

# PRIORY NEWSLETTER

St. Mary's Dominican Priory - Tallaght, 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the year (A), 12<sup>th</sup> NOV 2023



## ***Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.***

There is a church in Cork that has carvings of the wise and foolish bridesmaids at the entrance - the wise at one side and the foolish at the other. I'm afraid the foolish ones look much more interesting than the others! They look more individual, more alive, more human. In the Gospel story too the wise bridesmaids are far less likeable characters than the foolish! If you were really stuck, you would be more likely to get help from one of those foolish bridesmaids than from any of the wise ones. Nobody loves a little 'Miss Perfect' (unless it be her mother!). And these Miss Perfects refused help when they were asked for it. Was Jesus having a bad day when he composed this story?

We have to remember that a parable is not an allegory. An allegory is a story that has many points of reference to human experience - many punch-lines, so to speak - but a parable has only one. The development of the story itself has only one purpose in a parable: to add strength to the one point. For that reason, the refusal of the wise to help the foolish is not being held up as model behaviour for us. Jesus himself had a partiality for "the weak, the sick, the wounded, the strayed, the lost" (...) The one point of this parable of the bridesmaids is readiness. Jesus was continuously telling people to wake up and stay awake.

But to come back to those ten bridesma-

ids.... Why do the wise ones seem so boring? And the foolish ones so much more interesting? Maybe the reason is this: while our foolishness is our own, our wisdom is usually borrowed; our wisdom is all too often a pretence, an imitation, and it doesn't fit us as well as our foolishness! We care little for goodness and wisdom; in truth we are bored by them, and it shows in our face!

Can wisdom be mine, really mine? Are the best things really for me? Or can I only look on and imitate, like a football supporter wearing the colours of 'my' team? Goodness was obligatory at home and in school, and so from earliest childhood we may have seen it as 'what other people want'. Evil then became identified with what we wanted ourselves! We may never really have interiorised goodness. We may then feel that it must be the same with everyone else: that goodness is always false. That would be the final caricature of Christian education. (...)

Wisdom is to the soul what health is to the body. It is of no use unless it is yours. (...)

*Donagh O'Shea OP, [www.goodnews.ie](http://www.goodnews.ie)*

## NOTICES

### **COLLECTIONS:**

Offertory: €1448

Share: €645

All Saints: €812

Envelope: €85

### **ST. VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTION**

will be taken up after each mass this Sunday, 12th November.

### **SHARE APPEAL SUNDAY**

€16,752 was contributed from this Church to Share, the Diocesan Development Fund, last year. Archbishop Dermot Farrell has written to thank you for your response, and he asked you to continue to support Share every Sunday

throughout the year.

### **MASS IN IRISH**

today, 12th November, at 9.00 am.



**IN NOVEMBER,  
WE REMEMBER**

We continue to welcome in a particular way those children who are preparing to celebrate the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion for the first time next year. Our focus this month is on introducing them to the different ways in which our parish family remembers and prays for those who have died during the month of November. We can all try to do this during the coming weeks.

### **RECENTLY DECEASED**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Nancy Murray**, Bancroft, whose funeral was from this Church on Saturday.

### **ANNUAL MASS OF REMEMBRANCE: WED 15TH NOV AT 8.00PM**

You are all invited to our annual celebration of the Eucharist for our families, friends and neighbours who have died. At this Mass we will remember our parishioners and all whose funerals took place from St. Mary's during the past year.

### **NOVEMBER ALTAR LIST OF THE DEAD**

A novena of Masses will be offered in this Church for all on our November Altar List of the Dead during the month of November.

Envelopes and lists are available at the back of the Church.

### **JUNIOR INFANTS 2024 ENROLMENT ST. MARY'S NATIONAL SCHOOL**

Applications from those wishing to enrol their child will be accepted during the period **from 6th to 24th November**.

Please visit the school website [www.stmarystallaght.ie](http://www.stmarystallaght.ie) to complete an application form.

### **READ OUR WEBPAGE**

[www.stmarys-tallaght.ie](http://www.stmarys-tallaght.ie)  
[facebook.com/stmarystallaght](https://facebook.com/stmarystallaght)  
[twitter.com/stmarystallaght](https://twitter.com/stmarystallaght)

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