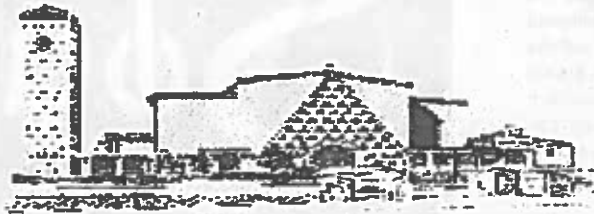


**NEXT BAPTISM
PREPARATION MEETING**

- will be at 8pm, on Tuesday, 29th August, for the celebration of Baptism on Sunday, September 3rd.



**CHURCH OF OUR LADY
MOTHER OF DIVINE GRACE**

Phone: (01) 831 3232
e-mail: info@rahenyparish.ie
Website: www.rahenyparish.ie

MASS INTENTIONS

Vigil	6.00 pm	Tom Early (Anniv.) Michael O'Sullivan (Anniv.)
Sun.	8.30 am	Special Intention
	10.00am	Kathleen Walsh (Rec.Dec.)
	11.30am	Maureen Burke (Rec.Dec.) George McDermott (Rec.Dec.) Una Sheehan (Anniv.)
Mon.	10.00am	Eileen Byrne (Anniv.)
Tues.	10.00am	Maureen Westbury (Rec.Dec.)
Wed.	10.00am	Elizabeth & John O'Leary (Anniv.)
Thur	10.00am	Aidan Robinson (Anniv.) & his daughter Jean
Fri.	10.00am	George McDermott (Rec.Dec.)

THE DEEP END: Unexpected Encounters

We might wonder why Jesus appears so dismissive of the woman, in today's Gospel, who comes and asks for His help. Does He really call the woman 'a dog'? Many explanations have been given for Jesus' words with some suggesting that it was an attempt at a first century joke, that He was just 'teasing' (He didn't really mean it!), or that it was an opportunity to test the woman's faith. The disciples also clearly want her sent away.

What happens just before this incident is important. Jesus has just left Gennesaret, where the Pharisees have continued to be extremely hostile towards Him. Jesus' mission to 'the lost sheep of the House of Israel' is not going so well. So, Jesus 'leaves that place' and goes somewhere that is unfamiliar. What happens in this unfamiliar place is certainly life-giving for the woman and for Jesus also. It might be considered a place of new beginnings as Jesus' mission is opened up to those who would have been considered 'unworthy', such as a woman, who is also a foreigner. The food rejected by the religious leaders of the time is ending up in unexpected places. It is here that the Kingdom grows.

You have to admire the woman's persistence. She is a reminder of people we encounter who have great faith and make a deep impression on us. We might ask ourselves today: when have experiences of rejection in our own lives led to new possibilities? Where are the unfamiliar places to which we must go in order to grow, to embrace new life and new experiences?
Jane Mellet (melletj@gmail.com)

Always wanted to volunteer overseas? Want to do a course on global social injustice? Learn more at the Viatores Christi (VC) - Information & Recruitment Session in Dublin on Saturday, 26th August 2017, at 11am at VC HQ, 8 New Cabra Rd., Phibsboro. Tel: 8689986 apply@viatoreschristi.com www.viatoreschristi.com
ALL WELCOME!

One year to World Meeting of Families 2018: You and your family are invited to come along to the launch of the one-year programme of preparation for *World Meeting of Families 2018*, which will take place at the Knock Shrine on Monday, 21st August 2017, the Anniversary of the Apparition of Our Lady.

This day of celebration will include the celebration of the Eucharist, workshops and faith and fun activities for all the family.

The *WMOF2018 Icon* will be presented at Mass in the Basilica at 3pm and then begin its journey around the dioceses of Ireland. Please join us in Knock that day with all your family! We look forward to welcoming families from each diocese across the country for this special celebra-

Pastoral Co-ordinator for the Office of Evangelisation and Ecumenism: The Archdiocese of Dublin is recruiting a Pastoral Co-ordinator for the Office of Evangelisation and Ecumenism. Full details available at www.dublindiocese.ie/jobvacancies/

Please pray for George McDermott, who died recently. R.I.P.

Church gate collection today is for: St. Vincent De Paul Society

Catholic Young Adults Conference 2017: The 16th Annual Young Adults Conference takes place in All Hallows College, Gracepark Road, on Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd September. The conference organised by *-Legion of Mary Project* invites young adults together to learn, share and discuss our Catholic faith. The schedule includes a host of exceptional speakers and group activities. Theme: "Know Mary, Know Jesus ... Dare to Believe!" 2 days non-residential: €50, Residential: €80. Meals included. For further information call Keith on 086-8899123 or Lucy on 087-9959803 or Email: deusetpatria@gmail.com or www.facebook.com

READINGS Next Sunday

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 22:19-23

Ps. 137

Rom 11:33-36

Matt. 16:13-20

