

NEXT BAPTISM PREPARATION MEETING
 - will be at 8pm, on Tuesday, 9th April, for the celebration of Baptism on Sunday, 14th April.



CHURCH OF OUR LADY
 MOTHER OF DIVINE GRACE

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MASS INTENTIONS

Vigil	6.00 pm	Jane Barron (M. Mind) John and Kathleen Forristal (Anniv.) Tom Hayes (Anniv.) Eddie McDermott (Anniv.)
Sun.	8.30 am	Padraig and Lilly O'Connor (Anniv.) Kim Robinson-Kavanagh (Anniv.)
	10.00am	Jane Barron (Rec. Dec.) Grace Hazely (Rec. Dec.)
	11.30am	Maureen Gallery (1st Anniv.) Lurline Mooney (1st Anniv.) and her husband, Lorcan (Anniv.) Carmel Macken (Anniv.)
Mon	10.00am	Parishioners' Intentions
Tues.	10.00am	Denis Stephens (Rec. Dec.)
Wed	10.00am	Tommy Byrne (Anniv.) Birthday Intentions
Thur		Sacrament of Confirmation.
Fri.	10.00am	FIRST FRIDAY Altar List of the Dead

The Deep End • The Elder Son

Sometimes we can be so familiar with a Gospel passage that we tend to switch off after the first few sentences. That's a shame, especially when the Gospel is one of the great blockbuster parables. The real challenge in today's Gospel reading is what happens after the lost son returns. The elder brother has 'worked like a slave' all those years and is understandably upset. The Father's welcome of the younger son would have been considered extremely foolish by those listening to this story. However, the Father makes it clear that his outreach to the younger brother will not change his love for the older brother. It will cost the elder brother nothing to reach out. We have nothing to lose in welcoming home the lost.

Today, we can try to place ourselves somewhere in this narrative: where do you stand? This Gospel reading shows us that God returns the lost to the community, regardless of the boundaries which we might put in place. Jesus teaches us a lesson in radical hospitality. No matter how far we wander from home, God is still a loving God. The elder brother has a choice: to come to the party or to "sulk in the corner". Luke, the excellent story-teller which he is, leaves the reader to decide the outcome.

God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love for all the creatures of this earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight. Enlighten those who possess power ... that they may love the common good, advance the weak, and care for this world in which we live. (Pope Francis, Laudato Si, 246)

Jane Mellett (e-mail:mellettj@gmail.com)

Music events during Lent

Monday 1st April - Dance in the Desert: An evening of reflection and music starting at 8pm in the Monastery of St. Alphonsus, St. Alphonsus Road, Drumcondra. Prepared by the full-time Chaplaincy Students, DCU. Music will be led by the Dublin Diocesan Music Group.

Sunday 7th April - Musical Concert - Skerries: Experience Peter's Passion musical starting at 7.30pm in St. Patrick's Church, Skerries. Performed by students and friends of Skerries Community College - "A story that began 2000 years ago of a man who loved his friends so much that he laid down his life for them..." All welcome.

Palm Sunday April 14th - J.S. Bach's St. John's Passion Concert: Come along to St. Mary's Pro Cathedral on Palm Sunday (April 14, at 8pm) to enjoy the wonderful operatic voices of the Dublin Bach Singers in concert. Tickets cost €25 and are available on www.eventbrite.ie

Lent 2019 in Mount Argus Parish (In the Upper Room)

On Wednesday, 10 April, Fr. Anthony O'Leary CP will give a scripture talk for Lent on Exploring the Gospel of the Passion at 7.30 pm. The talk will be based on the Passion in the Gospel according to John.

Lent in St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral:

Come along to St Kevin's Oratory - (Entrance from Cathedral) for Lent each Wednesday looking at "A Springtime of Faith" with Fr Kieran J. O'Mahony, OSA, from 11.15am to 12.30pm on 3rd and 10th April. Masses will be at 10.30am and 12.45pm.

READINGS Next Sunday (Fifth Sunday of Lent)

Is 43:16-21
 Ps 125
 Phil 3:8-14
 Jn 8:1-11



Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of Pauline Dolan and Rose O'Donovan who died recently. May they rest in peace.

Please remember to pray for all the candidates who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on next Thursday, 4th April - in our church.