

## A Feast!!

Pope Francis declared a Sunday of the Word of God for Catholics. This year the Sunday falls on the 26th of January, just after the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The day of this new announcement was feast of Saint Jerome, who translated the Bible into Latin, and who famously said: "Not to know the Scriptures is not to know Christ". Passionate Pope Francis is passionate about Jesus Christ and passionate about the Word of God. By inviting us to read the Word of God for ourselves, he hopes to help us all encounter Christ and catch again the energy and vision of the very first believers. Inviting words... "I love my old Bible, which has accompanied me half my life. It has been with me in my times of joy and times of tears. It is my most precious treasure," said Pope Francis. "I live out of it, and I wouldn't give anything in the world for it." (Pope Francis to young people)

"The Bible is not meant to be placed on a shelf, but to be in your hands, to read often – every day, both on your own and together with others." "Why not read the Bible together as well – two, three, or four of you? In nature, in the woods, on the beach, at night in the glow of a few candles ... you will have a great experience!" Anyone struggling to keep their eyes open while praying can also take heart, as the Pope says he sometimes dozes off while saying his prayers. "But it does not matter," he said. "I'm like a son with the father, and that is what is important." Hands-on The Bible is a hands-on kind of book and the best thing to do is to open it for yourself. There is no need to start at the front of the book. Instead, you could choose to read a Gospel (perhaps Matthew) or one of Paul's letters, such as Philippians... whatever is attractive to you. It might help to take shorter passages, such as the Sunday gospels, and use those for your prayer.

More resources [www.tarsus.ie](http://www.tarsus.ie)  
[www.dublindioocese.ie](http://www.dublindioocese.ie)

## January 19<sup>th</sup> 2020

Offertory Collection €1399  
Share Collection: €1116

**Christian Meditation** takes place every Thursday morning before 10.00am Mass in the Church. 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.

**GROW Community Mental Health Movement** meets every Thursday at 6.30pm in the Carmelite (Whitefriar) Community Centre, 56 Aungier Street, Dublin 2. Why not come along and learn more about positive mental health, well being, recovery and how GROW may help you achieve this. Free of charge. All welcome Contact John 086 8033 126 . GROW Promoting Positive Mental Health.

**Sunday of the Word of God:** Pope Francis has declared a special Sunday on the 26 January to be dedicated to the Bible each year. Here in Dublin, some resources have been prepared for distribution, printing and for websites. The feast is the start of a year of increased engagement with the Word of God. On-line resources All resources prepared by Fr. Kerian O'Mahony can be found on <https://www.dublindioocese.ie/living-the-word-workshop/> and: <https://www.tarsus.ie/page-73/>

### **ALFIE LAMBE (1932 – 1959)**

The annual Mass, to celebrate the life of the Servant of God Alfie Lambe, and to pray for his Beatification will be offered in the Church of the

Miraculous Medal, Bird Avenue, Clonskeagh, 10. 30a.m. The principal Celebrant and Homilist will be The Very Rev. Paul Churchill, JCD.

Alfie, a native of Tullamore, Co. Offaly, and a former Legion of Mary Envoy to South America has been designated as "the Servant of God" in recognition of the holiness and dedication of his short life. What is needed to progress his cause is a medically approved miracle through his intercession. All are welcome.

A cup of tea will be served.

**Laudate Festival:** The Laudate Festival will be celebrated in four venues in the Archdiocese of Dublin during Catholic Schools Week. A large choir of children from schools in the diocese will take part with 500-1000 in each venue, leading in song and prayer. The festival nights are joyful and reflective gatherings celebrating the gift of faith. This is for everyone to enjoy and is free for all parents, families, friends and parishioners.

Church of St Agnes, Crumlin on Monday 27 January at 7.00 – 8.15p.m.

Our Lady of Victories Church, Ballymun Road on Tuesday 28 January at 7.00-8.15p.m.

Church of the Holy Spirit, Ballyroan on Wednesday 29 January at 7.00 – 8.15p.m.

St Pius X, Templeogue on Thursday 30 January at 7.00 – 8.15p.m.