

**Sunday 2nd April 2017**

**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

Cycle A Week 1 Newsletter Issue No. 979

**World Meeting of Families**

Pope Francis has personally chosen Dublin to be the host diocese for the World Meeting of Families from 21-26 August 2018. Planning for this great national and international celebration of faith is well underway. Hosting this important event requires an enormous amount of planning and funding. In this regard a second national collection will be held at all Masses this weekend. It will replace the SHARE Collection. Your support would be greatly appreciated. We take this opportunity to thank you for your support for last year's first national collection.

A representative from *Trócaire* will speak at all Masses this weekend.

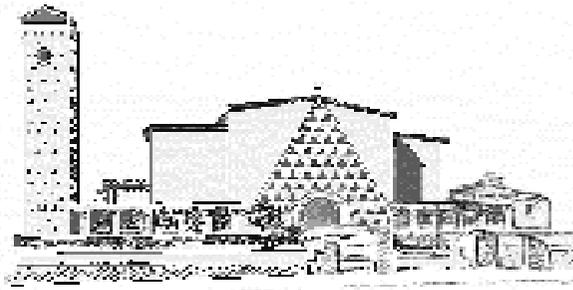
Enquiries and applications for membership of the **Pioneer Total Abstinence Association** will be taken today in the Conference Room at the side of the Church from 11:15a.m. to 12:15p.m.

The churchgate collection after all Masses next Weekend, 8th/9th April, will be the **Advocate Collection** in aid of **Sunshine House**.

**Crosscare** would like to acknowledge with thanks the generous contributions of parishioners to their recent collection. The magnificent sum of €3060 was raised. Mile buíochas.

**Order of Malta Pilgrimage to Lourdes**

The members of the Order of Malta Raheny Unit, we would like to thank parishioners most sincerely for their generous support of their recent cake sale. €755 was raised which will go towards their Pilgrimage to Lourdes in May. Many thanks to everyone involved.



**Church of Our Lady  
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**THE DEEP END: COME FORTH LAZARUS**

In today's Gospel Jesus is surrounded by a culture of death. The disciples are afraid to go back to Bethany, the Jews want to stone Jesus to death, Mary and Martha are distraught over the death of their brother Lazarus, and Lazarus himself lies bound in the darkness of the tomb. It appears as if there is no hope. Jesus weeps for his friend and for those around him.

Yet, surrounded by a culture of violence and despair, Jesus gives hope, compassion, and resurrection to those in turmoil. It is easy to say that nothing can be done when we are faced with difficult situations in our own lives. Yet Jesus says 'Lazarus, come out' and to the people he says 'Unbind him, let him go.' It is a message for all of us to come away from a culture of death; to help unbind one another and to also allow ourselves to emerge from the tomb. We are called to take away the stone. Today's Gospel is a story of liberation. Jesus gives a new insight into the power of faith over death.

'Hope means to keep living amid desperation and to keep humming in the darkness. Hope is knowing that there is love, it is trust in tomorrow, it is falling asleep and waking to work when the sun rises. In the midst of a gale at sea, it is to discover land. In the eyes of another, it is to see understanding. As long as there is hope, there will also be prayer. And God will be holding you in his loving hands.' (Henri Nouwen)

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**Mass Intentions for this week**

<b>Sat:</b>	<b>6.00p.m.</b>	Patricia Naughton (Rec. Dec'd.) Tommy Byrne (Anniv.)
<b>Sun:</b>	<b>8.30a.m.</b>	Valerie Brophy (Rec. Dec'd) John Keenan (Rec. Dec'd)
	<b>10.00a.m.</b>	Valerie Borphy (Rec. Dec'd) Eileen Fallon (Rec. Dec'd)
	<b>11.30a.m.</b>	May McSweeney (Rec. Dec'd) Noreen Stanley (1st Anniv.) Laura Brennan (Anniv.)
<b>Mon:</b>	<b>10.00a.m.</b>	Sarah & Patrick McNamee (Anniv.) Kate Cronin (Anniv.)
	<b>11.00a.m.</b>	Requiem Mass ~ Brian Healy
<b>Tues:</b>	<b>10.00a.m.</b>	Requiem Mass ~ Margaret O'Neill
<b>Wed:</b>	<b>10.00a.m.</b>	Jack & Sarah Devlin (Anniv.) Edward & Brigid Walker (Anniv.)
<b>Thurs:</b>	<b>10.00a.m.</b>	Margaret & Patrick Flanagan (Anniv.) Sarah Flanagan (R. I. P.) Charles Green (R. I. P.) John Flanagan (R. I. P.) Frances Kelly (B'day Rem.)
<b>Fri:</b>	<b>10.00a.m.</b>	ALTAR LIST OF THE DEAD

Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of **Brian Healy & Margaret O'Neill** whose funerals will take place in our parish church on Monday & Tuesday next. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and friends. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

**Next Sunday's Readings (Palm Sunday):** Is 50:4-7.  
Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24. R/v 2. Phil 2:6-11. Mt 26:14-27

All services from our Parish Church are streamed live on our website [www.rahenyparish.ie](http://www.rahenyparish.ie)...just click on the *Watch Us Live* tab. The Parish Newsletter is also online.