

NEW TO THE PARISH? If you have been coming to St Patricks for some weeks and would like to be listed as a new Parishioner please complete the proforma at the back of the Church and give it to one of the priests.

CONFIRMATION: Names are being taken for Preparation Classes for the Sacrament of Confirmation (Year 8 and above). Please give your name to Mary Taylor or Chris.

BIRTHDAYS AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES: If you would like these occasions to be celebrated in Church, please put details on the sheet and Chris will put it in our new 'Celebrations Book'

FOOD AND TOILETRIES APPEAL : Thank you to all who are helping to support the Fair-Priced Food Shop with donations of tinned goods and toiletries. Goods can be left by the table at the back of the Church and then they will be taken to the School.

SAFEGUARDING: Please click on the link for Helplines and Information on the Parish Website Homepage

GOING INTO HOSPITAL? Please let the Hospital know that you are a Catholic and would like a visit from the Chaplain. If you are a relative and would like the Catholic Hospital Chaplain to make a visit please leave the name of the person you want them to see and the Ward details if possible. When you ring the Chaplaincy 02921 843230 (new number) please leave your contact details so that they can contact you.

PIETY STALL: SALE!! Christmas stock reduced. Diaries and Calendars £1.00 . **Please take care if you wish to look in the glass cases. There is a step !**

ONLINE DONATIONS: On the Home page of the Website is a link to enable you to donate directly to St Patrick's. Many of us are not using cash as much as we once were and if this is helpful please try it. Gift Aid can be automatically added with no cost to you.

GIFT AID If you pay Income Tax, St Patrick's can collect Gift Aid with no cost to you at all. This is an extra 25p for every £1 you give. All you have to do is sign a consent form. Please consider this.

QR CODE: Many of you will have seen the poster displaying the QR Code for the Parish. This is another way you can donate to the Parish. You will need a QR Code reader on your Phone.

CHURCH COLLECTIONS: 13th /14th JANUARY £605.35

HOUSEBOUND COMMUNIONS: If you know of a parishioner wishing to receive Holy Communion or if you need help please contact Frs Valentine, Solomon or Malachy

PARISH WEBSITE Each day there is something new to read.

WEEKLY MESSAGE

On 21st January, had it been a weekday we would have celebrated the Feast of St Agnes. In Rome there is the Church of St Agnes and on this day every year two lambs are brought from Tre Fontane, the site of St Paul's martyrdom, to the Church of St Agnes. After the lambs are blessed, they are taken and presented to the Pope, then they remain in the care of the Nuns. Just before Easter, these lambs are shorn and their wool is used to make the *pallia* for newly-appointed Metropolitan Archbishops.

A Pallium is made with strips of white woollen material with six black crosses marked upon it and they are given by the Pope to Metropolitan Archbishops, like Mark O'Toole to symbolize both their obedience to the Holy Father but also a sharing in the Pope's Authority. You can find out more about the pallium on our Parish Website.

Being obedient can be very difficult for many people. We can all become rather set in our ways. We get into certain ways of doing things and it can be easy to stay with those ways and rather difficult to change from them. We develop routines and those routines keep us going. It often takes someone else to broaden our horizons a little, to open us up to areas of life that we would never otherwise have ventured into. Jesus was such a person for the two sets of brothers in today's gospel.

Peter, Andrew, James and John lived in a world that was very much defined by the Sea of Galilee. They were fishermen. The tools of their trade were their boats and their nets; the fruit of their trade was the fish that they caught and the money they received for selling on the fish. They had every reason to believe that this would always be their way of life. Their lives had a very particular rhythm and they probably intended go on living to that rhythm until they were too old or sick to work.

Then, one day Jesus entered their lives and the impact he had on them was such that they left their boats and their nets, and even their families, to follow this man and to share in his mission. 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of people', he said to them. Instead of gathering fish into their nets, they would now share in Jesus' work of gathering people to God. God's horizon is always so much wider than ours.

The call of Jesus to follow him always involves a call to allow our own limited horizons to be stretched to embrace God's vision for our lives. In all probability Archbishop Mark when he was a very young man, did not expect that one day he would be leading two Diocese in the Church. We do not know what lies ahead, but if we trust in the Lord, He will guide us and show us the way. He always has a plan.

Sometimes God closes doors because it's time to MOVE forward. He knows we won't move until our circumstances force us.
Trust the transition. God has got us !!