

A few words from the Parish Priest.....

On 13th May 1992, following an assassination attempt on his life that led to a time of suffering and the experience of being seriously ill in hospital, Saint Pope John Paul II launched a World Day of the Sick. This day of special prayer for those who are sick, at home or in hospital, is marked each year close to the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes on Feb 11th. It is a time to reflect on the needs of all who suffer, to pause and be prayerfully in solidarity with those who face illness and their carers. The sick can sometimes be hidden from the faith community when they are no longer mobile enough to join in the life of the parish, unable to come to Mass or other activities. But out of sight must never mean out of mind, the sick are always included in the Prayers of the Faithful at Mass and through visits with the Eucharist and the parish radio they are invited to be part of the parish. Recently I was visiting a relative, very close to the time of his death. I watched the care he received from his family and the attention of the carers who came every day. Anyone would have been moved by the effect the sick man had on all who looked after him, they excelled in tenderness as his need for care grew. Quoting from Psalm 90, "I am with you" captures the promise of God to be with those who are sick, seen in the merciful face of Jesus, who watches over us all. Our Lady of Lourdes, Pray for us.

ACCORD:

Annual collection will take place on the weekend of 16 & 17 February 2019 the diocesan agency for marriage and the family, will be made at all masses next weekend. The collection for accord will replace the usual share collection

Parish Pastoral Council next meeting takes place this Monday 11th February at 7.30pm in St Columba's Room, 49 Rathgar Road.

Collections 3rd February 2019

Offertory Collection: €1,366
Share Collection: €710

Thank you for your support for these collections, and for your contributions to the Parish Fund each month.

St Vincent de Paul Collection will be held today Sunday 10th February 2019. Your continued generosity is much appreciated

Christian Meditation takes place every Thursday morning after 10.00am Mass in St. Brigid's Room. Meditation is the quiet prayer of faith, silence, stillness and simplicity handed on to us by the Benedictine Monk, John Main O.S.B. All are welcome.

Children's Programme during Lent Many of you are familiar with the Children's Programme during the 10.30am Family Mass, where the children go into St Patrick's Hall for a short prayer/lesson/thought for the week, followed by an arts and crafts project which they can then bring home. The programme has become very popular, and with the increase in numbers, we now need help from parents in assisting with the activities. Jackie Hearne, our pastoral worker, is holding a meeting on Tuesday 12th February at 7.30pm in St Columba's Room, 49 Rathgar Road, for parents interested in setting up a plan for Lent. This will include deciding what activity to do on the six Sundays; setting up rotas for preparing the craft beforehand; and supervising and helping children on the day. We look forward to seeing you there.

The Bethany Bereavement Group meeting will be held in Rathgar Parish Centre, 52 Grosvenor Road, Rathgar on Wed 13th February at 8.00pm and at The Milltown Parish Centre on Wed 20th February at 8.00pm.

28th Divine Mercy Conference Committee wishes to invite you to its annual conference on the 23rd/24th February in the RDS, Ballsbridge. This year's theme is: '*Let Us Not Be Put to the Test*' (Mt.6:13). Full schedule available from www.dublindicoese.ie/noticeboard

Pilgrimage to Lourdes at Easter for Special Needs Children Sale of Work to raise funds on Sunday 3rd March, in St. Joseph's Parish Hall, Terenure, from 10am to 1.00pm. All Donations to: Bernadette Anderson, ph 087 6377138

Rathgar Ladies Club **Change of Venue** to Harold's Cross Pastoral Centre beside Holy Rosary Church at 8.00pm Thursday 14th February. This 'Love After Eight: Love Songs and Romantic Poetry'. Is this week's theme. All welcome.