

the winter of our spirit, 'Let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.' We long for the warmth and light of God's presence to bring to life whatever good has died within us. Our lighting of the Advent wreath over the next four weeks gives expression to that longing within us.

Advent is a time when we are invited to become more spiritually alert – alert to how we have allowed what is best in us to wither, and alert to the Lord whose fuller coming into our lives can renew and remake us. The call to be alert is the call we hear in the Gospel. We know that certain forms of behaviour can work against that kind of alertness, such as excessive drinking and the misuse of drugs. We also know that other forms of behaviour can enhance the kind of alertness to ourselves and to the Lord that Jesus calls for. In particular, taking time and space for prayer in our lives will make us more spiritually alert.

Advent is a season when we might give a little more time to prayer than we would normally do. It is a prayerful, contemplative season, when we are invited to enter into a spirit of prayerful waiting, when we are called to make the simple Advent prayer an integral part of our lives, 'Come Lord Jesus.' In making this prayer our own, we enter into that spirit of Advent longing and waiting which is the essence of the season.

Jesus Our Servant – Fr. Martin Hogan

### **Clergy changes in our Group of Parishes**

Larkhill/Whitehall/Santry, Beaumont, Kilmore West  
Archbishop Diarmuid Martin has appointed Fr. Gary Darby to our grouping as and from 18th November 2016. He will have special responsibility for the Church of St. Luke, Kilmore West. We welcome him and assure him of our prayers and support as he settles into his new appointment.

Fr. Pat Littleton has ministered to the people of Kilmore for the past 15 years and is well known to us here in our Parish. Great gratitude is due to him for his tremendous dedication to parishioners and we warmly thank him for his cooperation over the years and wish him God's blessing and good health in the future.

*Fr. John Jones Adm.*

## 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](http://www.whitehall.dublindioocese.ie).

### **The Season of Advent**

**20th November 2016**

The Season of Advent will begin next Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> November. It falls in the darkest time of the year, when the days are coming towards their shortest. As the light begins to diminish towards its weakest point, we find ourselves looking forward to the days when the light begins to increase again.

Advent is very much a season which invites us to touch into our deeper longings, the yearnings for life, light, love, truth and joy. These deep yearnings are, ultimately, a longing for God. St. Augustine said that our hearts are restless until they rest in God.

We begin Advent acknowledging the winter of our own spirit, recognising that in ways we have become like withered leaves blown about by the wind. More importantly, we begin Advent in the conviction that God is constantly coming towards us as one who can change us for the better. We begin Advent, calling on God the potter to remake us, so that we can shine

forth more clearly as the work of his hands. In that sense, Advent is a hopeful season, because it is a time when we celebrate the good news that God's coming will respond to the winter of our spirit.

God comes to renew what God has already given to us rather than to give us what we have never received. Another image this time from the New Testament, expresses this well. God comes to fan into a living flame the gifts that we have been given through His Son, Jesus. What St. Paul says to the Corinthians could be said to all of us: 'I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank Him that you have been enriched in so many ways.' As we begin Advent, we recognise all the ways that God has graced us through His Son. But we also acknowledge that we have allowed these gifts to die back, to wither like leaves, and so we long for God to come and fan these gifts into living flames. Advent is a time when we cry to God out of

Date to remember!

Combined Parish Choirs  
present

**THE ANNUAL CAROL SERVICE**

Sunday, 11th December 2016  
at 7.30p.m.

in Church of the Holy Child

We welcome in Baptism:



Ruaidhrí Charles Gray  
Millie Ann#e Fitzmaurice  
Hannah Walsh  
Michalina Nela Zapotoczna  
Jacob Joseph Thorpe

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

**Christmas Fayre** Sunday 27th 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 for the Stalls 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.



**Pilgrimage to Knock - Sunday 4th December** – in honour of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Coach from Holy Child Church at 8.30a.m. Return Fare €20. Contact Marie McAllister 842 5678

**St. Joseph's Young Priests Society**  
Forty years ago a group of Parishioners formed a branch of St. Joseph's Young Priests Society in our Parish. Over the years devoted people have kept it going, praying for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious life and supporting Seminarians by prayer and financial assistance. At the moment two ladies are trying to keep the Society alive in this Parish. Please help these ladies by joining them in their work for the Society. If interested contact Rita Dempsey, Peg O'Boyle or Fr. John.

**Parish Pastoral Collection** – This important Parish collection will take place this weekend 19th/20th Nov. 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.**

**Book Club** – The next meeting of the Book Club organised by the Pastoral Council will take place on Wed. 23rd Nov. in the Parish Centre at 7.30p.m. Chapter 2 of Laudato Si Care for our Common Home will be discussed. Book is available from the Parish Shop €4.99. For more info. Contact Noreen at 086 2939935

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

Lily Gibbs May Allen

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



**Please Support your Parish Lotto**

Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:

1st Jackpot: 14 19 24 28 2nd Jackpot: 6 7 29 30 There was no Jackpot winner. The winners of the seven

prizes of €25 were: K. McKee; T. O'Brien; B. & M. Brady; P.Troy; R. Kelly; M. Hogan; P.Dunne. **Next Week's Jackpots : First Jackpot €1,750 Second Jackpot €2,000** Plus seven Consolation Prizes of €25



**1916 Exhibition in the Pro Cathedral:**

Ministry, Advocacy and Compassion which examines the role of the Catholic Church in 1916 continues from 1.30-5.30pm daily at St. Kevin's Chapel, Pro-Cathedral. Adm. Free. For group booking, contact Pro-Cathedral (01) 874 5441.

**Fundraising Night in aid of  
The Capuchin Day Centre,  
Church Street,**

in Kennedy's Lounge, Drumcondra on Saturday, November, 26th from 9.30pm Music by Brendan Shanahan Raffle - Spot Prizes - Finger Food

**Mass Intentions for the coming week**

**Church of the Holy Child**

<b>Monday 21st November</b>	9.15a.m. 7.00p.m.	Mary Kitty Kelly (Month's Mind) Alexander Ward (Month's Mind) Jack, Annie, Patrick & Vincent Morrissey (Anniversaries)
<b>Tuesday 22nd November</b>	9.15a.m. 7.00p.m.	Rhys Walker (1st Anniversary) Holy Souls, McCluskey & O'Brien Family Anne & Jack Merriman (R. I. P.)
<b>Wednesday 23rd Nov.</b>	9.15a.m. 7.00p.m.	Deceased Members of the Scripture Group Special Intention
<b>Thursday 24th Nov.</b>	9.15a.m. 7.00p.m.	Ray Mullins (Anniversary) P.J. Whyte (1st Anniversary)
<b>Friday 25th November</b>	9.15a.m. 7.00p.m.	Phyllis Walsh (Anniversary) Available for Intention
<b>Saturday 26th Nov.</b>	10.00a.m. 7.00p.m.	Available for intention Christy Moore (Month's Mind) Paul Carroll (1st Anniversary) Mary McDermott (1st Anniversary) Special Intention
<b>Sunday 27th November</b>	11.15a.m. 12.30p.m.  6.00p.m.	People of the Parish Anna Dooley (Month's Mind) Una & James Beary (R. I. P.) Johanna & Johannis Beving (R.I.P.) Mary & Chrissie Mullins (Anniversary)
<b>Wed. 23rd November</b>	10.00a.m.	<b>Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball</b> Marie Flood (Anniversary)
<b>Sunday 27th Nov.</b>	10.00a.m.	Linda Foran, Michael Howard & Jimmy O'Neill (Anniversaries)