

A few words from the Parish Priest....

There is a tree outside my bedroom window; it has stood silvery grey and bare of leaves since last autumn, with just one old nest clearly visible in its branches. This week it has begun to change: the little buds are opening; new green leaves are starting to appear; birds are working again in their nests; and the amazing cycle of nature in its Spring phase, is bringing life back to my tree, to the garden, to the fields. The cold dark winter is over, the clocks have changed, the days are longer, and Summer lies ahead. For most of us, Spring gives us a lift: our lives are renewed with the sheer beauty of blossom, and the smell of newly cut grass. With Easter coming late this year we are still in Lent while all this renewal in nature is happening. It can give us courage, and we worship the God of creation, who brings new life. If God can do this for plants and animals, for hedgerows and rivers, he will certainly work in our lives too. Our Lenten journey is not just about what we do, what we give up, but also about God helping us grow in holiness, with joy, as Easter draws closer.

Mass at 7.25am

Continuing this week, the first Mass of the morning Monday to Friday, will be at **7.25am**



Lenten Reflection in Three Patrons, Rathgar.

A Journey in song from Palm Sunday to the Resurrection: Psalms, Plain Song and Dánta Dé (Hymns of Ireland). Join vocalist Kerrie O Connor; harpist Mary Louise O Donnell; and violinist Naomi O Shea for this reflection

Next Sunday 7th April at 7pm.

See notice board for further details. All welcome.

Listen – Sing – Reflect

There are 7 Readings in the Reflection, and if you would like to be a reader, please leave your name in the Parish Office. *Thank you*

Collections 24th March 2019

Offertory Collection: €1,528
Share Collection: €821

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.

Holy Land Pilgrimage Last October the parish had a wonderful pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and for those who missed out but would like to go this year, a very similar trip, with direct flight, organised by the same people is available 13th-21st September 2019. Prices from €1695. Like last year there will be four separate parishes on the flight, each with a priest from the Dublin diocese, and local guide. Information at: www.maptravel.ie, 01 8783111, or dermot.nestor@maptravel.ie

Lent in St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral: Come along to St Kevin's Oratory – (Entrance from Cathedral) for '*Lent Wednesdays: A Springtime of Faith*' with Fr Kieran J. O'Mahony, OSA from 11.15am to 12.30pm – 3rd and 10th April. Masses will be at 10.30am and 12.45pm. All welcome.

Gianna Care provides compassionate, life-affirming and confidential care during pregnancy. If you would like further information, please see notices at back of church or call 086 0293727

Divine Mercy Devotions will take place this First Friday 5th April at 7pm to include Mass, Benediction, Chaplet, and Blessing with Relic of St Faustina. Devotions will be followed by vigil.

St Peter's Secondary School, Greenhills, Dublin 12 are holding a fundraising concert in the Church of the Holy Spirit, Greenhills on Thurs 4th April at 7.30pm. Host will be Fiona Looney and Tickets are €10.00. For further details, see notice at the back of the Church or phone 085 7074279.

St Peter Claver Annual Spring Sale will be held on Sunday 7th April in St Joseph's Hall, Terenure, from 10.30am to 2.30pm

Rathgar Active Retirement Association is a friendly and welcoming group of active retired people. We meet every Tuesday and Friday at 2.30pm for: table tennis; scrabble; cards; and indoor bowls. Outings to the theatre and other interesting venues; and twice-yearly holidays, are also on our agenda. For further information, contact Phyllis at 01 4909167.

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.