

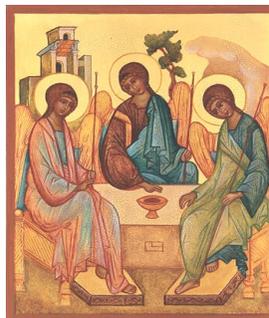
that Martha welcomes Jesus and his disciples into her home and immediately goes to work to serve them. Hospitality is very important in the Middle East and Martha was fulfilling her duty in this respect.

Jesus' response to Martha is not unkind and it gives us an idea of his affection for her. He says that Martha is worried about many things that distract her from really being *fully present* to him. And that is what her sister Mary has chosen to do. This story also reminds us of the importance of being fully present to someone who has an important message to give us. We have so many distractions (not least from technology), so if some calls to see us, we should give them our full attention and really listen attentively to what they have to say.

Martha is, I think, easier to identify because we see ourselves in her. We are often worried and distracted by all we have to do in the world and forget to spend time with Jesus. It is, however, comforting to note that Jesus loved her just the same. So, let us pray to St Martha today that she will help us to find time for Jesus in the midst of our busy lives.

Our First Reading today also deserves a brief mention. You will be familiar with the work of Andrei Rublev (c.1360 - c.1430), the great Russian icon painter, and in particular with his 'Old Testament Trinity' which is described in the reading:

picturing the three angels welcomed by Abraham (Genesis 18), an icon which is often on display in this Church. Christians see this scene as a prefiguring of the Christian doctrine of the Trinity. This icon is also called 'Welcome to the Stranger'. Anyone praying with this icon for any length of time will feel that the invitation is somehow mutual: the three figures are inviting you to sit at table with them; you are invited into the life of God.



As was the case with Abraham in our reading today, we sometimes get to see unexpected "glimpses" of the transcendent which can also be part of our experience of God. This can be in nature when we are out for a walk in the countryside or on the beach or, of course, through people who "walk into" our lives sometimes in an unexpected way and perhaps give us a fresh insights with their encouragement and wisdom. Saint John Henry Newman described this quite well when he wrote: "*The visible world is the veil of the world invisible.*"

As Thomas Merton reminds us, like Martha, "*we all need enough silence and solitude in our lives to enable the deep inner voice of our true self to be heard at least occasionally.*"

Gerard Reilly - Permanent Deacon in Malahide and Portmarnock 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.

"We all need enough silence and solitude in our lives to enable the deep inner voice of our true self to be heard at least occasionally."

17th July 2022

frustrated when her sister Mary disregards the rule of hospitality and Martha is left doing all the

I visited a modern Basilica in Montecatini in Italy a few years ago and noticed an unusual picture painted on the wall behind the tabernacle. On taking a closer look, I realised that it was a depiction of our Gospel reading today, with Jesus at the centre, Mary sitting on a chair attentively listening to him and Martha busy with her household duties. I thought it was significant that the designers of the church attached such significance to this Gospel that they gave it such a prominent place in their church. Perhaps they realised that the two sisters symbolise the contemplative and active dimensions of the Christian life, and the tensions between both, which is part of each one of our faith journeys.

This, as we all know, can be at times difficult to balance. It is easy to understand why Martha would be



work. But Mary chose to sit and listen to Jesus. The delightful scene is only found in St. Luke's Gospel. But, as you know, the characters in the story appear

elsewhere in the other Gospels. We are told in St. John's Gospel that "*Jesus loved Martha and Mary and Lazarus.*" This unique statement which tells us of the special relationship Jesus had with Martha, her sister, and her brother. And, of course, we know that Jesus later raised Lazarus from the dead and he after attended a dinner with Jesus.

Jesus was a frequent guest at Martha's home in Bethany and he was clearly good friends of theirs. We read of three visits there in Luke 10:38-42, John 11:1-53, and John 12:1-9.

In our Gospel today, St Luke tells us

Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2022

This will be our first annual Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes since the start of the Covid pandemic. We will travel as usual alongside the Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage, led by Archbishop Dermot Farrell from Wed. 7th September until Mon. 12th September

Spiritual Leader will be V. Rev. Paul Kenny. During your stay you will have an opportunity to participate in all the various ceremonies.

Pilgrims will also visit places connected with the life of Saint Bernadette - the Boly Mill, Cachot and Parish Church as well as her childhood home in Bartres.

Hotel La Solitude (early booking will ensure the group stays together at this hotel)

5 nights €789 per person sharing Full board accommodation in Lourdes

Complimentary Travel Insurance (up to 79 years) Single supplement €38 per night

For more information please contact Anne in the Parish Office 01 8375274

If you are interested in travelling with us please book early to avoid disappointment.



The Building Hope Prayer

Pilgrim God, we give you thanks and praise. You constantly journey with us even in our darkness and doubts. We seek your way of loving kindness to walk together as one family. Open our eyes to recognise you in the faces of one another, in the breaking of bread and in the splendour of creation. May the risen Christ sow seeds of hope and a new life deep within us. May our hearts and minds be filled with your Word, bringing forth truth, justice and peace. May the Holy Spirit working in and through us do much more than we dare to imagine As we live out our baptismal calling in humble and loving service. We make this prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen

*Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us. St. Laurence O'Toole, pray for us
St. Kevin, pray for us. St. Brigid, pray for us.*

We welcome in Baptism:

Ryan Murphy
Sam Barney Joyce
Livie Belle Geoghegan
Lily Ashling Dunbar

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



Recently Deceased:

You are asked to remember in your Prayers:

Evelyn James,
Mary Ghassemi

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



Grandparents Pilgrimage to Knock

The National Grandparents Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock will take place on Sunday, July 24. Pope Francis established the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, which took place for the first time in 2021.

The Holy See has announced a series of indulgences that can be obtained by those taking part in the second World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. [Click here for more information.](#)

For more details about the Knock pilgrimage, contact Connie at catholicgrandparents@gmail.com or 085 8704722. [Full details about the Knock pilgrimage can be found by clicking here.](#)

Please Support your Parish Lotto

12th July 2022 results: 1st Jackpot- 4 5 14 28 2nd Jackpot 5 6 11 24
No Jackpot winners. The winners of the €25 prizes were as follows:
S. Beades: B. & L. Devine: M. & J. Stanley: F. Gallagher: K. Clarke:
C. Kerrigan: C. Reardon.

Next draw will take place on Tuesday 19th July 2022

Prizes are as follows: 1st Jackpot €15,000 2nd Jackpot €2,000

Plus seven Consolation Prizes of €25

Envelopes available at the church doors and in the Parish Centre.

Entries must be received by 9.45a.m. on Tuesday morning.

Results will be published at the Church doors and in the Parish Newsletter.

There are a number of Lotto winner cheques yet to be collected. Please contact the Sacristy/Parish Office and check if you are one of the winners.



Mass Intentions for the coming week Church of the Holy Child

Sat. 16th July	7.00p.m.	Available for Intention
Sun 17th July	10.30a.m.	Christina & Frederick Neary – Anniversaries Susan & James Manning – Remembrance
	12.30p.m.	Bernie Magee -Month's Mind Margaret Morris – 1st Anniversary Adrienne Downey – Anniversary Alice Barry – Anniversary
Mon 18th & Tues 19th July	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
Wed 20th & Thurs 21st July	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
Fri 22nd July	9.15a.m.	Anne Cox – Anniversary
Sat 23rd July	7.00p.m.	Joe Herron – 1st Anniversary Chrissy Rooney – 1st Anniversary Thomas Derwin – Anniversary William & Elizabeth Colley – Anniversaries
Sun 24th July	10.30a.m.	John Joe Lynch – Anniversary
	12.30p.m.	Finola Johnson – Recently Deceased Michael Gray – Anniversary

Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball

Sun 17th July	10.00a.m.	Available for Intention
Wed 20th July	10.00a.m.	Available for Intention
Sun 24th July	10.00a.m.	Pat Dunne – Anniversary Margaret Houlihan – Anniversary Gerard Donlan – Anniversary

Summer Dues -Archbishop Farrell has invited parishioners to contribute again to the Summer Dues in support of our Priests. Envelopes are available at the Church doors. Our sincere thanks for your ongoing generous financial support.



Parish Office
The Parish Office will be closed from Monday 18th July until Tuesday, 2nd August due to annual leave. The Newsletter will return on 7th August.