R. I. P. recently deceased

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE

Bethany Support Group – Beginning on Wednesday 19th February ladies who find it difficult to cope with bereavement or loss of any kind are invited to avail of the help and support of the Bethany Bereavement Support Group. They will be warmly welcomed every Wednesday between 2.30p.m. and 4.00p.m. in the Parish Centre at Holy Child Church. Please note they no longer meet in the Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball.

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



St. Francis Hospice Memorial Walk -RTE's Kathryn Thomas, Sr. Margaret Cashman, director of Nursing & Fintan Fagan CEO, launching this year's 5K Spring Memorial Walk. St. Anne's Park, Raheny Sunday, 8th March 2020 at 1p.m. followed by refreshments and fun for all. Walk leader is Kathryn Thomas. Entry fee:€20 per Adult, children free. Register www.sfh.ie or call into St. Francis Hospice reception.