

PLANNING FOR THE HIGH POINT OF THE YEAR

Ever since I was in school I was involved in Holy week ceremonies. I always saw it as such an important week. Everything was done so differently to the normal Sunday Mass. I remember the excitement of the washing of feet on Holy Thursday, the solemn way that the cross was kissed on Good Friday and the gathering around the fire and the Baptism at the Easter Vigil.

Nowadays society puts so much more effort into celebrations – e.g. St. Patrick's day has changed from a miserable parade to a huge parade and a festival that goes on for days. People do like to celebrate in style and spend time getting organised and rehearsing.

If we can do it for birthdays, sports events and St. Patrick's day surely we can put extra effort into the most important week of the year – Holy Week. Sometimes we can get into a habit and just do things – but surely we can never just do Easter. We need to give it our best.

Cardinal O'Mahony in Los Angeles said "Strong liturgy makes strong Catholics and strong Catholics make strong liturgy." I think it is a very true quote. It is a chicken and egg situation. So whatever came first we have to keep working on both. In our parish there are many people involved in building up and celebrating the liturgies.

Perhaps there are many people also who would like to be more involved but because of work or family commitments you cannot make a regular commitment to read or serve etc. Well now is your chance – There is so much to do during holy week. We need so many people to lift the ceremonies please come along and participate.

To slightly change the quote of John F. Kennedy "Ask not what your parish can do for you but what can you do for your parish?" So please come along to one of the planning meetings and give a hand to celebrate the most important week of the year.
Fr. Dermot

There are two special meetings,

one to plan Holy Thursday and one to plan the Easter Vigil
Please commit to one of them.

- Monday 14th at 7.30pm to plan for Holy Thursday
- Monday 21st at 7.30 to plan for Easter Vigil

Sign up sheets for all ceremonies are available near the baptism font, please take a look and sign up.

Next Sunday we begin Holy Week

The most important week in our Church year. We will all gather outside the front door for the Blessing of Palm and the Entrance Procession. Please come a few minutes early and gather for this important start to Holy Week. Please note that the side doors will be closed at the beginning of mass.



Mass for St. Patrick's Day
Wed 16th - Vigil 7.15

Thurs 17th - 10am and 12 Noon
See the lovely St Patrick's day display at the
entrance to the church.

Parish Lotto

Has now reached €1200
Results of the draw held on
Monday 7th March 2016
Winning numbers were
3 ♦ 13 ♦ 17 ♦ 29



Baptisms

Sunday April 3rd 1.15pm
Saturday April 16th 12.15pm
Sunday May 1st 1.15pm
Saturday May 14th 12:15

Cara

Meeting as usual next Monday,
hope you all can come

Please see Posters at the entrance to the church for the Stations of the Cross and a Gospel Choir in Rathfarnham Church

Applications for Junior Infants 2016 for the Good Shepherd National School must be in before April 1st 2016.

The Good Shepherd National School's
New Spring Draw will take place on
Tuesday March 15th.

Fantastic prizes including a Hotel
Break for two plus dinner, Kindle Fire,
Mobile Phone, Dublin Zoo Family Pass
and lots more....

Tickets €2 each or 6 tickets for €10.
Please support.

Today there is a special blessing for Sue at the 10am mass as she enters her final two weeks of preparation for Initiation at the Easter Vigil. There will also be two other special occasions before the Easter Vigil, The Presentation of the Creed, and the Presentation of the Our Father, which Sue is now ready to receive and believe and pray.

Good Friday

Children are invited to take part in the
drama of the Stations at 12.00 on
Good Friday. Rehearsals will be on
Mon 21st, Wed 23rd & Friday 25th at
11am.

Permission slips for parents are
available in the church on headed paper
or contact Mary or the office.

Post ready for collection,
Please come & collect and distribute
as soon as you can. Many thanks.

PARISH OFFICE: 01 298 4642
Monday, Thursday and Friday 10 to 2pm

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

EMAIL: info@goodshepherdchurchtown.ie
www.goodshepherdchurchtown.ie

Confession and Night

“Post ready” this week

Repeat item from 2 weeks ago from School about Spring Draw

prayer in the adoration chapel each Saturday night after mass (only if space this week, otherwise another time)

Thanks for Christmas Dues – will be in next year receipts