



## Parish of Saint Columbanus, Loughlinstown

### Excerpts from Pope Francis catechesis on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2024

Today we will talk about avarice/greed, that form of attachment to money that keeps man from generosity.

It is not a sin that regards only people with large assets, but rather a transversal vice, which often has nothing to do with the bank balance. It is a sickness of the heart, not of the wallet.

The desert fathers' analysis of this evil showed how avarice could even take hold of monks, who, after renouncing enormous inheritances, in the solitude of their cell clung to objects of little value: they would not lend them, they did not share them and were even less willing to give them away.

The story is told of a thief who surprises the monk in his sleep and steals the few possessions he kept in his cell. When he wakes up, not at all disturbed by what has happened, the monk sets out on the thief's trail and, once he finds him, instead of claiming the stolen goods, he hands over the few things that remain, saying: "You forgot to take these!"

We, brothers and sisters, may be the masters of the goods we possess, but often the opposite happens: they eventually take possession of us. Some rich men are no longer free, they no longer even have the time to rest, they have to look over their shoulder because the accumulation of goods also demands their safekeeping. They are always anxious, because a patrimony is built with a great deal of sweat, but can disappear in a moment. They forget the Gospel preaching, which does not claim that riches in themselves are a sin, but they are certainly a liability.

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### Prayer to St. Brigid

*Brigid, you were a woman of peace.*

*You brought harmony where there was conflict.*

*You brought light to the darkness.*

*You brought hope to the downcast.*

*May the mantle of your peace cover those who are troubled and anxious.*

*And may peace be firmly rooted in our hearts and in our world.*

*Inspire us to act justly and to reverence all God has made.*

*Brigid, you were a voice for the wounded and the weary.*

*Strengthen what is weak within us.*

*Calm us into a quietness that heals and listens.*

*May we grow each day into greater wholeness in mind, body and spirit.*

*Amen.*

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### Church Repairs Fundraiser Raffle

The raffle will take place on Easter Sunday after Mass.

**First Prize; Hotel Break for 2 Second Prize: Meal for 4**

**Third Prize: €100 Plus plenty of spot prizes to be won**

Raffle tickets for sale after Mass or from the parish office. **€5 per ticket.**

*Thank you for your continued support of our Church*

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### Lourdes Grotto Inchicore

#### Our Lady of Lourdes Mass and Torchlight Procession - Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February

If you would like to attend the Mass and torchlight procession

a bus will be leaving the Church of Apostles (Tesco car park) at **5.30pm - Cost: €10**

*(To book your place, Please contact Kaye Godfrey 01-2820476)*

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### Gatherfest

**Gatherfest** is a community event for people of all ages and backgrounds to come together over 3 days, **1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> February**, in **Coolevin scouts hall** and explore local culture, history and creativity in the area.

This 3 day community event will showcase some of the arts and culture in the area, share what we have been doing so far with the creative places research, and explore some more ideas about the creative needs, hopes and wishes in the area.

What we would love is if you could have a think about photographs or items that you feel capture something about Ballybrack or Loughlinstown - We would love to make a temporary photo wall full of different perspectives and experiences of the area.

All photographs or items are welcome, from older to more recent, and we will facilitate the printing of photographs if needed. You will get it back of course - we won't keep it.

If your photographs are digital and you would like them printed, please email them to our artist Ciara at: [spacesxconnections@gmail.com](mailto:spacesxconnections@gmail.com). *See poster on parish noticeboard for the schedule*

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