

# St. Nicholas News

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



09 September 2018

## THE JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE (JRS) ANNUAL REPORT 2017



The Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Annual Report 2017 provides details of the impact made on the lives of nearly 640,000 people last year through our programmes serving the needs of refugees and other forcibly displaced people in 52 countries across the world. In 2017, JRS reaffirmed our commitment to long-term durable solutions for refugees through our education programmes. Over 184,400 refugees were enrolled in formal and informal JRS education courses - 30,000 more than in 2016. We are well on our way to achieving the goals of the Global Education Initiative (GEI), an ambitious plan to increase the total number of people served in JRS education programmes from 150,000 in 2015 to 250,000 by 2020. Two years into the five-year campaign, JRS has already enrolled an additional 54,987 refugees in our education courses, thereby reaching 55 per cent of the GEI target. We have also designed a new teacher training programme, and recruited a global team of

Education in Emergencies specialists. Since the start of the campaign, we have raised 39.8 per cent of the GEI fundraising target of USD 35 million.

Psychosocial support programmes were another highlight of our 2017 response to the needs of refugees. These programmes promote the personal healing of individuals and strengthen their resilience; they also contribute to the cohesion of the entire community. In 2017, JRS provided mental health and psychosocial support, and religious pastoral care, to 164,383 people.

The suffering people of Syria continued to be a major focus of our concern in 2017, both in that war-ravaged country itself, as well as in neighbouring countries where Syrian refugees struggle to survive in exile. In Syria itself, JRS has been assisting internally displaced people in and around Damascus, Homs, and Aleppo since the start of the conflict seven years ago. In 2017 we served 2.5 million meals in Syria, provided health services to 22,400 people, and distributed food baskets and non-food items, to more than 48,000 people.

Our 2017 Annual Report also tells the stories of refugees such as Sa'ad, a young Syrian boy who has endured hardships that no child should have to bear, and yet has been able to find hope and love through the dedicated accompaniment of JRS staff. Half of the record 68.5 million forcibly displaced people in the world last year were children such as Sa'ad. Inspired by the leadership of Pope Francis to act with courage and stand with refugees, JRS continues to seek new and better ways to serve the world's most vulnerable displaced people. "JRS's commitment to journey with refugees does not falter. Whether the need is pastoral accompaniment or preschool, teacher training or peace building, JRS seeks to be present," says JRS International Director Fr Thomas H Smolich SJ. Report here <http://en.jrs.net>

## LGBT CATHOLICS & THEIR FAMILIES: BUILDING A BRIDGE, CLONARD



You are invited to join Pádraig Ó Tuama, Leader of the Corrymeela Community in Clonard Monastery to discuss how we and our LGBT Community can live together with respect, compassion and sensitivity. Using Fr James Martin SJ's book Building a Bridge, participants will have an open conversation. Dates as follows: Sunday 9 September, Sunday 23 September, Sunday 7 October and Sunday 21 October. The venue is the Conference Room, Clonard Monastery 7.30 to 8.30pm (with refreshments from 6.45). To sign up: email [reception@clonard.com](mailto:reception@clonard.com) or call 028 9044 5950 or in person at Clonard Reception. Address: Clonard Monastery, Clonard Gardens, Belfast, BT13 2RL N. Ireland.

## NOTICES

### Money Matters

Sunday 02 September 2018

Thank you for your contributions.

1st Collection: p230  
2nd Collection: p310  
Share: p45  
Family Offering: p535



### Remembered at Mass

Sat 6pm: Yvonne Alford (Month's Mind), Georgina Alford Birthday Remembrance, Frederick Alford, David Clarkin (Month's Mind), Margaret Graham 30th Ann), Christy, Teresa & Richard Dowling, Billy Graham & Dec Members, John Kelly, Annie O'Connor 95th Birthday Remembrance

Sun 11.30am: Pauline Gray (Month's Mind)



### New Monthly Raffle

Starting on October 1st, we will have a new monthly raffle. The tickets are just p10. The prizes are as follows:

1st Prize €400, 2nd Prize €150,  
3rd €10, 4th €10, 5th €10, 6th  
€10, 7th €10,

There will only be 100 tickets—so it's cheaper with fewer tickets, more prizes and a much better chance of winning.



### St. Vincent de Paul

The monthly collection for the local St. Vincent de Paul, takes place this weekend after mass. Please be as generous as you can manage.



### Organ Recitals at Pro-Cathedral

Lunchtime organ recitals will be held on Wednesdays for the month

of September at St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral, Dublin from 1.15pm - 2.00pm. Admission is €5 (at the door). 12th Sept: John O'Keeffe (St. Patrick's College, Maynooth). 19th Sept: Raymond O'Donnell (Galway Cathedral, with members of the Schola Gregoriana, Maynooth). 26th Sept: Gerard Gillen (Titular Organist).



### Community Clean Up Day

Come out and join your neighbours and local business for a Liberties Cleanup Day as part of World Cleanup Day. Saturday 15th September 2018 at 12pm. Assemble at The Little Flower, Meath Street. Gloves, bags and equipment will be provided but bring brush or hoe if you can! Organised by SICODA.



### Bereavement Information Evening

Anam Cara South Dublin, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Bereavement Information Evening on Monday 10th September at 7:30pm in the Maldron Hotel, Tallaght, Dublin 24. This is a free event and open to all bereaved parents. As Anam Cara will need to confirm numbers for teas, coffees, etc., please RSVP to [info@anamcara.ie](mailto:info@anamcara.ie) before Friday 7th September or call the Information Line on 085 2888 888.



### Christmas Reconciliation Service

I know, you don't want to hear the word "Christmas" mentioned just yet. But as the date is sorted, here goes; main Christmas Reconciliation Service here in Saint Nicholas of Myra at 7.30pm on Tuesday 18th December. There will be a Service on Monday 17th December at 3pm in the afternoon for those who don't wish to come out at night.

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## 23rd SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

### A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.

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

### Psalm 145

**My soul give praise to the Lord.**

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. R/

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord who loves the just, the Lord, who protects the stranger. R/

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan, but thwarts

the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. R/

### A reading from the letter of James

My brothers and sisters, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a person comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor person comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed person, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats;' then you tell the poor person, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that? Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him

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

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia  
Jesus proclaimed the Good News of the kingdom and cured all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people. Alleluia

### A reading from the Gospel of Mark

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said, 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

**This is the Gospel of the Lord: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**



### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Those who work for change suffer resistance.  
So make us strong.  
Those who do new things sometimes feel afraid.  
So make us brave.  
Those who challenge the world as it is arouse anger.  
So grants us inner peace.  
Those who love joyfully are envied.  
So make us generous.  
Those who try to love encounter hate.  
So make us steadfast in you.

*(From 'Women Included')*

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**Church opens: 9.30am - 12noon, Mon, Tues, Weds, Friday, Sat(5pm-7pm), Thurs: 9.30am - 11am, Sun: 10am - 12.15pm**

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