

ST. SYLVESTER'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

Very Rev. Kevin Moore, Moderator Tel. 01-5496615

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Mass Times: Sunday: 10.00am, 11.15am, 12.30pm & 5.30pm. Weekdays: 10.00am

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Mon: 10.30am -10.00 p.m. Tues: 10.30am – 3.00pm & 7 -9pm.

Wed: 8.00am -9.45am, 10.30am – 2.00pm & 7 -9pm; First Fridays: 10.30am – 7.30pm

****See changes below for next week**

Malahide parish is clustered with the parishes of, Kinsealy, Portmarnock and Yellow Walls

MALAHIDE PARISH CENTRE -Our Parish Centre is open for refreshments 9.00am -6.00pm – Please visit our Prayer Chapel.

Information about the Centre/to book a room contact Sharon Tel: 086 0492369 or email sharon@malahideparishcentre.com

KNOWING GOD

Many of us think we know a lot
about everything.
if we're really honest, there is so little we know.

We discover more and more
about our world and our lives
with each passing day.

We will never be able to say at any stage
that we know it all.

This is especially true of God
and who we think God is or might be.
Every day is our gift from God

to use it as best we can.
Each day we can discover God
in the heartbeat of life,
at home, at work, at church,
at school, on the training pitch,
in our garden, in our local shop,
everywhere and anywhere.
We can never know everything about God
but one thing we know with absolute certainty:
God is closer to us
than we can possibly imagine.

FIRST COMMUNIONS take place next Saturday, 23rd May, 10.00 am & 12.00 noon for the pupils of St. Oliver Plunkett's School and pupils from St. Andrew's school. It is a special time for those making their First Communion, their families, the school and the parish. We ask you to keep those making their First Communion in your prayers over the coming days.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT – CHANGE OF TIMES: In preparation for the First Communions in our parish the church will be required for practices **NEXT WEEK**. To facilitate these preparations Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on Monday from 2.00 – 10.00pm and on Tuesday & Wednesday 7.00 – 9.00pm.

BAPTISMS: We welcome to the Christian Community the following: Cormac Robert Spencer, Abbey Rose Buckley, Ellen Maeve O'Neill, Kate Belle O'Brien and Olive Kate O'Brien.

WORDS OF WISDOM: 1) The person who throws dirt loses ground; 2) Every person should have a special cemetery plot in which to bury the faults of friends and loved ones; 3) Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me; 4) Few people realise that the past is unpredictable; 5) I love coming to your house. It makes me feel better about mine.

COLLECTIONS: **1st Collection** for the support of the priests of the Cluster and for sick and retired priests of the diocese – €1,310. **2nd Collection** – SHARE - €1220. Thank you for your support of the Sunday collections and your support of the parish through standing orders and the envelope collection.

ST. SYLVESTERS SENIORS SOCIAL GROUP meet in The Parish Centre **WEDNESDAYS 10.45-12.45PM** Tea/Coffee-Music & Sing-a-long, Poetry, Gentle Exercises, Chat etc. **ALL WELCOME.**

MASS INTENTIONS: Monday: **Funeral Mass** Tuesday: **Michael & May O'Neill (A)** Wednesday: **Michael & Margaret Georgina Boyle (A)** Thursday: **Gerry Kavanagh (A)**, Friday, **Annie Neill (A)**) and Saturday: **First Holy Communion.**

TROCAIRE BOXES: If you have not already returned your TROCAIRE box please do so **THIS WEEK.**

MIGRAINE ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND Leaving Cert Students who suffer from Migraine Helpline 1850.200378 / www.migraine.ie

MALAHIDE LADIES CLUB: Meeting next Wednesday 20th May Grand Hotel 8 pm. A.G.M. plus final payment for Day Trip.

LEARNING ABOUT YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH on Fridays from **7.15-9.15 p.m. at St. Sylvester's Parish Centre, Malahide.** The series consists of one hour videos of the famous "THE CATHOLICISM SERIES". It concludes next **Friday May 22nd**. There is no problem attending next week if you have not attended before then. A brief introduction to these videos is as follows: Journey around the world and deep into the Catholic Faith – for the first time, the truth, goodness, and beauty of Catholicism are illustrated on video. Journey with Fr. Robert Barron of the Chicago archdiocese to more than 50 locations throughout 16 countries (including Ireland). Be illuminated by the spiritual and artistic treasures of this global culture that claims more than one billion of the earth's people. Learn what Catholics believe and why. Discover the full meaning of the faith. "*The most important media project of the US Catholic Church*" George Weigel, biographer of St. John Paul II. All are welcome.

LOURDES VOLUNTEERS: Volunteers needed to work at the Hospitalite Notre Dame de Lourdes from the 5th to the 12th July or from the 12th to the 19th July. No previous experience required, full training. Enquiries to Liz Byrne 087 1926346 or lizbyrne@iol.ie.

JOHN MAIN MEDITATION GROUP: Meet on Thursdays at 6 pm in the Prayer Room in St. Sylvester's Church.

COMPUTERS FOR THE TERRIFIED! CLASSES FOR THE OVER 55'S: Malahide Library free 2 hour course will run once a week for 4 weeks at the Malahide Library. For more information, or book a place, phone Age Action at 01 4756989.

SENIOR HELP LINE Do you need someone to talk to? 'Senior Help Line' is a confidential listening service for older people provided by trained older people for the price of a local call anywhere in Ireland, LoCall 1850 440 444. Senior Help Line is open every day from 10.00am till 10.00pm 365 days a year.

LECTIO DIVINA If you would like to reflect and pray with the Sunday gospels in an informal setting please join our ecumenical group in the Prayer Chapel on Tuesdays 10.30 – 11.30am Contact Phil at 086.0638074

MALAHIDE BETHANY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP Meeting for the bereaved every Monday morning @ 10.30am and on the second Monday of the month at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. All Welcome.

ENCHIRIADIS TREIS CHOIR with ST GEORGE'S SINGERS BELFAST St. Anne's Church Portmarnock on Saturday 23rd May at 8pm Beethoven Mass in C Major & Benedictus from Karl Jenkin's *The Armed Man*. For tickets €15 phone 085.8498442 ench3chair@gmail.com

MEDJUGORJE YOUTH PILGRIMAGE: For Youth Festival 29th July to 5th August – a group from the cluster will travel to this event and there are still a few places left for anyone over 18. Due to fundraising cost is €499 for under 26 years and €549 for adults accompanying youths. As bookings for this trip must close shortly please contact us immediately if you are interested in joining the group. For further details phone Teresa 087 2069249 or Roisin 085 1407786.

IRISH COLLEGE OF ENGLISH: Host families are now being recruited for the Irish College of English for the peak weeks of 4th July to 25th July. Families must offer a shared or single room and can host 1 – 3 students at a time. Breakfast, packed lunch and dinner to be served each day. Provide a friendly and welcoming environment. Families will be offered excellent rates and full support during the students stay and can earn up to 1050 euro by hosting 3 students during this two week period. To enquire please email contact@iceireland.com or phone Loraine at 01 8453744. All families must be located in Malahide.

EXAM MASS FOR JUNIOR/LEAVING CERT. STUDENTS: Next Saturday 23rd May at 6.30 pm in the Church of the Sacred Heart, Seabury. Students and their families are especially invited to attend this Mass

DEATHS: We extend our sympathy to the families of Edward (Ned) Dunne and Laurence Doolan recently deceased.

IRISH CONVERSATION GROUP – Fridays at Seomra Tae – 10.30 am. Céad Míle Fáilte to all

CARE & REPAIR MALAHIDE: Are you 60+ years of age and would you like to have a small repair job done for you? Malahide Care and Repair uses a pool of trustworthy volunteers and handypersons to carry out minor repairs for older people for free. Phone 086.8653311

CASA, Caring and Sharing Association, is a charity that provides respite care to people with disability. Volunteers needed for a couple of hours a week to do light garden work in our Break House.-contact Kathleen 01-8454841/0863868105.

THE RIGHT TO VOTE: The referenda on **MARRIAGE** and **AGE FOR THE PRESIDENCY** take place next Friday, 22nd May. The right to vote is the foundation of our democracy. We should always cherish and value the 'right to Vote'. We encourage all who have a vote to exercise that right next Friday.

FAMILY FUN DAY AND MALAHIDE CLASSIC & VINTAGE MOTOR SHOW at Grand Hotel SUNDAY 17TH MAY: Fundraiser for St. Francis Hospice by Malahide Lions Club. Motoring Nostalgia, Family Fun, Magic, Bouncy Castle, Music by "Harmony" Entry Adults €5, Family €10, O.A.P.'s €3. Contact 086 6087120.

MALAHIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOL PARENTS ASSOCIATION: Plant sale in Canteen Sunday 17th 12 pm to 4 pm. Also book sale, coffee shop and garden baskets etc. parentsmcs@gmail.com.

OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT: Do you want to learn more about the possibility of Overseas Development & Mission? Viatores Christi will hold a an information and recruitment session on Saturday 23rd May at 12 pm ay Viatores Christi HQ, 8 New Cabra Road, Phibsboro Road, Dublin 7. 01 8689986.

ST. DOULAGH'S ANNUAL ECUMENICAL SERVICE OF PRAISE: Sunday 24th May in St. Doulagh's field, with Brass Band & Choir. Guest Speaker V. Rev. Kevin Moore of Malahide. Bring a folding chair. Guided tour of St. Doulagh's.

REFERENDUM ON MARRIAGE. We place in the Newsletter the March 2015 statement of the Irish Catholic Bishop's Conference on the Marriage Referendum which we published in the Parish Newsletter on 15th March and do so again this weekend.

'MARRIAGE IS IMPORTANT - REFLECT BEFORE YOU CHANGE IT'

Statement from the Irish Catholic Bishops Conference 10th March 2015

Within weeks the people of Ireland will be asked to vote in a referendum that will change the meaning of marriage in the Constitution of Ireland.

Marriage is of fundamental importance for children, mothers and fathers, and society - all of us need to reflect deeply before changing it. We ask the people of Ireland to consider very carefully the profound implications that this constitutional amendment would have on the family environment and on our understanding of parenthood. We respect the views of people who think differently to us, trusting that our sincerely-held views, grounded in faith, will also be heard and respected.

We come to this debate believing that the union of a man and a woman in marriage, open to the procreation of children, is a gift from God who created us 'male and female'. Reason also points to the truth about human sexuality that makes the relationship between a man and a woman unique. Mothers and fathers bring different, yet complementary gifts and strengths into a child's life. We cannot support an amendment to the Constitution which redefines marriage and effectively places the union of two men, or two women, on a par with the marriage relationship between a husband and wife which is open to the procreation of children.

We are concerned that, should the amendment be passed, it will become increasingly difficult to speak any longer in public about marriage as being between a man and a woman. What will we be expected to teach children in school about marriage? Will those who sincerely continue to believe that marriage is between a man and a woman be forced to act against their conscience? Can a way be found to protect the civil rights of gay people without undermining the fundamental meaning of marriage as commonly understood across cultures, faiths, and down the ages?

Already, in The Children and Family Relationships Bill, it is proposed to remove mention of mothers and fathers from a whole raft of previous legislation.

We encourage everyone to think about these issues and to vote on May 22nd. The effects of this proposed amendment will be far-reaching for this and for future generations. We say to all voters: Marriage is important - **Reflect before you change it.**

We invite people of faith to bring this decision to prayer. In the coming weeks, and particularly in May, the month of Mary, we call for prayer for Marriage and the Family.
