

St Mary's Parish, Drogheda

Sunday 7th February 2021
Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Fr Phil Gaffney PP
Fr Ciprian Solomon CC
St Mary's Presbytery
Dublin Road ☎ 9834958

St Mary's Parish Centre
24 James Street
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www.stmarysdrogheda.ie

Hospital Visitation: is not possible at the moment, however please continue to inform Fr Phil or Fr Ciprian if a relative is ill or in hospital.



Dermot Farrell - New Archbishop of Dublin:

The new Archbishop of Dublin, Dr Dermot Farrell, has said the Church must "embrace the future." Speaking at his installation ceremony at St Mary's Pro Cathedral in Dublin, Dr Farrell warned against defending the status quo. "Rather than being focused short-sightedly on the glory of the past, and the magnificent institutions which our sisters and brothers before us built – we need to accept the responsibility of mission as we experience it now," he said.

Referencing the writer LP Hartley, Dublin's new church leader said: "The future is a different country, we must do things differently there". He added: "This is not to forget the past, and especially not the painful past where so many were hurt." The 66-year-old former bishop of Ossory said the Church must "never again" put its needs before the needs of "the little ones"

Among the many challenges awaiting Archbishop Farrell in Dublin are an ageing priesthood, where half the capital's clergy are aged 70 or older, as well as ageing and diminishing congregations, notably in the inner city,

where levels of Mass attendances are some of the lowest in the country. The Covid-19 pandemic has also seen the diocese's finances plummet.

In his address, Archbishop Farrell said he was "happy to embrace this new mission" and began it "with hope in my heart". "This time – both in the crisis that is the global pandemic, and the many crises confronting the Church – with all its frustration and fear, is rich with possibilities," he said.

Archbishop Farrell said the Church must play its part in protecting vulnerable members of communities despite the huge financial cost of keeping churches shut. Last month over 1,000 people died; that is a very serious situation. All of us are asked to play a responsible part in terms of protecting the vulnerable members of our communities.

"Inevitably it is impacting on people's mental health, emotional health, and it is impacting on their finances. It is impacting on the finances of the Church. But gatherings are where the disease spreads. The Church has to play its part and act responsibly." He told lay people on Tuesday that their active participation in the Church was "essential" as they constitute the vast majority of "the people of God".

Acknowledging he had "no pre-packaged plan" to address the Church's challenges, he underlined that parishes would be key in the future. The former president of Maynooth has spoken in the past about the need for a new vision of parish and acknowledged that there are tough decisions to be made about the current number of parishes and churches in Dublin.

On behalf of the parishioners of St. Mary's Drogheda I would like to congratulate Dr. Dermot Farrell and wish him every good wish and blessing in his new role of Archbishop of Dublin.

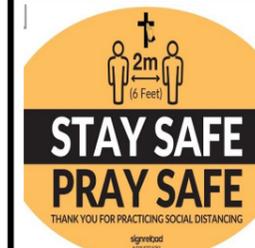
Mass Intentions for week beginning Sunday 7th February, 2021

Sunday 7th Feb.	10:00am	Phyllis Monk <i>Month's Memory</i> Gerry Scullion <i>Month's Memory</i> ; Fr. Jim Dunleavy <i>First Anniversary</i> ; Theresa & Ann Gibbons; John & Mary Murray, John Murray Junior & deceased members of the Murray & Stafford families, Kevin Rogers & Willie Ryan; Leo Mc Donnell; Thao & Quan Tang; Tony Wade; Patrick & Elsie Collier; Martina Fitzpatrick & Frank Wolfe; Michael, Mary-Kate & Mena Rourke
Monday	10:00am	Willie Murray
Tuesday	10:00am	Holy Souls
Wednesday	10:00am	Brigid Mc Stravick
Thursday	10:00am	Healing Mass - World Day of the Sick; Joe McGinnity Senior; Bridie Quinn
Friday	10:00am	Andy Quirot
Saturday	10:00am	Mary O'Reilly
Sunday 14th Feb.	10:00am	Matt Nolan Senior; Eamonn Mc Donagh; Nuala Kavanagh; Michael, Mary-Kate & Mena Rourke; Dodie O' Brien

St Mary's Schedule (On webcam only.)

We want to say a very special thank you to so many of our parishioners who volunteered to help out in so many ways in the past few months. We have a wonderful team of parishioners who have helped to keep our church safe for everyone.

Mass will be celebrated privately each day at 10:00am and will be available via webcam. You can join us by going online to our website live stream. The Church will be open each day from 11.00am to 4.00pm so that people can call in to say a prayer or light a candle. Copies of the parish bulletin will be available in the Church.



World Day of the Sick



In his message for the 29th World Day of the Sick on 11th February, Pope Francis urges a path of healing grounded in a trusting and interpersonal relationship between the sick and those who care for them. Pope Francis says that the annual day "is an opportunity to devote special attention to the sick and to those who provide them with assistance and care both in healthcare institutions and within families and communities." He expresses his spiritual closeness and the Church's loving concern for those suffering the coronavirus pandemic, especially the poor and the marginalized.

On Thursday 11th February, we will have a special Mass to mark "World Day of the Sick". The Mass will be offered for the sick, the frontline workers and for all who died since the beginning of the pandemic. We invite you to join us via our webcam at 10:00am.

Pro-Life Prayer Vigil

On Saturday, 13th February, 2021, the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal will be leading a time of prayer, with Eucharistic Adoration, for the protection of life. It will be *Livestreamed* on the Facebook page of Holy Family Parish (Drogheda), beginning at 9:00am and concluding with Mass. This is a monthly event and we hope to meet in person in the coming months. Let us unite in prayer for a renewal of the culture of life in our society! If you have any questions please contact Sr. Veronica, CFR at 041-9830441.

A prayer for those who died...



Patrick (Pat) O'Brien, Marian Park
David Mc Cormack, Rosevale
Veronica Gow (nee Lawlor), Beabec & Julianstown,
Josie Mc Mahon (née Mulligan), Drogheda and Blackrock, Co. Dublin

Oliver Rafferty, Ballsgrove
Andy Quirot, Jersey, Channel Isles, husband of Kate Goggin, formerly Stameen; **Arthur Hughes**, Duleek Street
Mary Carley, Milltownpass, Co. Westmeath mother of Fr. Martin Carley, Rahan
Dolores Meegan (née Keelaghan), Dublin Road
Patrick J. Costello, Skerries & formerly of Legavoureen Park
May they rest in peace

Supporting Our Parish:

Parishioners can leave their envelopes or a donation to the parish in the boxes at the back of the church or you can now use the **donate button** facility on our website. Any contribution will be greatly appreciated.

Many thanks. Keep safe and well.