

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

I was asked recently to lead a prayer service with grandparents in a local school. While getting a few thoughts together I recalled a conversation I had with a granddad in Lusk at a similar event. One of the children asked him what he remembered most from his First Holy Communion. He instantly mentioned two things: Firstly, he was brought into Dublin, on the bus, to have his photograph taken in the Lafayette studio, and secondly, he was given an orange all for himself! Imagine a photograph and a piece of fruit being so memorable 75 years later. And times change. During the week At a funeral this week, I noticed an elderly man during communion with all his fingernails painted in bright colours; it was a bit distracting! He was attending his 7-year-old granddaughter's funeral. During her words, the little girl's mother made special mention of the four grandparents, and she couldn't say enough about what they had meant to Lily in her short lifetime. Grandparents have a huge role to play in life, and especially in the handing-on of faith. Having lived long, and experienced many of the highs and lows of life, perhaps they have a wisdom, an insight, and trust in the love and mercy of God. When grandparents share their love, their faith and their insights, children store away these words in their own hearts and minds, and hopefully they will never forget them. So, grandparents, young and old, with one grandchild or many, take time with the little ones; talk about faith and love; sow a seed. And if like me, you don't have a grandchild of your own, be a wise older person and speak your truth to the little ones. And if you get a chance to paint your nails as a tribute to a little girl, don't be shy!

**Diocesan Survey** The diocese has just launched an online survey, as part of the work of the Sacraments Review Group set up by the Archbishop. The brief of the Review Group is to consult widely and deeply and to make recommendations on how we prepare for and celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation in the future. The hope is that as many as possible will reply to the questions and make their views part of the process.

The survey is open to all, and can be accessed on the Diocesan Website, homepage, under 'Latest News', where there are also a video message and a letter from Archbishop Diarmuid Martin. It can also be accessed via the Diocesan Facebook and Twitter.

The survey is open until 25th February.

<https://www.dublindiocese.ie/survey-on-sacraments/>

## Collections 10th February 2019

Offertory Collection: €1,420  
Share Collection: €792

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

**Accord** Annual Collection will take place today Sunday 17th February 2019, and will replace the Share collection. Accord, the Diocesan agency for marriage and the family, offers: marriage preparation courses; counselling for couples and individuals experiencing difficulties in their relationships; and a relationship and sexuality programme for schools. Your generosity is most 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.

**28<sup>th</sup> Divine Mercy Conference** Committee wishes to invite you to its annual conference on the 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> 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.dublindiocese.ie/noticeboard](http://www.dublindiocese.ie/noticeboard)

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

**Maynooth College Lecture** David Hollenback, S.J., of the Berkeley Centre for Religion and Peace and World Affairs, Georgetown University will speak on *Human Rights in Catholic School Thought: A Living Tradition and Some Urgent Challenges today*. Lecture takes place on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in the Loftus Halls, Maynooth College. Tickets at: [specialevents@spcm.ie](mailto:specialevents@spcm.ie)

**Terenure Enterprise Centre** will start Enterprise Week with an Open day on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> of March. Between 4pm and 5pm the public and other local businesses will have the chance to go through any open door in the centre and visit the resident businesses. Terenure Enterprise Centre is home for over 40 different businesses in a variety of sectors, as well as technology-oriented start ups.

**St Joseph's Young Priests' Society** monthly meeting will take place on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2019 at 10.30am in St Columba's Room, 49 Rathgar Road. New members welcome.