

# St Mary's Parish, Drogheda

Sunday 21st May, 2023  
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Fr John Conlon PP St Mary's Parish Centre  
Fr Ciprian Solomon CC 24 James Street  
St Mary's Presbytery ☎ 9834587  
Dublin Road ☎ 9838347  
Email address stmarysdrogheda@gmail.com  
Parish website www.stmarysdrogheda.ie  
The Lord's Day **9:00am, 10:30am, 12noon & 7:00pm**  
Monday ~ Friday **8:00am and 10:00am; Saturday 10:00am**  
Holydays **8:00am, 10:00am & 7:00pm**



## Sacramental Dates

St. Mary's Parish Primary School First Holy Communion  
Saturday 27th May, 2023 10:00am (2 classes)  
12 noon (2 classes)  
2:00pm (1 class)  
Gaelscoil An Bhradáin Feasa First Holy Communion  
Saturday 10th June, 2023 11:00am

The Knights of St. Columbanus would like to invite Students and their Families to a special Youth Mass, to be held in St. Mary's Church, Drogheda on Friday the 26th May at 7.30pm. This Mass will be celebrated to offer up all the intentions of those students sitting both the Leaving Cert. and the Junior Cert. examination this summer. This can be a stressful time for students and we feel that they need all the support, that they can get from the local community, so we are hoping for a good attendance to help them towards a rewarding future.

## Mass Intentions for week beginning Sunday 21st May, 2023

Sunday 21st May	9:00am	
	10:30am	Pat O' Brien First Anniversary; Pat & Olive Curran; Christopher & Bridget Hughes & deceased family members; Tony & Marie Wade
	12 noon	Annie Geraghty <i>Month's Memory</i> , Annie Hassett, Elizabeth Dowd & Clare Smith & Carmel Dunne; Michael Mc Cormack; Paul Mc Gowan; Devid & Elizabeth Holly & deceased family members; Michael & Frances Callaghan & Michael Callaghan Junior & the Cronin family
	4:00pm	<b>Polish Mass</b>
	7:00pm	Elizabeth Clarke
Monday	8:00am	10:00am
Tuesday	8:00am	10:00am
Wednesday	8:00am	
	10:00am	
Thursday	8:00am	
	10:00am	
Friday	8:00am	
	10:00am	
	7:30pm	<b>Leaving &amp; Junior Cert. Mass</b>
Saturday	10:00am, 12 noon & 2:00pm	
		<b>First Holy Communion St. Mary's Parish Primary School</b>
Sunday 28th May	9:00am	
	10:30am	Patsy Carr <i>Month's Memory</i> ; Paddy, Thomas & Patrick Reilly; Reilly & Plunkett families, Cunningham & Kelly families, Christopher Carroll, John James, Fr Jim, Fr. Chris, Tommy & Johnny Cunningham, Maureen & Oliver Kenny, Noel Floody & Son, Special Intention; Robert Tiernan
	12 noon	Johnny Gregory <i>Month's Memory</i> ; Declan Murray <i>Month's Memory</i> ; William Reilly; Ita & Peter O' Brien, Frank & Mary Smith, James Smith & Paddy Reilly; Marie Boyle
	7:00pm	

## St Mary's Church Roof Restoration Project

There has over many years now been various architectural surveys conducted on the roof of St. Mary's Parish Church. As a result, it has long been known that significant restorative works are necessary. Bishop Deenihan and The Diocesan Property Commission have indicated that these works should now commence. The parish architects, McKeivitt King have been engaged by the parish to draw up the necessary plans and seek suitable contractors. Works above a certain level of cost come under charity regulations and diocesan norms, and must be put out to an open tender process. McKeivitt King Architects have undertaken this work on behalf of our parish. Four tenders were submitted and the most suitable contractor was duly selected. The company chosen is Skyline Supplies Ltd. The total cost inclusive of VAT is €932,000. This is a significant outlay that will have to be met over the coming years by the parish. Happily, due to wise financial stewardship by previous Parish Priests and our Finance Committee, a sum in excess of €500,000 is already available and earmarked to offset this outlay. The remainder will have to be raised through securing finance from financial institutions and being repaid by fundraising efforts in the parish and beyond. Several parishioners in recent months have already made generous personal donations towards this necessary project. The Fundraising Committee has just recently organised a very successful Golf Classic which raised €11,500. This undertaking is most necessary, but one that will ensure the continued viability of our beautiful parish church for ourselves and future generations. It is hoped that the project will commence in mid to late June and reach completion before the onset of winter. The carpark adjacent to the church will, of necessity, become a work yard and storage facility for the duration of the work. It will therefore be beyond our use. It is not envisaged that the use of the church or any services within the church will be impacted during this work period. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your words of encouragement and support. Fr. John

## Diocesan Changes and Parish Personnel

Bishop Tom Deenihan has recently published this year's clerical changes for the Diocese of Meath. These changes, in no small way, impact both the parish of St. Mary's and Holy Family in Drogheda. Fr. Ciprian Solomon CC who has worked in St. Mary's for the past four years, has been appointed as curate to Laytown Parish, and will be resident at Mornington Church. We congratulate Fr Ciprian warmly on his new appointment, acknowledging with great thanks all his efforts here in St. Mary's. We wish him well and every blessing in his new role. Fr. Derek Ryan has been appointed as curate to St. Mary's Parish and also curate to Holy Family Parish, Ballsgrove. Fr. Derek will reside at Holy Family. Fr. Brendan and Fr. Stephen have been appointed to Ashbourne Parish. We take this opportunity to thank them both for their unstinting service and loyalty to Holy Family Parish. We wish them well and every blessing in their new ministry. Fr. Emmanuel Ibitoye, a visiting student priest from Nigeria, will be resident in St. Mary's Presbytery and act as an assistant priest to myself and Fr. Derek when his academic commitments permit. All these changes will take effect from July 1st 2023. These changes effectively mean the number of priests servicing St. Mary's and Holy Family parishes has been significantly decreased. This is because of the falling number in vocations to the priesthood. Of necessity this reduction will in turn occasion pastoral and liturgical changes in both churches, including the rationalisation of Masses and alteration of Mass times. To express our gratitude to Fr. Ciprian it is hoped to present a gift upon his leaving. Should any parishioners wish to be associated with this presentation, designated envelopes for a voluntary contribution will be available from next week at the church doors. This summer will be a period of considerable change for our parishes. We ask for your understanding and we can assure Fr. Derek and Fr. Emmanuel of a warm welcome. Fr. John



**A prayer for those who died...**  
**Ann Assumpta O'Brien (née Mooney)**,  
Rowan Heights & formerly of Fenor, Slane;  
**Paul Reilly**, Longwood, Dublin Road &  
formerly of Mell;  
**May Gillespie (née Ward)**, Currabeg,  
Ardee; Mary Bridget (Joy) Mullan (née  
Leech) Canada & formerly Dyer Street.  
**May they rest in peace**

## Supporting Our Parish:

Sunday 14th May, 2023

Parish Dev Fund: €900.00  
Offertory: €1,130.00

Many thanks

Keep safe and well.