

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

In Rome this week the Pope and leading Bishops are meeting to thrash out the Church's response, policies and accountability, arising from the abuse of minors and vulnerable adults. Here at home each parish in this Diocese is filling in an audit of how well we are implementing our Child Protection Policy. Like politics, all that happens in the church happens in a local situation. Parish communities now are very aware of our responsibilities to create a safe place for children, and we want young people to be happy and safe in the parish at all our activities. To create that environment is everyone's responsibility; every church, sacristy, hall and group who uses them are obliged to display and adhere to the parish policy. Everyone who volunteers and has interactions with children and vulnerable adults is required by this policy to have Garda Vetting, to have training in Child Protection and to have read the Policy. Every priest who comes to offer Mass or assistance must have Garda Vetting and a valid 'Celebret', the document that the Bishop or Superior grants to those who are permitted to minister in this Diocese. Thankfully in this parish many people have gone online to the Garda website and completed e-vetting, have had training, and have been taken through the policy. Others have not yet done so and now would be the ideal time to get vetted. In Rome the voices of survivors are being heard and the groups who represent them are actively engaging with the Bishops. Here too we need to be attentive with compassion and friendship to the testimony of those who have been victims. The wounds they bear, Cardinal Tagle associated with the wounds of Christ; they too have been crucified. We must learn from past mistakes, history cannot be repeated.

**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 17th February 2019

Offertory Collection: €1,193  
Accord Collection: €1,388

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

**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.

**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.

**New Youth Choir** now forming in Ballinteer Community School on Tuesdays 7.00pm -8.00pm. Open for Post-Primary boys and girls. Phone Tony at 089 2531261 or see notice at the back of the church for further details.

**Divine Mercy Devotions** will take place this First Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March at 7pm to include Mass, Benediction, Chaplet, and Blessing with Relic of St Faustina. Devotions will be followed by vigil.

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock** will take place on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2019 from 11.00am to 4.30pm. This year's pilgrimage will celebrate 140 years since the apparition in 1879. All enquiries to: [knockpilgrimage@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:knockpilgrimage@dublindiocese.ie).