

about today's Gospel:

*"The people of the gospel felt foolish that they had not brought oil with them to light their way. The oil is prayer and our relationship with Jesus. This is the essence of the Christian life. Our Christian life is following a real, loving person: it is an invitation to get to know Jesus, and to find ourselves drawn from our hearts to follow him."*

Father Donal also adds this comment quoting from St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits:

*"Ignatius of Loyola's famous prayer is the prayer of the follower of Jesus; 'Lord, teach me to know you more, love you more and serve you more faithfully in my life.' (Spiritual Exercises). The more indicates that this is never a finished product: like love and friendship it grows in our lives. It is exciting that Jesus is never gone from us: risen from the dead he is always alive, always new."*

Today's Gospel certainly presents us with a challenge. You may be familiar with the term "God of surprises" and I think that is what Jesus is saying to us today: to be ready for surprises. Sometimes when children are asked what Christmas present they would like, they might say "a surprise". So, our prayer this week may be to ask God to help us to be ready for the surprises he may have in store for us whether it's a new challenge on our journey of faith, the opportunity to help those in need or an unexpected moment for prayer in the coming weeks as we start to prepare for Advent and Christmas.

And let us also take time to thank God for the surprises he has sent us in our lives so far and for the many blessings he has given us.

Gerard Reilly is a Permanent Deacon in Donaghmede and Ayrfield parishes



**Christmas Fayre Sunday 26th November – upstairs in the Parish Centre, from 10.30a.m. to 1.30p.m.** Fun for all the Family with Santa, homemade bread & cakes and Novelty Stands. Please come and enjoy yourselves while supporting your Parish Centre. If you have any new or nearly new unwanted gifts, bottles of alcohol or juice, bric-a-brac which you would like to donate we will gladly accept them for one of our stalls. If you wish to bake bread or cakes please bring them on the morning of the Fayre. Many thanks for your continued support.

## PARISH OF LARKHILL/WHITEHALL/SANTRY



# NEWSLETTER



**Celebrating  
the Diamond Jubilee  
of the Church of the  
Holy Child  
1957 – 2017**

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The Thatch Road, Dublin 9. Tel (01) 837 5274  
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**12th November 2017**

***It is exciting that Jesus is never gone from us. Risen from the dead he is always alive, always new"***

*reminds us that moments of grace come unexpectedly, and we need to be awake to receive them."*

Today's Gospel is the parable of the bridesmaids and it reminds us to always be ready for what God may have in store for us in the future.

Some of us may think that the wise bridesmaids were not so generous by being unwilling to share their oil with the others who had none. On the face of it, not the most Christian of responses.

Father Kieran O'Mahony makes the following remarks about this Gospel reading:

Father Kieran makes this point: *"We may be tempted to judge the wise bridesmaids as being selfish for not sharing with the others, but perhaps Jesus is teaching us that there are some things that other people cannot provide for us. We have to acquire them ourselves."*

*"At this point in the Liturgical Year, the lectionary turns to the end of time and to the teachings on watchfulness. Our parable today is unique to Matthew, although there are passages in Mark and Luke which resemble it in some way (see below Mk 13:33-37 and Lk 12:35-38)."*

Father Kieran adds:

*"While the parable has clear end of time applications, it can also be applied to any moment of grace. It*

*"Today, we might feel it was a bit mean of the wise bridesmaids not to share with the others. The point lies elsewhere: there are some things in life no one else can do for us. Becoming wise is surely one of those."*

The Jesuit writer, Father Donal Neary, makes the following point

# LOTTO

## Please Support your Parish Lotto

Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:

1st Jackpot: 1 13 17 28      2nd Jackpot: 17 18 19 26

No Jackpot winner.

The winners of the Seven Consolation Prizes of €25 were:- S. Beades:

J. Soden: R. Cullen: E. Donlon: Mrs. Gibson: J. Clarke: D. Devine.

The Five Special Prizes of €100 were won by: T. Brown: T. Mullins:

N. Keenan: P. Hayden: C. Corcoran

Next Draw: 1st Jackpot €14,000    2nd Jackpot €2,000

Plus seven consolation prizes of €25.



### Liturgy Team

The next meeting of the Liturgy Team will take place on Wednesday, 15th November at 7.30p.m. in the Parish Centre.

**November Dead List** Altar List of the Dead envelopes are provided at the doors of the Churches. We invite you to complete and return to the Sacristan or leave in the Church safes. All Masses on the First Friday of each month are offered for all names on the Altar List of the Dead.

 **We welcome in Baptism:**  
Rian John Byrne  
Mia Margaret Coyle  
Isla Josephine Torphy  
Sebastian James Morris

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

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

Antoinette Barry



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

### Month of November

*We remember our own loved ones and friends who have gone to their rest in the Lord and our own sadness this November. Tears speak out our grief, but they also witness to our love and we are glad to have loved so much that we can cry.*



*May those we have loved rest in your embrace, O Lord.*

### Mass – St. Ita's

St. Ita's Allied Staff Association Annual Mass for deceased residents and staff. St. Ita's Chapel, Saturday 25th November 2017 at 3pm. Bishop Raymond Field will officiate.

### Pilgrimage to Knock Friday 8th December.

Coach from Church of the Holy Child at 8am. Contact Marie McAllister 8425678

### Thanks

The Sisters of the Holy Rosary wish to thank parishioners who gave so generously to their recent Church Gate Collection

**Church Gate Collection**  
this weekend is for the  
Society of St. Vincent de Paul

### Parish Pastoral Collection

This important Parish collection will take place NEXT weekend 18th/19th November. The money we receive goes towards the training and requirements of all the Pastoral Teams. It ensures that each Team can be resourced and trained and therefore can give the best service to their ministry.

Could those who have agreed to help with this collection please come to the Sacristy before Mass next weekend and collect a basket. Many thanks for your continued help with this important Parish Collection.

Date to remember!

Combined Parish Choirs

present

**THE ANNUAL CAROL SERVICE**

Sunday, 10th December 2017  
at 7.30p.m.

in Church of the Holy Child  
All welcome.



### Monastery of St. Alphonsus Remembrance Service

will take place on Thursday 23rd November at 8pm in the Monastery of St. Alphonsus, St. Alphonsus Road, Drumcondra. Gather to remember and pray for those who have died in a gentle and prayerful space. The music will be led by members of the Dublin Diocesan Music Group.

### Mass Intentions for the coming week Church of the Holy Child

Monday 13th Nov.	9.15am.	Kathleen Freehill (R.I.P.)
	7.00pm	Hugh Kelly (Anniversary) Annie & Jack Morris
Tuesday 14th Nov.	9.15a.m.	Jack & Nancy Phelan (Anniversary)
	7.00p.m.	Dennis Hamill (Anniversary)
Wed. 15th Nov.	9.15a.m.	Phyllis Walsh (Anniversary)
	7.00pm.	Elizabeth Gibbs (1st Anniv) Rita Smyth Martinez (R.I.P.)
Thurs. 16th Nov.	9.15a.m.	Rosanna, Stephen & Thomas Finlay (Anniversaries)
	7.00p.m.	Aidan McCartie (Anniversary)
Fri. 17th Nov.	9.15a.m.	Kevin Coffey (R.I.P.)
	7.00p.m.	Chris Bailey (R.I.P.)
Sat. 18th Nov.	10.00a.m.	Rita Mitchell (R.I.P.)
	7.00p.m.	Tommy Flaherty, Carmel Cleary & Geraldine Campbell (Month's Mind) Ronald Cleary (Anniversary)
Sunday 19th Nov.	11.15a.m.	People of the Parish
	12.30p.m.	Maureen Murray, Anne Rocca & Margaret Ward (Anniversaries)
	6.00p.m.	Available for Intention
		<u>Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball</u>
Wed. 15th Nov.	10.00a.m.	Available for Intention
Sun. 19th Nov.	10.00a.m.	Marie Flood (Anniversary) Liz Bennett, Jean & Eric Cavanagh (Anniversaries)