

miracles as evidence of the heavenly approval implicit in his healing power and as evidence of the fulfilment of messianic prophecy in his person. 'Yes, I am the Messiah, ' he was saying to his questioners. 'My actions speak for themselves'.

But these miracles to which Our Lord referred are more than demonstrations of power, more than the fulfilment of prophecy. They are manifestations of love. Christ was not out to impress so much as to embrace. He cured the blind and the lame because he loved them.

In fact we learn from the Gospel that, instead of retribution and death, love and life are the keys to the mystery of the universe. They are at the heart of the kingdom established by Christ. Love is the key because the compassion that Jesus felt for the outcasts and the sick is the compassion he feels for us now. These wonders are for all of us a pledge of perfection, a guarantee of eventual restoration in glory. They provide the assurance that 'what is sown is perishable, but what is raised is imperishable' (1 Cor 15:42-43). They make us certain of the day 'when God will wipe away all tears from our eyes' (Apoc 21:4). The story of God's kingdom is told in the opening line: 'the blind see,' it begins, and already we know the ending.

Source- *Extract from These Might Help* by Fr. Joseph Cassidy

Prayers for the third week of Advent:

God's Word:

Say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. Look your God is coming... He is coming to save you.'

From the Prophet Isaiah 35:4

Support those who suffer in their hearts or in their body: restore them to peace and health.

Be with us, Lord Emmanuel!

Welcome those who have died into the life of eternity: may their eyes see the light that never sets.

Be with us, Lord Emmanuel!

May your faithfulness make each of us faithful in our commitment.

Be with us, Lord Emmanuel!

[we pray for all those we carry in our hearts and our intentions]

Bless us, Christ Jesus; in you our hearts find peace



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 Nature of the Kingdom

John the Baptist was in prison. John the Baptist was also in shock! He had been hearing things! He had heard this man Jesus was going about on a mission of mercy. He had preached what was admittedly a challenging, yet very consoling sermon on a Gallilean hillside. He had healed so many people, from the leper to the dumb demoniac, that it was difficult to keep count (see Mt chaps, 8,9). As far as John the Baptist could gather, Jesus hadn't raised his voice at all. What on earth was going on? What was required obviously, in this situation was urgent clarification.

John the Baptist sought that clarification by sending two of his disciples with a question: 'Are you the one who is to come?' If the answer was 'yes', then this was a very different Messiah from the one the Baptist expected. Not only was his Messiah expected to raise his voice he was expected to 'raise Cain' as well.

What Jesus said to the messengers had to come as a further shock to

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John. The prophetic tradition to which he belonged was not the tradition of Amos. The kingdom that he was inaugurating was not the kingdom of John. The prophet Isaiah, in his vision of the kingdom, had described it, not in the language of condemnation and retribution, but in the language of liberation and compassion! "Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame will leap like a deer and the tongue of the dumb sing for joy' (Is 35:5). This was the kingdom being realised in Christ. This was the kingdom taking shape before their eyes. In order to emphasise that, in the most compelling and convincing way, Jesus quoted Isaiah almost verbatim: 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, those suffering from virulent skin - diseases are cleansed, and the deaf hear.... And the good news is proclaimed to the poor' (Mt 11:5). Our Lord drew attention to his



**Combined Parish Choirs
Present**

**THE
ANNUAL PARISH CAROL SERVICE**

This Sunday, 11th December 2016 at 7.30p.m.
in Church of the Holy Child
All welcome



NEW CHURCH ORGAN
Music plays an important role in our church liturgies throughout the year.

Our parish is blessed with a number of music groups who help to raise our hearts and minds to God. Our Church Organ will need to be replaced in the near future. Fund raising for the new organ is now being launched. Any donations will be gratefully accepted. The collection at the annual Christmas Carol Service this Sunday 11th December at 7.30p.m. will be in aid of the new organ fund.



Christmas Music – Beaumont – Church of the Nativity, Montrose Park.

Tuesday 13th December at 8pm.
Admission Free.

Handel's MESSIAH

Lyric Opera presents Handel's MESSIAH by candlelight at the Pro Cathedral, Dublin on Tuesday December 20th at 7.30p.m. The masterpiece oratorio will be sung by Irish and international soloists with the Palestrina Choir accompanied by the Lyric Opera Orchestra.
Tickets available at door.

The Sacrament of Baptism



We welcome in Baptism:

Harriett Elizabeth Meehan
Harriet Kathleen Brouder
Cillian Anthony Molloy
Máire – Aoibhlinn Mulholland

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

Recently Deceased:

You are asked to remember in your Prayers: **Hilda King**
Dinny O'Brien, Fr. Colm Kenny,
Josie Kelly



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

Parish Shop

Cards for all occasions,
Christmas Greeting Cards,
Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards,
2017 Catholic Diaries,
2017 Church Art Calendars, Nativity Sets & lots more.

New this year: Parish of Larkhill/Whitehall/Santry Christmas Cards
Why not visit the book section too!

Special Collection

for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul
The Annual Christmas Appeal will take place at all Masses this weekend 10th / 11th December
It will replace the usual SHARE collection.
Please give as generously as you can.



Please Support your Parish Lotto

Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:
1st Jackpot: 1 14 23 27 2nd Jackpot: 3 10 17 30
There was no Jackpot winner.



The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were: M. Noone: S. B. Lally: M. Gill: S. Nugent: L. Conner: M. Kane: S. & C. Smith.
The winners of the five special prizes of €100 euro were: J. Murphy: B. Nolan: K. Heffernan: R. Joyce: & N. Masterson. Next Weeks Jackpots: First Jackpot €2,500
Second Jackpot €2,000 Plus 7 consolation prizes of €25

Mass Intentions for the coming week
Church of the Holy Child

Monday 12th December	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
	7.00p.m.	Joan & Michael Casey and Deceased Members of the Casey & Wade Families (R.I.P.) Gary Emmett (Anniversary)
Tuesday 13th December	9.15a.m.	Special Intention
	7.00p.m.	Deceased members of the Kavanagh Family Róisín Curran (Anniversary)
Wednesday 14th Dec.	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
	Vigil 7.00p.m.	Deceased members of the Lyons Family Bill Smith (Anniversary) Jim Smith (Birthday Remembrance)
Thursday 15th Dec.	9.15a.m.	Lily O'Connor (Anniversary)
	7.00p.m.	Garry McCarthy (Anniversary)
Friday 16th December	9.15a.m.	Agnes Tully (Birthday Remembrance)
	7.00p.m.	Tommy Garland, Frances Halpin, Joe Moran. Indersen Arora (Anniversaries)
Saturday 17th December	10.00a.m.	Deceased members of the Eccles Family (R.I.P.)
	Vigil 7.00p.m.	Gerry Curley & deceased members of the Curley & Kennedy Families (R.I.P.) Annie Gibbons (Anniversary) Elizabeth Goggins (Anniversary)
Sunday 18th December	11.15a.m.	People of the Parish
	12.30p.m.	Gerry (Anniv.) & Pauline O'Farrell (RIP) Tony Marmion (Anniversary) Catherine & Michael McLoughlin (Annivs)
	6.00p.m.	Thomas & Mary Reddy (Anniversaries) Henry Volinets & Family (R.I.P.) Special Intention

Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball

Wed. 14th December	10.00a.m.	Available for Intention
Sunday 18th Dec.	10.00a.m.	Patrick (Patsy) Caul (Anniversary) Tony Dignan (1st Anniversary) Patrick McElroy (Anniversary)