

about it. Complaining will not do us any good. Circumstances are beyond our control but our conduct is in our own power. What makes the difference is how we respond to our particular situation.

Advent issues a spiritual wake-up call to us, and has an awakening power. Unless we are spiritually awake we are only half living. In this respect some people are little better than sleepwalkers. They have eyes but do not see, and ears but do not hear. Their minds are narrow and closed. Their hearts have become hardened. To be awake spiritually means to be open and receptive, vigilant and active.

Spirituality is about waking up. It is about understanding things, seeing things, hearing things. It is necessary to reflect, to have the will, and to be wide awake, not to while away the time in drowsiness. To be spiritually awake means to be attentive to God and to others. It means to be living in love.

We have two options: we can be a watcher or a sleeper. It is easy to be a sleeper. But sleepers waste their lives. It is harder but very much more rewarding to be a watcher. To watch means to be awake, to be alert, to be concerned, to be active, to be interested, to care. In a word, to be a watcher is to be responsible.

Jesus urges us to stay awake, to be on our guard, to be on watch. We have nothing to fear and everything to gain from answering Advent's wake-up call.

This is the first Sunday of a new liturgical year. Another year has come and gone. Time is passing. Life is short, so we need to get on with our work. We must seize the day. We shall pass through this world but once. Therefore, any good that we can do, to any human being, let us do it now; let us not defer it or neglect it; for we shall not pass this way again. *Fr. Flor McCarthy SDB*

**Prayers for the first week of Advent: God's Word:**

'I will hear what the Lord has to say a voice that speaks of peace, peace for his people and friends and those who turn to God in their hearts.'

*from Psalm 85*

Renew in us, Lord, the joy of your call. — **Come to us, Lord Emmanuel**

Send upon us your Spirit of love: may we never shut our hearts to our neighbour. — **Come to us, Lord Emmanuel!**

Give us your peace, so that we can share it with one another, and build up the human family. — **Come to 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](http://www.whitehall.dublindioocese.ie).

**A Wake Up Call**

**27th November 2016**

The liturgy this Sunday addresses a wake-up call to us: 'the time has come, you must wake up now' (Second Reading). St. Paul tells us that we must wake up now. But there is more at stake than just being awake. We could be awake and yet be only half alive, because we have no awareness, no understanding, no vision. It may take a shock or at least a jolt of some kind to wake us up.

Each day summons us to awake from sleep. Sometimes we cannot wait for the morning to come. We wake up in joyful anticipation. We feel good to be alive. We are thankful to God for the gift of a new day. It is a chance to carry on some task we have started, or to begin something we have been postponing, or to repair some damage or neglect in our lives.

Other times we are apathetic about waking up. We greet the new day without enthusiasm. Life may be monotonous or empty for us. Perhaps we are unemployed or

retired, and there is nothing to look forward to.

And most of us know or have known days, hopefully not too many, when we dread the approach of morning. We wake up fearfully, and get up reluctantly. Life is dark and burdensome for us. Perhaps we are old or sickly or alone.

How we greet each morning is very important. If we greet the day with joy and thankfulness, we will bring energy and enthusiasm to its tasks. But if we greet it with apathy or dread, we will face its tasks in a half-hearted manner, which means we are going into the day with a very severe handicap.

No one has a perfect life. All of us have to face difficulties. It is what we make of these difficulties that matters. Difficulties can be challenges. If we do not like something we should try to change it. If we cannot change it, then we should try to change the way we think

# Christmas Fayre



This 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 & Raffle. Please come and enjoy yourselves while supporting your Parish Centre.

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  
All welcome.



## Please Support your Parish Lotto

Last Tuesday's winning numbers were:  
1st Jackpot: 6 12 15 29 2nd Jackpot: 14 23 28 30 There was no  
Jackpot winner. The winners of the seven prizes of €25 were:

T. Tierney; D. Smith; B. & C. Carroll; V. Cullen; M. Barker;  
G. Comiskey; B.M.B. Tea Room. **Next Week's Jackpots: First Jackpot €2000 Second Jackpot €2,000** Plus seven Consolation Prizes of €25



**Friday 2nd December 2016 - First Friday**  
Mass Schedule: Church of the Holy Child – 9.15a.m. and 7.00p.m.

Blessed – Margaret Ball 10.00a.m.  
Confessions on Thursday after the 9.15a.m. Mass and before the 7.00p.m. Mass.

### Adult Faith Development Team

Next meeting of the above team will take place on Wednesday 30th November 2016 at 7.30p.m. in the Parish Centre.

### Ministers of the Eucharist

The Rosters for December are available on the table at reception in the Parish Centre.

### We welcome in Baptism:



Gavin Ensoy Balaora  
Eamon Fabian McGowan  
Aron Michael Reilly Dillon  
Reily Geraldine Kennedy

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

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

James Bellew



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

### Parish Radio for the Housebound

Do you have a parish radio at home but no longer in use? If so, would you be willing to give it to a parishioner who needs it? Radios can be handed into the church shop, or to the sacristy.

### Church Shop

Advent calendars, 2017 diaries and Church Art calendars now in stock. Great selection of Christmas cards.

**New this year: Parish of Larkhill/Whitehall/Santry Christmas cards.**

### 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

### Dublin Diocesan Food Appeal

Archbishop Diarmuid Martin has asked that parishioners support Crosscare Food Appeal as Christmas approaches. Food may be brought to the Church of the Holy Child and the Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball next weekend 3rd/4th December. Suggested items for donation:-pasta/rice, fruit juice, tea/coffee, soup, sugar, biscuits, tinned meat/fish, tinned veg/fruit, powdered milk, hygiene products. Further information tel. Valerie 860 3166.

### Childvision, the school for blind and multidisabled children on Gracepark Road

Childvision would like to let parishioners know that they have a new manager at their garden centre and are selling winter bedding plants and hanging baskets. They are open seven days a week until 4pm and all profits go to the charity. They will also be selling Christmas trees so please support this local and deserving charity.

### Capuchin Day Centre for Homeless People Charity

Please support  
**Margaret Wogan's Race Night**

Fri. 2nd Dec First Race – 8.30p.m.  
ALSAA Club (on the Main Road just across from Dublin Airport).

Admission: €3 includes Race Book + Raffle for Christmas Hamper.

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

Monday 28th November	9.15a.m.	Thomas McDonagh (Anniversary)
	7.00p.m.	Available for Intention
Tuesday 29th November	9.15a.m.	Treasa Joseph (Anniversary)
	7.00p.m.	Manuel Calvo Rasines (1st Anniversary)
		John O'Callaghan (Anniversary)
Wednesday 30th Nov.	9.15a.m.	Una Mason (Month's Mind)
	7.00p.m.	Available for Intention
Thursday 1st December	9.15a.m.	Available for Intention
	7.00p.m.	Tom Moonan (Anniversary)
Friday 2nd December	9.15a.m.	Altar List of the Dead
	7.00p.m.	Altar List of the Dead
Saturday 3rd December	10.00a.m.	Caroline Russell (1st Anniversary)
	Vigil 7.00p.m.	Joan McGrath (Month's Mind)
Sunday 4th December	11.15a.m.	People of the Parish
	12.30p.m.	Niall McCann (Birthday Remembrance)
		Ned Dalton (Anniversary)
	6.00p.m.	Kay O'Donnell (Anniversary)
		<u>Chapel of Blessed Margaret Ball</u>
Wed. 30th November	10.00a.m.	Michael Campelli (Anniversary)
Friday 2nd December	10.00a.m.	Altar List of the Dead
Sunday 4th December	10.00a.m.	Tom Moonan, Carole McMahan, William & Bridget Knowles (Anniversaries)