

**NEXT BAPTISM
PREPARATION MEETING**

- will be at 8pm, on Tuesday, 1st May, for the celebration of Baptism on Sunday, 6th May.



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

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MASS INTENTIONS

Vigil	6.00 pm	Mick Travers (Rec.Dec.) Charles Jackson (Anniv.) Charles Foran (Anniv.)
Sun.	8.30 am	Kate Byrne (Anniv.) Clare Kelly (Anniv.)
	10.00am	Michael Hoey and Susan McKenna (Anniv.) Frank McAdam (Anniv.) Una Dunne (Anniv.)
	11.30am	Tommy Norton (1st Anniv.) Patricia Norton (Anniv.) Danny Norton (Anniv.) Elizabeth Keane (Anniv.) Ronnie Burke (Anniv.) Tony Mulhall (Anniv.)
Mon.	10.00am	Gerard McGettrick (Rec. Dec.)
Tues.	10.00am	Lorraine and Edward Murphy
Wed.	10.00am	Health Intention
Thur	10.00am	Sacrament of Confirmation
Fri.	10.00am	Margaret McCafferty (Rec. Dec.)

THE DEEP END: Stay connected ...

As with all good vine growers, God cares for his crop, nurturing it, pruning it, giving it all it needs so that it can grow and reach its full potential. We are no doubt the branches. What does it mean to be a branch? Branches must be connected to the vine or they bear no fruit. Even those branches that do bear fruit need pruning so that they can grow and bear even more fruit. As we are all too well aware, productivity seems to be the measure of success in the world today, in our education system, in the workplace, in economics; we are measured by what we produce. Is Jesus really adding to the pressure by telling us that he wants to see results or else?

Perhaps we can read this passage in terms of connectivity. Think of your most intimate friendships and relationships. You don't measure their weight in terms of productivity, do you? But you do want to stay connected right? It is this closeness, this intimacy that Jesus calls us to: 'abide in me'. Are you connected or disconnected? If the connection is strong, then fruit-bearing comes naturally and people will see the Gospel in our lives and in the way we respond to the world. If we are connected, all manner of things are possible for us.

'People see the Gospel in our lives; let them read our lives.' (Pope Francis)

Jane Mellett (mellettj@gmail.com)

During May, the month of Our Lady, there will be three penitential **Fast Fridays** of bread and water: on May 4th, May 11th and May 18th - for protection for Ireland from abortion.

'Harvesting Hope'. Prayer and Meditation evening in Our Lady Mother of Divine Grace with Rev John Callanan, S.J. on Weds., 2nd May @7.30 pm in the Old Baptistry. All are welcome.

World Meeting of Families Icon coming to St. Gabriel's, Clontarf. Wed. 9th to Fri. 11th May

The Icon of the Holy Family was specially commissioned by WMOF2018, unveiled and anointed in Knock in August 2017 and has since been travelling to churches in every Diocese. The Icon will arrive at St. Gabriel's at approx. 12.30pm on Wednesday 9th and leave after the 10am Mass on Friday 11th. The Church will open early and close late. Special services and talks will be arranged during this time.

READINGS Next Sunday
6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35

Ps 97

1 Jn 4:7-10

Jn 15:9-17



WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES (WMOF) needs the help of thousands of volunteers - with roles available for everyone! No experience is required and full training will be provided. You can apply individually or as part of a group, but should be over 18 years of age. Students between the ages of 16-18 are welcome to volunteer as part of a group with an adult leader. To find out more, visit the website www.worldmeeting2018.ie OR email volunteer@worldmeeting2018.ie OR phone 01 567 6812.

R.I. P. Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of Margaret McCafferty, Teresa Church and Sean Clancy. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest forever with God.

Church gate collection this Sunday, 29th April is in aid of The Holy Rosary Sisters.