

St Mary's Parish, Drogheda

Sunday 18th August, 2019
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

The Lord's Day 9:00am, 10:30am, 12noon & 7:00pm
Monday ~ Friday 8:00am
Saturday 10:00am
Holydays 8:00am and 7:30pm

Baptisms are celebrated on the first Saturday and on the second and fourth Sunday of the month at 1:00pm. Please contact the parish office or the sacristy for a booking form.
Four weeks notice required.

Confessions are available on Saturdays after 10:00am Mass, and every Sunday after 7:00pm Mass.

Marriages are facilitated by the Parish Centre: 9834587.

St Mary's Parish Centre
24 James Street
☎ 9834587 ☎ 9838347

www.stmarysdrogheda.ie
stmarysdrogheda@gmail.com



20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's Gospel, we come across some of the most difficult sayings of Jesus: "I have come to bring *fire* to the earth". What fire is Jesus talking about? Or "do you think that I have come to bring peace? No, ... but rather division". These sayings of Jesus are considered difficult and hard to understand. How can the peacemaker and the Prince of Peace be the source of fire and division, we may ask? But as difficult and paradoxical this passage of today's Gospel may sound to the listening ear, it drives home the whole point about the entire mission of Jesus. Earlier in Luke 2, Simeon, that devout and pious man, had taken the baby Jesus in his arms and prophesized: "My eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all nations, the light to enlighten the Gentiles and give glory to Israel, your people". Simeon added: "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed..."

True to this prophecy of Simeon, the person of Jesus and his ministry had drawn many followers who believed in the truth of his Gospel and his offer of salvation. But there was also the camp that couldn't look the truth in the face; they hated and rejected him and his offer of eternal life. So, Jesus' presence had generated both love and hate; yet, this tension would not, in any way, stop him from accomplishing his life-giving mission. He had come to confront evil and the forces of darkness and death in order to lift broken humanity from its state of corruption and depravity to the presence of God. The fire that Christ kindles on earth is the uncompromising truth of his word that does not conform to the standards of the world. His fire warms that which is cold, purifies that which is impure and consumes that which is evil. This fire touches every aspect of the life of the disciple, and even, the very nerve of their most intimate of relationships. The truth burns, and the one who is uncompromising with it stands with Christ and shares in his suffering. This is a difficult task but, may God's people never grow cold to proclaim and live it, in and out of season!

Mass Intentions for week beginning Sunday 18th August 2019

Sunday Aug 18th	9:00am	Special Intention
	10:30am	Sammy Gallagher; Denise Byrne & Karen Rice
	12:00noon	
	7:00pm	
Monday	8:00am	
Tuesday	8:00am	
Wednesday	8:00am	
Thursday	8:00am	Michael & Mary Houlihan
Friday	8:00am	
Saturday	10:00am	Baby Angelina Alhaddad; Christy & Delia Dyas
Sunday Aug 25th	9:00am	
	10:30am	Maura & Patrick Nulty; Michael Byrne, Ollie Rice & Agnes Rice
	12:00noon	Cepta Behan; Michael Tuite; John McCabe
	7:00pm	

Our Parish Community

Aug/Sept 2019

Tues 27th Aug 8:30pm
Mon 2nd Sept 8:00pm
Tues 10th Sept 8:30pm

Baptism Preparation Meeting **Team C** Centre
Parish Mission Committee Meeting Pastoral Centre
Baptism Preparation Meeting **Team A** Centre

Hospital Visitation: Please inform Fr Phil, Fr Ciprian or the Parish Centre if a relative is ill or in hospital.



29th Anniversary of Adoration



A Mass to celebrate the 29th Anniversary of Adoration will take place in St Mary's Church on **Friday 6th September 2019**, followed by a cup of tea in the Pastoral Centre, Dublin Road. Please come along and invite your friends to join you.

Coffee Morning

You are invited to a coffee morning on **Wednesday 21st August @** Lila Young's house, Bellewstown from 11:00 am to 1:00pm. All proceeds in aid of The Persecuted Christians. Christians are being persecuted in many places in the Far East, especially China, India, Pakistan & Middle East & places in Africa. €5 to include tea/coffee & cake etc. There will also be a raffle on the day with lots of prizes to choose from.

Meath Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes Sept 2019

Led by Bishop Tom Deenihan from 9th - 14th of September. Five nights full board from €749 for pilgrims. Contact Pilgrimages abroad on 01-6359300, or Email: info@pilgrimagesabroad.ie

Vacancies for hospital pilgrims:

Anyone who would like to go to Lourdes or recommend someone who is ill and would like to avail of the opportunity please contact Lily Brangan on 087 6978783

Knock 140 years 1879 - 2019:

Join us this year as we celebrate the 140th Anniversary of the Apparition that took place on the 21st August 1879. Enquiries to Knock Shrine Office on 094 9388 100, www.knockshrine.ie. email info@knockshrine.ie

The Annual Young Adult Catholic Conference:

takes place in All Hallows College, Dublin on Saturday 31st August and Sunday 1st September 2019. This weekend is packed full of interesting events for young Catholics. Prices range from €25 - €50. Accommodation also available. For further details visit www.legionofmary-deusetpatria.com or phone Lucy on 087 9959 803.

Adoration Chapel:

We urgently require Adorers for the following hours: Monday: 1:00pm, Tuesday 6:00pm, Tuesday & Saturday 4:00pm. Please leave your contact details in the Parish Office or phone Liz on 086 3658 358

Parish Mission Saturday 12th – Sunday 27th October 2019

Our Mission Prayer

God our Father, we ask you to bless our Parish Mission.
You invite us to come to you with all our hearts.
Pour out your Spirit upon us.
May we experience the healing power of Jesus.
May we be renewed in faith, hope and love.
May the peace of the Holy Spirit light up our lives.
We make our prayer through Christ our Lord, **Amen**



A prayer for those who died...

John (Jackie) Fairclough, Ballsgrove
Philomena Kelly, Mount Auburn Close, Dublin Road

May they rest in peace



Supporting Our Parish:

11th August 2019

Offertory: €1,222.00
Parish Dev. Fund: €1,505.00

Many thanks for your support