

Ballybrack-Killiney and Loughlinstown Parish Grouping

Newsletter 3rd / 4th February 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*, 31-32

The welfare of the family is decisive for the future of the world and that of the Church. Countless studies have been made of marriage and the family, their current problems and challenges. We do well to focus on concrete realities, since “the call and the demands of the Spirit resound in the events of history”, and through these “the Church can also be guided to a more profound understanding of the inexhaustible mystery of marriage and the family”. I will not attempt here to present all that might be said about the family today. Nonetheless, because the Synod Fathers examined the situation of families worldwide, I consider it fitting to take up some of their pastoral insights, along with concerns derived from my own experience.

“Faithful to Christ’s teaching we look to the reality of the family today in all its complexity, with both its lights and shadows... Anthropological and cultural changes in our times influence all aspects of life and call for an analytic and diversified approach”. Several decades ago, the Spanish bishops noted that families have come to enjoy greater freedom “through an equitable distribution of duties, responsibilities and tasks”; indeed, “a greater emphasis on personal communication between the spouses helps to make family life more humane”, while “neither today’s society nor that to which we are progressing allow an uncritical survival of older forms and models”. It is also evident that “the principal tendencies in anthropological-cultural changes” are leading “individuals, in personal and family life, to receive less and less support from social structures than in the past”.

Congratulations to the children from Scoil Cholmille who have their **Confirmation Enrolment Mass** this Sunday in the Church of the Apostles.

The **World Meeting of Families** is taking place in August and in our parish grouping, in Lent, we will prepare for the event with small-group discussions of a WMOF DVD in the **Cherith, Loughlinstown**, starting on Tuesday 20th February, at 7.30pm. More information next week.

To help build up our **parish families**, tea and coffee is available in all our parish pastoral centres after the weekday Masses, and on Sundays in Loughlinstown. All are welcome.

The Ballybrack parish **Finance Committee** will meet on Wednesday 7th February at 7.30pm in the Caritas Centre. Among other things on the agenda will be fundraising for repairs to St. Alphonsus & Columba church.

The 26th anniversary celebrations of the **World Day of the Sick** will take place on Sunday 11th February 2018. The **Sacrament of the Sick** will be available on that day during the 12 o’clock Mass at the Church of the Apostles. A Mass of Healing and Anointing of the Sick will also be celebrated at St Agnes’ Parish Church, Crumlin, at 3.00pm, and Archbishop Diarmuid Martin will be the main Celebrant.

Choose Life 2018 (www.chooselife2018.ie) is an online newsletter designed by the Catholic Communications Office to encourage discussion in families on the value of every human life. Issue 1 has this extract from Archbishop Eamon Martin’s pastoral message: “Brothers and sisters, I encourage you to be missionaries for the cause of life. Remember those words of Pope Francis: ‘To serve human life is to serve God’. Speak to your families, your children and grandchildren, friends and colleagues about cherishing the precious gift of life at all times from conception to natural death. Speak the truth about life, and speak it with love.”

The **gift shop** at the Church of Apostles is open after all the Masses and it has now received new stock of cards, candles and books in time for Easter.

And the phone at the **Church of the Apostles parish office** is finally working! Contact numbers for certificates and booking Masses, Baptisms etc, at the bottom of this page.

Website: www.ballybrack-killiney-parish.org

Email: parishofloughlinstown@gmail.com or ballybrack.killiney@gmail.com

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

Parish Offices: Ballybrack-Killiney: 01-2822657; Apostles: 01-2024804; Loughlinstown: 01-2824085