

Ballybrack-Killiney and Loughlinstown Parish Grouping

Newsletter 24th / 25th March 2018

Mass Times

Saturday:

Killiney and Loughlinstown: 6pm

Sunday:

Ballybrack village 10am

Loughlinstown 11am

Ballybrack Church of Apostles 12 noon

Weekdays:

Ballybrack village: **Mon:** 9am; **Wed & Fri:** 10am

Church of Apostles: **Tues & Thurs:** 10am

Loughlinstown: **Tues, Wed, & Fri:** 9am

Pope Francis, *The Joy of Love*, 43-44

The weakening of faith and religious practice in some societies has an effect on families, leaving them more isolated amid their difficulties. The Synod Fathers noted that “one symptom of the great poverty of contemporary culture is loneliness, arising from the absence of God in a person’s life and the fragility of relationships. There is also a general feeling of powerlessness in the face of socio-cultural realities that oftentimes end up crushing families... Families often feel abandoned due to a lack of interest and attention on the part of institutions. The negative impact on the social order is clear, as seen in the demographic crisis, in the difficulty of raising children, in a hesitancy to welcome new life, in a tendency to see older persons as a burden, and in an increase of emotional problems and outbreaks of violence. The State has the responsibility to pass laws and create work to ensure the future of young people and help them realize their plan of forming a family”.

The lack of dignified or affordable housing often leads to the postponement of formal relationships. It should be kept in mind that “the family has the right to decent housing, fitting for family life and commensurate to the number of the members, in a physical environment that provides the basic services for the life of the family and the community”. Families and homes go together. This makes us see how important it is to insist on the rights of the family and not only those of individuals. The family is a good which society cannot do without, and it ought to be protected. “The Church has always held it part of her mission to promote marriage and the family and to defend them against those who attack them”, especially today, when they are given scarce attention in political agendas.

Families have the right to “to be able to count on an adequate family policy on the part of public authorities in the juridical, economic, social and fiscal domains”. At times families suffer terribly when, faced with the illness of a loved one, they lack access to adequate health care, or struggle to find dignified employment. “Economic constraints prohibit a family’s access to education, cultural activities and involvement in the life of society. In many ways, the present-day economic situation is keeping people from participating in society. Families, in particular, suffer from problems related to work, where young people have few possibilities and job offers are very selective and insecure. Workdays are long and oftentimes made more burdensome by extended periods away from home. This situation does not help family members to gather together or parents to be with their children in such a way as to nurture their relationships each day”.

Many thanks for your generosity to the **Crosscare Youth Services** collection last weekend. Given the bad weather last weekend, many parishioners may not have been able to attend Mass. Should you wish to make a donation to Crosscare they can accept donations over the phone on 836 0011 or by post to Crosscare, Clonliffe College, Drumcondra, Dublin 3.

The **Table Quiz** in aid of **Carmona Services** is on tonight, Sunday 25th March, in Killiney Castle Hotel. Your support is appreciated.

Our **Penance Service for Easter** will be on Wednesday evening, 28th March, in the Church of the Apostles at 730pm. **Fr Mike Reaume SM** will lead us and visiting priests will be available for confession.

The week ahead is Holy Week. The Ballybrack-Killiney **Easter Triduum** times are as follows: The **Mass of the Lord’s Supper** on **Holy Thursday** will be at 7.30pm in Ballybrack village church; the ceremony of **the Lord’s Passion** on **Good Friday** in the Church of the Apostles at 3pm; **Stations of the Cross** in St. Stephen’s Killiney, at 7pm; and the **Easter Vigil** on **Holy Saturday** in Ballybrack village, at 9pm. This schedule and **Easter Dues** envelopes for the Dublin Diocese are being distributed this week. We look forward to seeing you at the **Easter Ceremonies**.

Website: www.ballybrack-killiney-parish.org

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Moderator: Fr Tom Dalzell. **Co-Parish Priest:** Fr Paul Coyle

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