

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

Since writing a week ago two events, one here in Ireland and the other in Sri Lanka have dominated the headlines and touched the hearts of people of goodwill. News of the death of Lyra McKee came as a shock on Holy Thursday night, senseless violence spilling over into murder on the streets of Derry. I had never heard of Lyra before her death and everything I've heard spoken about her since makes me regret that. She had made a serious contribution to life, both as a person and as a journalist and her death devastated so many people. Her family, her partner Sara, her colleagues and her friends couldn't say enough about her, the images of her lovely round face, infectious smile and serious intent were everywhere. The gathering of the great and the good in St Anne's Cathedral was testament to her and a sign of the horror that the return of violence brings to all on this Island. Good Friday is the day of remembering a historic peace accord and the whole truth of Easter is about building a true and lasting peace for the whole of humanity. The scale of the loss in Sri Lanka, along with the violence in Derry, reminds the peacemakers that this is a lifelong task, a project that is never completed.

**Happy Easter everyone.**

**Celebration of Confirmation** takes place next Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> of May at 12pm we would like to offer our best wishes and prayers for this Special day.

### **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 16<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> May.

## **Collection 21st April 2019**

Offertory Collection: 2365  
Share Collection: 1271

Thank you for your support for these collections, 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.

**Lough Derg** St Oliver Plunkett Pilgrimage 2019 will take place on three Fridays: 31<sup>st</sup> May; 5<sup>th</sup> July; and 9<sup>th</sup> 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 Sunday on 28<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Many thanks to all who returned Easter Dues.**

These contributions are for the support of your priests. The first call on them is for the elderly sick and retired men who have given long years of service and are now looked after in nursing homes. This care is costly and well deserved, the older men are no longer in active ministry and don't get the chance to thank you for supporting them. All priests really appreciate your kindness and generosity.

**Due to Confirmation next Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> of May 10 O'clock mass will be brought forward to 9.30am**

**FIRST FRIDAY Divine Mercy Devotions** will take place this First Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm to include Mass, Benediction, Chaplet, and Blessing with Relic of St Faustina. Devotions will be followed by vigil.

Medjugorje Conference and Day of Prayer with Sr. Briega McKenna [Saturday 31st August 2019](#) in Neptune Stadium, Cork.

Tickets €20.00 available on [Eventbrite.ie](#). Enter discount code EARLYBIRD for discount price of €15.00 available [until 31st May 2019](#).

All tickets purchased included in entry to draw for free pilgrimage to Medjugorje from Cork or Dublin. Booking fees apply

.Contact Sean O'Shaughnessy [0862959380](#)