"Laity and clergy are "co-responsible" for sharing the good news"

Today we celebrate Mission Sunday. As we give thanks for the tremendous work of Irish missionaries throughout the world, it's also a good opportunity for us all to reflect on our own mission in the church. St Francis of Assisi once wrote that in preaching we should use words if necessary. There was never a time when the example of a good Christian life was more needed in order to inspire other people. We can certainly underestimate the value of our example and kindness to others. And this is before we open our mouths at all!

St Paul tells us that: "Faith comes from what is heard and what is heard comes through the word of Christ." When speaking about mission St John Bosco, who founded the Salesians, once said: "Never say 'it's not my turn' but rather 'I'm going'!" I think there may always be a good reason not to do something, not to accept a challenge. But here St John Bosco is encouraging us to be generous and courageous. We may not be talking about a radical change in our lifestyle or a move to another country but it may just be that we see a gap somewhere and realise that we can fill it. Archbishop Dermot Farrell, reminds us that one of the great blessings of Pope Francis' ministry has been a renewed appreciation of the role of laity. He said, "in our parishes today, through those involved in Parish Councils, Finance Committees, Liturgy groups, ministers of Word and Sacrament, and those in so many voluntary roles, the Holy Spirit continues to pour out gifts for the arrival of God's Kingdom." We should all reflect on our own mission and ministry as we all have one. Our new Saint John Henry Newman once said that we are led to think that we ought to be useful on a large scale and to move away from our usual "line of life". But he tells us that this should not be the case. "We need not give up our usual manner of life, in order to serve God and that "that the most humble and quietest station is acceptable to Him, if improved duly." There are many things that we can do. Newman also wrote about the vocation of Saint Matthias who was elected by the remaining eleven apostles to replace Judas. He said: "We take the place of others who have gone before, as Matthias did; filling up the ranks of soldiers, some of whom, indeed, have fought a good fight, but many of whom in every age have made void their calling. Many are called, few are chosen." Pope Francis said: "It is necessary to recognise "those lay men and women who feel called by virtue of their baptism to cooperate in the work of catechesis." As Pope Benedict XVI said, the laity and clergy are "co-responsible" for sharing the good news. It's a task we all must take on together. Our mission now is to reach out beyond our comfort zones and to connect to those who, as St Paul said, may never hear the word of God unless we bring it to them ourselves.

Deacon Gerard

October and World Mission Sunday is a time for the faithful of the world to show their appreciation towards the work of overseas missionaries. Please call Missio Ireland on (01) 497 2035 or go to www.missio.ie for further information

WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS

Annette O'Connell. Heather Walk
Mr Sands,

Saturday, 17th October – 6.30pm
Teresa Kenny,[A]; and deceased members of the Kenny & Nangle families; Peter Buckley,[A]

Sunday, 18th October - 10.30am
The Morrissey Family,[A].

12 Noon
Baby Fiadh Farrell, [2nd A];
Michael & Mairead Madigan,[A];
Greta Purcell, Clonegal,[A];
Jim Humphries, [A]; Micheal Fleming,[1st A] and deceased members of the Fleming Family.
Bernadette O'Mahony,[9th A] and her parents Molly & Fergus O'Mahony,[Rem].

COLLECTIONS

Common Fund € 1,235
Share € 850
Sincere thanks for your support

MASS ATTENDANCE SURVEY

As in previous years the Archdiocese will be taking a count in all parishes of those attending the Saturday Vigil Mass/and Sunday Masses. Having a sense of Mass attendance in parishes and partnerships of parishes is essential as the Diocese plans ahead. **The count, this year, will take place on *Saturdays/Sundays, 17th/18th and 24th/25th*.**

BIBLICAL CATECHESIS

WITH FR. DOMINIK DOMAGATA

GENESIS – The Beginning of everything - And the Beginning of Salvation

There will be talks given by Fr. Dominik one Wednesday every month from 8:00pm to 9:00pm in St Sylvester's Parish Centre, starting on 21st October 2026 and running until 19th May 2027. For further information please contact Ronan - 087 2429540.

PORTMARNOCK LIONS CLUB

would like to express our very grateful appreciation for the very generous response to our recent Church gate collection which amounted to €1,556. This money will be used to help vulnerable persons and families in Portmarnock and its environs. Thank you

THANK YOU

On behalf of Arthur Mc Cluskey Foundation, I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported our recent Golf Classic Fund Raiser on 18th September 2026 in Malahide Golf Club and our Coffee morning on 10th September in St. Annes Parish Centre . We raised an amazing €22,500 and this has been forwarded to The Prosthetic Limb Clinic in Mostar. 100 % of all our fund raising and donations go to the Poor of Bosnia + Herzegovina. Derek Farrell, Chairperson

AFTERNOON OF MERCY PRAYER

for the Holy Souls with Deacon Don Devaney, Sunday November 1st Kilbarrack Church from 2.30 to 5pm,
with light refreshments about 4pm in the Parish Centre.
Contact : What's App 0852548244.
www.paulwickham.com

CALL FOR PEACE, FAITH AND HOPE FRIDAY, 23RD OF OCTOBER -ST SYLVESTER'S CHURCH, MALAHIDE

Join us for an evening of prayer for peace in Nigeria and for Christians suffering persecution.
6.00 pm – Holy Mass with Fr John Paul Gurripuru and a Nigerian choir
7.00 pm – Rosary to Our Lady
7.15 pm – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with gentle music, followed by Benediction.
We will pray for peace, protection for Christians and an end to persecution and violence, seeking the intercession of Our Lady, Queen and Patroness of Nigeria, and St Patrick, Patron Saint of Nigeria. During Adoration, the church will be lit by candles, and petitions for Nigeria may be placed in our prayer box. We are blessed to have so many wonderful Nigerian priests serving in Ireland. Let us come together, Irish and Nigerian, in faith and prayer for peace in Nigeria. All are welcome.