

Anam Cara North Dublin, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Wednesday 18th January at 7:15pm in the Hilton Hotel, Malahide Rd, Northern Cross, Dublin, D17 Y924. This event is free and 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 us on info@anamcara.ie or 085 2888 888 for any queries.

We welcome in Baptism:
Roisin Ann Gill

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



Holy Child National School— Enrolment for Junior Infants September 2023 is now open until 30th January. Please log onto their website www.holychildns.ie and fill in a pre-enrolment form. The Open Evening will be held in the school on Thursday 26th January from 6.30 p.m.–7.30 p.m. for parents of incoming Junior Infants September 2023.

Laudate Festival The Laudate 2023 festival events will be celebrated as a follow-on from Catholic Schools Week in the Archdiocese of Dublin. The Laudate Festival brings a large choir of several hundred children together in each of the venues below to raise the roof in songs of praise to God and to lead us in reflection. You are invited to add your voice to the gathered singers. The repertoire is suitable for parish choirs and congregational singing for all occasions. Entry is free for all. All are welcome.

Laudate 2023 Festival Celebrations:

Church of Our Lady of Victories, Ballymun Road, on Tuesday, January 31st 7-8.15pm
Church of St Therese, Mount Merrion, on Wednesday, February 1st, 7.00-8.15p.m.
Church of the Holy Spirit, Greenhills, on Thursday, February 2nd, Laudate Festival Night

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT -The Irish Hospice Foundation provides a free Bereavement Support Line. This National Freephone Service is available from 10am to 1pm, Monday to Friday, by calling 1800 807077. Visit www.hospicefoundation.ie for more information.

Recently Deceased:

We remember our friends and loved ones who have recently died in Christ - Paul O'Hara, Ronnie Burke, Ron Neville, Eithne Tobin, Peggy O'Regan, Philomena May,

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



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.dublindiocese.ie.

"Look, there is the Lamb of God"

15th January 2023

The opening line of today's Gospel has found its way into the prayers of our mass which we say not once or twice but three times every time mass is celebrated.

We say:

*"Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world have mercy on us,
Lamb of God to take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us,
Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace."*

Sometimes people say that in our busy, modern world that we over complicate things. That we over think and make things more difficult or challenging than in fact they are. But here we have an example of the exact opposite. John the Baptist tells us very simply that Jesus as the Lamb of God, takes away our sins. What a wonderful moment of revelation. What an amazing insight. It's all we never really need to hear. Jesus forgives us and we should do the same for others. This is the first thing that John the Baptist tells us about Jesus and it is also the most important. Like the news headlines,



he gives us the most important piece of news first.

The Lamb of God also features in the apparition at Knock, 141 years ago back in 1879. The Lamb of God appears on the altar, along with Our Lady, St. Joseph and St. John. The Cistercian writer, Father Berchmans Walsh, said that Knock is only holy apparition known to him in the world where the Lamb of God appears.

Our Gospel today also provides us with a wonderful testimony from John the Baptist about Jesus. He says:

"I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him."

It's an extraordinary personal

statement from John giving direct evidence that Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit after his baptism. John describes himself as a “*witness that he is the Chosen One of God.*”

The purpose of our Gospel from St. John today is to provide us with a first-hand account of John the Baptist’s experience of meeting Jesus. And he makes a pretty powerful and convincing case. Throughout the Gospels, people are converted when they encounter Jesus. And it was no different for John the Baptist. He was convinced by what he saw.



Jesus says elsewhere in St John’s Gospel: “*Blessed are those who have not seen but yet believe*” (John :29).

In saying this, Jesus gives a new Beatitude for those of you who have faith without having had the privilege of actually meeting Jesus as the apostles did. There is, in a way, a greater blessing for those who believe because of faith alone. These words speak directly to the faith of succeeding generations, including ourselves.

Our faith can never simply or exclusively be a private matter. As Christians, our challenge is to reach out to others. John the Baptist showed people the way to Jesus. He encouraged people to follow him. We have a similar task in our own lives. That is to show Jesus to those we meet in the different circumstances of our lives. This is, of course, more easily said than done. But even small gestures and words of encouragement can make a real difference in people’s lives.

The poet Patrick Kavanagh said that “*God is in the bits and pieces of life*” and Saints like St Therese of Lisieux encouraged us to do the smaller things well. Usually, the Christian way of life is not about big grand gestures but simple encounters with ordinary people in ordinary circumstances when we may have an opportunity to let the light of Christ shine a bit more brightly. God’s grace can help us lead us to these moments and he will always make up for what may be lacking in our response.

Let us pray that in the coming we may, like John the Baptist, be a source of life and a source of life to others. Jesus said: “*I have come that you may have life and have it to the full.*” (John 10:10). May this be so not just for ourselves but for those we encounter in the week ahead.

Gerard Reilly - Permanent Deacon in Malahide and Portmarnock parishes.

Mass Intentions for the coming week Church of the Holy Child

Sat 14th Jan	7.00p.m.	Maureen Smith – Anniversary Bridie Goggins – Anniversary Ethel Smith – Anniversary Dominick Duffy – Anniversary
Sun 15th Jan	10.30a.m.	Seamus Fogarty – Anniversary Bernard Hewitt – Anniversary Deceased members of the Hewitt Family- R.I.P.
	12.30p.m.	Philomena Gray – Month’s Mind Christine Hilda & Peter Nolan – Anniversaries Kay O’Connor – Anniversary Jack & Rose Leonard – Anniversaries
Mon 16th Jan	9.15a.m.	Bernard Collier – Anniversary Tom & Kitty Neary – Anniversaries Philip O’Reilly – Anniversary
Tues 17th Jan	9.15a.m.	Sr. Bridget Veale – 100th Birthday
Wed 18th Jan	9.15a.m.	Kathleen & Patrick Maples – Anniversaries Mary Elizabeth Crowley – Anniversary
Thurs 19th Jan	9.15a.m.	Rose Fannin – Anniversary
Fri 20th Jan	9.15a.m.	Johnny Kavanagh – R.I.P.
Sat 21st Jan	7.00p.m.	Helen McGeough – Month’s Mind Bridget Grant nee Donnelly – Anniversary Patrick Fay – Anniversary Pat Hannigan – Anniversary Robert & Josephine Redmond – Anniversaries
Sun 22nd Jan	10.30a.m.	Anthony Armstrong – Month’s Mind Robert Halpin – Anniversary Peter Farrell – Anniversary
	12.30p.m.	Bridget Teresa O’Driscoll – Month’s Mind John O’Driscoll – Remembrance Andrew Kevin Rogan – Anniversary

Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball

Sun 15th Jan	10.00a.m.	Available for Intention
Wed 18th Jan	10.00a.m.	Available for Intention
Sun 22nd Jan	10.00a.m.	Pat & Michelle O’Toole – Anniversaries Michael J. Maguire – Anniversary