

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Newsletter 29th January 2023

Fr John Collins 8405948
Parish Secretary: Colette Stokes - Parish Office, Seatown Road-8407277
(Mon to Fri 9.15am-12.30pm)
Sacristy: -8400547 (Mon –Fri 9.30am-9.55am and 10.30am to 10.50am)
Website: www.swords-parish.com Email:stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com
Facebook: St. Colmcille's Church, Swords & Church of the Visitation, Drynam
Mass times: Monday - Friday 10.00am, Saturday (Vigil) 6.30pm, Sunday 11.15am
Confessions:Saturday 6.00pm - 6.20pm



Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM
Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am, Irish Mass at 11.00am



Mass Intentions this Weekend

Sat 6.30pm Madge O'Hara
Mia Gogarty (1st An)
Sun 11.15am Desmond Walsh
Barney lawless



Mass intentions for next Next Week

Mon 10.00am Jimmy Devine Jnr Bill Clancy	Fri 10.00am Altar List of the Dead
Tues 10.00am Julia O'Rourke	
Wed 10.00am Derry Grehan Christie O'Gara	Sat 6.30pm Imelda McNeill
Thurs 10.00am Pat Purcell	Sun 11.15am Eileen & John Shiel

Bethany Bereavement Support Group are offering telephone support, please contact Kay on 086 2209297 from Sunday 29th January to Saturday 4th February. Details on the Parish website. You can also find information on <https://bethany.ie>

Safeguarding Information Evening.

A safeguarding information meeting for all Parish volunteers & Ministers, will take place in St Colmcille's Church on Monday 30th January at 7.00pm. This information session will include discussions on safeguarding of children and vulnerable and adults.

Swords Tidy Towns are holding a fundraising quiz night on Thursday 9th February at 7.30pm in Peacocks, Rivervalley. €10 per person, four per team

Lumen Gentium part 2 cont. from last week.

The role of the laity as equal members of the Church is woven through much of Lumen Gentium. Chapter four looks specifically at the laity. As well as sharing in the common baptismal call of all the faithful, the laity are seen to have a particular role in the Church. Rather than being lesser because of their place in the secular world, the laity are seen to have their vocation in helping to bring about the kingdom of God in the world. 'Now the laity are called in a special way to make the Church present and operative in those places and circumstances where only through them can it become the salt of the earth.' (LG 33)

The laity are to find their holiness in their ordinary married and family life, in their work and social life. All of their lives give a witness to Christ to the world. They are also called to be active in caring for creation and promoting justice and peace and the common good. Making a difference out in the world is the primary call. The laity are also seen to have spiritual and practical gifts to offer within the Church. The ordained and lay people are encouraged to work more closely together to share the responsibility of ministry and management.

This shift in the Church's thinking has led to a huge change in church life. Lay people are active in liturgical and pastoral ministries for building up the Church. They perform leadership and management functions for the Church. They are particularly involved in education in Catholic schools and catechetical work.

There has been a huge increase in interest in studying the Bible and theology, and in lay led movements. Laity are involved in issues such as social justice, peace, protection of life, and the dignity of all people. They are also involved in politics and the media. These are ways of carrying out the Church's mission in the world.

During the years since Lumen Gentium was promulgated there have been many church documents dealing with the role of the laity. These have affirmed the primary vocation of the laity is to take the light of Christ to the world, in order to sanctify the world. Marriage and family life are seen as very important, the fundamental way of sharing in the life and mission of the Church. The phrase the 'domestic Church' (LG 11) was reused in Familiaris Consortio 1981 (FC 21) and by The Pontifical Council for the Family in 2001.

Pope John Paul II calls lay people to 're-evangelise our culture' and to be involved in the world in a new way in Christifidelis Laici, 1988.

The role of the laity is one of the areas explored in Ecclesia in Oceania. This 2001 document covers the main conclusions and recommendations of the Oceania Synod in Rome in 1998.

Our parish lay leaders have a special role in the Church as servants to this community. Their work will be to help keep the liturgical and pastoral ministries of the Church functioning as we go forward to a new way of worshiping in our Church. The mission of the Church at large and of the majority of lay people continues to be important and will help to make a difference in the world.

Communion Service

A Communion Service will take place on Saturday 4th February at 10.00am in St Colmcille's Church