



ST SYLVESTER'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

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4th Sunday of Lent, Cycle B

11 March 2018

This Sunday

There is often a time in a long journey when we find the going hard. The enthusiasm with which we set out has faded, and there is still a long way to go. At this stage in our Lenten journey, we may be inclined to identify with Nicodemus of today's gospel — not daring, as a well known Pharisee, to consult Jesus openly, he came 'by night', weighed down in his heart, no doubt, by an interior darkness of confusion and embarrassment.

March 17th: St Patrick's Day

What we know about Saint Patrick's life-story comes from one of the few documents written by Patrick himself, his *Confessio*. But, we know little else of the precise details of his actual mission, for he gives but very scant detail of either time or place. To him, his work was principally a spiritual task, the gaining of souls for God, and thus he wrote in a private rather than an analistic mode. Traditionally, the dates 432 AD to 461 AD have been given for his mission in Ireland, and there is little doubt but that his feast-day, March 17, was the date of his death.

Masses on March 17th

Masses in St Sylvester's Church on St Patrick's Day are at 10:00am and 12:00 noon. The Parish Choir will sing hymns at the 12:00 Mass that reflect the spirit of our National Feast Day. Masses in other Churches: Convent on Saturday 9:00am; Yellow Walls on Friday 6:00pm & Saturday 10:30am; Portmarnock on Friday 7.30pm; Sat 9:00 & 12:00 noon; Kinsealy on Saturday 11.00.

Masses on March 18th

On Sunday, March 18th, Masses will be at the usual times in all the Churches in our grouping of Malahide, Yellow Wall, Portmarnock and Kinsealy. However, there will only be one Vigil Mass on the Saturday evening and it will be in Yellow Walls Church at 6:00pm.

Mass on March 19th

Bank Holiday Observance: On Monday, March 19th, the Cluster Mass for our Parish Grouping is at 10:00am in Yellow Walls Church. No Mass in the other Churches.

Church Notices

Parish Cluster — Weekly Mass Schedule (Winter)

	Kinsealy	Malahide	Portmarnock	Yellow Walls	The Convent
Saturday		10:00am	6:30pm	6:00pm	9:00am
Sunday	11:00am	10:00am 11:15am 12:30pm 5:30pm	10:30am 12:00pm	10:30am 12:00pm	9:00am
	Weekdays	10:00am except Thursday	10:00am	10:00am	9:30am except Friday

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	First Fridays
10:30am—10:00pm	10:30am—1:00pm 7:00pm—9:00pm	8:00am—9:45am	10:30am—4:00pm

NB: Monday & Tuesday times subject to further change.

Mass Intentions: March 11 — 11, 2018

Sun: 9:00am Padraic Sammon RIP; 10:00am St Sylvester's Tontine Society Annual Mass; 11:15am Brian Gregan (1st A); Special Remembrance: Marguerite Aston RIP; 12:30pm Aidan Cunningham & Deceased Members of the Cunningham family; 5:30pm Patrick & Breda Hogan (A). **Mon:** 7:30am Vera Hanley RIP; 10:00am Gareth McStravick RIP. **Tues:** 7:30am Bridie McMahon RIP; 10:00am Margaret O'Donovan (A). **Wed:** 7:30am Tim Harrington RIP; 10:00am Healing Mass. **Thur:** 7:30am Patrick McCormack RIP; 10:00am Special Intention. **Fri:** 7:30am For the Protection of the Unborn; 10:00am Louisa Kenny and John & Noel (A). **Sat:** 9:00am Healing Mass; 10:00am Helene McCullen (A). 12:00pm Imelda O'Farrell: Month's Mind. **Next Sun:** 9:00am Gordon Jones (A); 10:00am Ellen Harford (A); 11:15am Brian McMahon (A); Special Remembrance: Catherine McMahon (A) and Gene & Peggy O'Keeffe (A); and Thomas O'Donovan (A); 12:30pm Helene McCullen (A); 5:30pm Brian Gregan (A).

Church Collections

March 4th: 1st Collection: €1,615: to the Diocesan Common Fund for the remuneration of Priests; 2nd Collection: €1,281: to SHARE for developing parishes and diocesan administration. Thank you for your support of the Sunday collections and for your support of the Parish.

CROSSCARE Youth Services: Annual Collection

CROSSCARE Youth Services will have its next weekend and will replace the SHARE collection.

Volunteering Sunday: March 11th

In looking to the future of our Parish, the PPC will be giving out a page with the names of the different Parish Groups, along with other possible ways in which people could become involved in the Parish. This is NOT A DEFINITE COMMITMENT that you are making but an expression of a way in which you might like to consider becoming involved. We will contact you afterwards and only then does one decide. We ask your co-operation with this process during the Mass.

World Meeting of Families 2018

A short talk will be given about WMOF at Masses next Sunday, March 18th, and about how people can become involved or attend the main events. For further information, please contact the organisers of WMOF2018 via 01 567 6800 or info@worldmeeting2018.ie.

Parish Mail Distribution

We ask those who help with the distribution of the Easter Card Timetable and Dues Envelope to call to the Parish Office where the cards are now ready. Thank you for your help. We always need new people to help out. If you think you can help, we would be delighted. Contact the Parish Office or call 01 845 1244.

Lenten Ecumenical Talks: March 14th

The Talks continue next Wednesday, March 14th, here in St Sylvester's Church. The speaker will be **Philip McKinley**, a well-known advocate for those on the margins. His talk is entitled "The Welfare of Asylum Seekers in our Country". We look forward to many people attending.

Referendum on the 8th Amendment

The weekly "Choose Life 2018" Newsletter promotes the Church's position on unborn human life. The full text of the Newsletter is available at the back of the Church.

Extract from Choose Life 2018, Issue 6:

The right to life is not given by the Constitution of Ireland or by any law. Catholic teaching is expressed well by Saint Teresa of Calcutta in a 1994 letter to the US Supreme Court on Roe v Wade. She wrote: "Human rights are not a privilege conferred by Government. They are every human being's entitlement by virtue of our humanity". www.dublindiocese.ie/choose-life-2018.

Parish News & Forthcoming Events

Congratulations!

The Parish wishes to congratulate the pupils of second class in St Oliver Plunkett's School who made their First Penance (Confession) on Thursday evening. They were excellent that night and everyone was very proud of them. We hope that they will always be able to appreciate the goodness of God's love for them and the important value of forgiveness. Our congratulations to their parents and to all who helped and especially to their teachers — Ms Joyce, Ms Leahy, Mr Lynch and Ms McMahon who did great work preparing them for the Sacrament.

Calling all Mature Knitters: Parish Knitting Club: March 12th

Continuing in St Finian's Room, St Sylvester's Parish Centre on Monday, March 12th, 2:00pm to 3:30pm. If you enjoy knitting and chat over a cuppa, then this is for you!

Malahide Active Retirement: March 12th

Meeting in Malahide Library on Monday, March 12th, at 10:15am. Speaker is Eileen O'Callaghan on Forward Planning.

Exploring Your Catholic Faith & Culture: March 12th

This course consists of 10 Monday-evening sessions from 7:30 to 9:00pm in the Parish Centre. Providing contextual, exploratory and interview-based videos on our Catholic faith and culture. Each evening consists of three 25-minute videos. Week 6: The Catholic Faith / Reflection videos will be by Father Apostoli on the role of the Holy Spirit in respect of the missionary work of the Church. The Our Lady, Saints & Key People in Catholicism videos will be on the life and times of Saint Teresa of Avila, the great mystic and Doctor of the Church. The Catholic Family, Culture & Society videos will be a Q&A session with Fr Robert Spitzer, SJ, founder of the Magis Center of Reason and Faith. You are welcome to all or any session. There is no cost.

Confirmation: March 14th & 15th

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated by Very Rev Liam Ó Cúiv for the pupils of St Oliver Plunkett's School and St Andrew's School in St Sylvester's Church next Wednesday and Thursday, March 14th & 15th, at 11:30am on both days. It is a special day for those being Confirmed. They have put in a lot of work and preparation for this special occasion as they take on the Christian faith for themselves. We hope that it all goes well for them and their families. On behalf of the parents and the Parish, we thank the teachers and all who are helping to prepare the Confirmation Candidates. May the Holy Spirit always be our helper and guide throughout our lives. *There will be the normal weekday Mass at 10:00am on both Wednesday and Thursday of this coming week.*

Annual Daffodil Day Coffee Morning: March 14th

This year's Coffee Morning, in aid of The Irish Cancer Society, will be held on Wednesday, March 14th, from 10:00am to 2:00pm in Nautilus Restaurant in Malahide. So whether you pop in for a coffee or volunteer your time on the morning, your continued support will be greatly appreciated. Any queries, please contact Sheila Morris 086 888 9552.

Ballroom Dancing Lessons: March 15th

Are you following Dancing with the Stars? Interested in learning Ballroom Dancing: Waltz, Foxtrot, Jive, Cha Cha Cha, Quickstep, Tango and more? No experience required **and first lesson is free** during February/March. Gaffney Hall, Thursdays, 7:30pm to 8:30pm. All are welcome — no partner required.

RNLI Irish Coffee Morning: March 17th

The Irish Coffee Morning, in aid of the RNLI, takes place in Malahide Yacht Club from 12:30pm to 3:30pm on St Patrick's Day. All Welcome.

Malahide Blood Donation Clinic: March 20th

The Irish Blood Transfusion Service requests blood donations at its donation clinic in the O'Carolan Suite, Grand Hotel, on Tuesday March 20th, anytime from 3:00pm to 5:00pm or 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Each week, hospitals throughout the country require 3,000 units of blood to ensure that Accident & Emergency Departments, cancer patients, neo natal units and many other patients have adequate blood supplies. See www.giveblood.ie for further details.

Our Parish

Mission Statement

The mission of St Sylvester's Parish, Malahide, is to seek and proclaim a meaning for life based on the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Parish Office

St Sylvester's Parish Office is open Monday to Friday from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Tel: 01 845 1244.

Parish Centre

Great facilities available for meetings or training sessions. Contact Sharon O'Sullivan, Centre Manager, at 086 049 2369 or e-mail sharon@malahideparishcentre.com.

Holy Week

Readers for Holy Week & Easter

Ministers of the Word who are available to read at Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Ceremonies are invited to a short meeting on Wednesday next, March 14th, at 7:30pm to allocate readings. We would encourage as many Readers as possible to attend. If you would like to read but cannot attend the meeting, please contact Mary Kirk, Pastoral Worker on 087 457 0981 in advance of Wednesday next.

Holy Thursday Volunteers

The Parish Liturgy Group, which is currently planning the Easter Ceremonies, will be looking for Parishioners who would like to participate in the *Washing of Feet* Ceremony which takes place at evening Mass on Holy Thursday. Please leave your name in the Sacristy or Parish Office if you would like to be involved.

Special Notices

Photographic Exhibition

This excellent exhibition by Malahide Camera Club will continue in the Parish Centre for another week. It is well worth a view!

Parish Pilgrimages

Parish Pilgrimages are taking place to Lough Derg on May 26th, Knock on June 23rd, and Lourdes from August 7th to 12th. Contact Jo Morris on 087 616 3648.

Senior Citizens Bingo

Thursday mornings from 11:00am to 12:00 noon in St Ita's Room. Contact Gene McMahon on 01 845 0674.

Indoor Bowls

Indoor Bowls take place on Fridays in the Parish Centre, 2:00pm to 4:00pm.