

St. Nicholas News

Francis Street Parish, Dublin 8. ---- 01-4530387 ---- 01-5611390



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HOPE HAS ENEMIES, ESPECIALLY FOR IMMIGRANTS - POPE FRANCIS



During his weekly general audience on Wednesday, Pope Francis spoke of “enemies of hope,” and once more expressed the importance of welcoming immigrants by announcing a global campaign by Caritas Internationalis, a Rome-based federation of Catholic charitable agencies around the world, called ‘Share the Journey.’

“Even hope, like all good things in this world, has enemies,” the pope said.

He recounted the Greek mythological tale of Pandora and her famous box, which, once opened, let all the evils of the world loose. Francis added that the last thing to escape the box was hope, “which supports life, protects it, keeps it and makes it grow.”

Hope, the pope continued, is the “the most divine thing that exists in the heart of man,” because it allows people to believe that tomorrow will be better despite the pain and disappointment of today.

“Hope is the push in the heart of those who leave their home, and sometimes their family and relatives - I am thinking of migrants - to find a better life, with more dignity for themselves and their loved ones,” the pope said, adding that hope is a two-way street when it comes to migration.

“It’s also the push in the heart of those who welcome: the desire to encounter, meet, dialogue... hope is the push to share the journey,” he said.

The new Caritas campaign, ‘Share the Journey,’ is focused on providing practical ways for Catholics to encounter migrants and refugees and assist families forced to leave their countries in search of a better life.

“I encourage you to support this praiseworthy initiative as an expression of our solidarity with our many brothers and sisters in need,” the pope said adding that such initiatives “are a sign of a Church that tries to be open, inclusive and welcoming.”

Francis extended his arms wide toward the audience and called faithful to welcome migrants and refugees. “Just like this,” the pope said, “arms wide open, ready for a sincere, affectionate, enveloping embrace, a bit like this colonnade of St. Peter’s square, which represents the Mother Church who hugs all who share in the common journey.”

The poor and migrants were at the centre of the pope’s speech, which pointed to the fundamental role they played in the story of Catholicism and the Church, starting with Joseph and Mary. The humble, the pope said, prepared the “revolution of goodness,” and while very poor they had the greatest richness of all: “The desire for change.”

“Brothers, we mustn’t be afraid to share the journey! We mustn’t be afraid to share the hope!” Francis said. He then described a young man, with no patience and who never had to work or sweat to achieve anything. “He looks like a young man, instead autumn has already fallen on his heart,” the pope said at the Sep. 27 audience.

“To have an empty soul is the worse obstacle to hope.” The pope added that sloth is one of the enemies of hope and Christians must fight it, because it leads to melancholy and indifference. “When our energies seem to wane and the battle against anguish is particularly hard, we may always call the name of Jesus,” the pope said and then recited a “prayer of hope:” “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, have mercy on me sinner!” “No one will take away our hope,” he concluded. “Let’s go forward!”

LIVING WITH LOSS

The Irish Hospice Foundation will present a free information evening for the public about bereavement on Thursday 2nd November 5.30pm - 8.00pm in the Alexander Hotel, 41-47 Fenian Street. Guest speaker is Laura Kennedy, Irish Times Journalist and author of Personal Reflection column Leave Taking. Beginning at 5.30pm with a formal introduction followed by a chance to chat to volunteers at bereavement support services about their work. For more info: Tel: 01 6793188 / email: irish.murray@hospicefoundation.ie and www.bereaved.ie

NOTICES

Money Matters

Sunday 24 September 2017

Thank you for your contributions.

1st Collection: p220

2nd Collection: p240

Share: p35

Family Offering: p243



Remembered at Mass

Sat 6pm: Christy (Git) Farrell, Joe Farrell, Peggy Douglas and deceased members of the Family, Jimmy Walsh.

Sun 11.30am:

Fr. James Ethrington



A Lifeline for Married Couples

The Retrouvaille programme can help marriages at all stages. Next programme starts 6th - 8th October 2017. For information contact Tony & Anne (01) 495 3536, Mike & Anne (01) 450 0922, text or call 086 413 5440, or email info@retrouvaille.ie or visit www.retrouvaille.ie



Faith fest

Are you looking for a place where you can meet other young people to explore faith and life in a fun and exciting way? Faithfest has music, prayer, workshops and chat ‘n’ chill - for teenagers from parishes who wish to meet other teens in Dublin. Come along to Holy Cross College, Diocesan Centre, Dublin 3 on Friday 6 October, 6.00-9.30pm. For more information e-mail siobhan.tighe@dublindiocese.ie All welcome.



October Taster of Taize

This coming October, Brother Jean Marie of the Taizé community in

Why not join the choir for Sunday 11.30am Mass. You don't have to be Andrea Bocelli!

France will visit Ireland for ten days. As the contact brother to Irish pilgrims he is well known to many of our young people who have travelled there in recent years. Those familiar with CD's of the chants from that ecumenical monastery will also know Br Jean Marie's lovely tenor voice. He is the author of many of the new chants emerging from the Taizé community's beautiful liturgy and prayer. Here in Dublin he will be present for a chanted Taizé Evening Prayer around the Cross in St Paul's Church, Arran Quay, Dublin 7 on Friday 13th October at 7.30pm and people of all Christian denominations are welcome. Those who took part in his previous visits know it will be a wonderful prayer moment. Parking in the Smithfield area is free after 7.00pm and the Smithfield LUAS stop is nearby. All welcome.



Anam Cara

The organisation that supports bereaved parents is holding a Bereavement Information Evening on Monday 9th October at 7:30pm in the Maldron Hotel, Whitestown Way, Tallaght, Dublin 24. This is a free event and open to all bereaved parents. Please RSVP to info@anamcara.ie before Friday 6th October or call the Information Line on 085 2888 888.



26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

A reading from the Book of Ezekiel 18:25-28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: You object, "What the Lord does is unjust". Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

Psalm 24

Remember your mercy, Lord

Lord, make me know your ways.
 Lord, teach me your paths.
 Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
 for you are God my saviour. R/

Remember your mercy, Lord,
 and the love you have shown from of old.
 Do not remember the sins of my youth.
 In your love remember me,
 because of your goodness, O Lord. /R

The Lord is good and upright.
 He shows the path to those who stray,
 he guides the humble in the right path;
 he teaches his way to the poor. /R

A reading from the letter to the Philippians 2:1-11

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, So that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other s people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation: Jn 14: 23

Alleluia, alleluia!
 If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
 and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.
 Alleluia!

Gospel

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: "What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today". He answered, "I will not go", but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir", but did not go.

Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The Master once told the story of a priceless bowl that fetched a fortune at a public auction. It had been used by a tramp who ended his days in poverty, quite unaware of the value of the bowl with which he begged for pennies. When a disciple asked the Master what the bowl stood for, the Master said, "Your self!" Asked to elaborate, he said, "All your attention is focused on the penny knowledge you collect from books and teachers. You would do better to pay attention to the bowl in which you hold it.

From "One Minute Wisdom" by Anthony de Mello