

A few words from the Parish Priest....

The image of the spire falling into the inferno that was Notre Dame, took up half the front page of most newspapers on Tuesday. If you look closely at that image you can see the cross that was on top of the spire had broken away, falling, and it too was consumed by fire moments later. This was happening in the week when all our churches call the faithful to come together to pray around the Cross, to accept the gift of the Eucharist, and to celebrate the Risen Lord. Easter has now begun and for 50 days we will pray together in light of the Resurrection of our Lord. His tomb is empty, the disciples meet him in the garden, in the upper room, on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. They begin to realise that his teaching about resurrection was true, that God had acted powerfully and that with the gift of the Spirit they will be a church, a community of believers that will tell this story from one generation to the next. Believers build churches: small ones in mud and wattle, big ones in brick and stone. Artists and gifted people are commissioned to help the building tell the story, in art, in glass, in wood carved and stone chiselled. These buildings become our spiritual home, where God is worshipped and the parish nourished. All our churches are special, they need support and the prayerful presence of God's holy people. Paris makes that local reality a global truth. Happy Easter to everyone and thanks for all that you do to make this church precious.

New Envelope System for Collections at Weekend Masses from June 2019

Under a new initiative from the Parish Finance Committee, we hope to start using an envelope system, on a voluntary basis, for our basket collections at Sunday Masses from 16th June 2019. **What are the benefits of such a system and how will it work?** A tax scheme exists whereby those who contribute €250 or more to a charity in a given calendar year can allow the charity claim an additional sum (equal to almost 45% of the donation) from the Revenue Commissioners. The Revenue sends this additional sum directly to the charity concerned. The Three Patrons Parish, Rathgar has the status of a charity for tax relief purposes, so any donation that is given to Three Patrons Parish is classified as a charitable donation. It is important to say that there is no cost or loss incurred by any taxpayer who is willing to be part of this scheme and that confidentiality will be assured in all aspects of this process. With this envelope system in place we can then generate **substantial extra revenue** for our Parish **at no extra cost** to either the Parish or parishioners. An information letter giving further details will be inserted into the Newsletter on Sundays 12th and 19th May.

Collections 14th April 2019

Offertory Collection: €1,447
Share Collection: €821

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

Hospitality There will be no refreshments in St Patrick's Hall after Mass today or tomorrow, but hospitality will resume next Sunday.

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.

Lough Derg St Oliver Plunkett Pilgrimage 2019 will take place on three Fridays: 31st May; 5th July; and 9th August. See poster at the back of the Church for details, or phone Miriam at: 01 4941171.

Methodist Church Rathgar Fundraising Concert on 4th May 2019 at 7pm. The concert will feature music by Paul Hindemith, Marcel Grandjany, Camille Saint-Saens, Alphonse Hasselmans as well as Hungarian and Irish folk music with some added surprises arranged and composed by Anna Szombathy, a young Hungarian music student, and even a few lever harp pieces

Divine Mercy Sunday takes place this year on 28th April at 3pm. There will be Mass, Benediction, Chaplet, Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image, and Blessing with Relic of St. Faustina. Confessions will be available from 2pm.

Rathgar Ladies Club **Change of Venue** to Harold's Cross Pastoral Centre beside Holy Rosary Church. The next event is our Theatre Matinee on Wed 24th April, and unfortunately, there will be no Film Night on Thurs 25th April.

Easter Dues envelopes are available from the tables in the entrance area for those who did not receive any in the post. Dues are for the support of the priests of the parish and the sick and retired priests of the diocese. As some of the retired priests are now being cared for in nursing homes it is really helpful if everyone could make some contribution to the Dues. Your priests, past and present are deeply grateful for your ongoing support.

EASTER LITURGIES

EASTER SUNDAY

Masses of the Resurrection
10.30, 12.00 noon & 6.15pm

EASTER WEEK

Easter Monday Mass at **11.00am**
Tuesday to Saturday Mass at 10.00am