

# St Mary's Parish, Drogheda

Sunday 24th May, 2020  
The Ascension of The Lord

Fr Phil Gaffney PP  
Fr Ciprian Solomon CC  
St Mary's Presbytery  
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**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.



In a video message sent on Monday, Pope Francis urges the young people of Poland – and youth around the world – to let Christ enter every aspect of their lives.

His message came on the evening of 18 May, which marks 100 years since the birth of Karol Wojtyla, the future Pope Saint John Paul II.

“Saint John Paul II was a gift of God to the Church and to Poland, your motherland. His earthly pilgrimage,” said the Pope, “was marked by his passion for life and by a fascination with the mystery of God, of the world and of humankind.”

Pope Francis said he remembers his predecessor as “a great man of mercy”.

He recalled the Polish Pope’s encyclical *Dives in Misericordia*, his canonization of

St. Faustina, and the creation of Divine Mercy Sunday. “In the light of God’s merciful love, he captured the specificity and beauty of the vocation of women and men; he understood the needs of children, of young people and of adults, also considering cultural and social conditioning. Everyone had an experience of him.”

The Pope went on to say everyone can experience John Paul II and learn of his life and teachings.

Among the Saint’s teachings, “love and care for the family” stand out. They provide a “secure point of reference for finding concrete solutions” to the challenges of family life, the Pope said.

Pope Francis recalled the many sufferings that Pope John Paul II experienced. He had to deal with the death of his mother, father, and brother, the “atrocities of Nazism” and, later, the threat of Atheistic Communism.

“Difficulties, even tough ones, are a proof of maturity and of faith,” said the Pope, “a test which can only be passed based on the power of Christ, who died and rose again.”

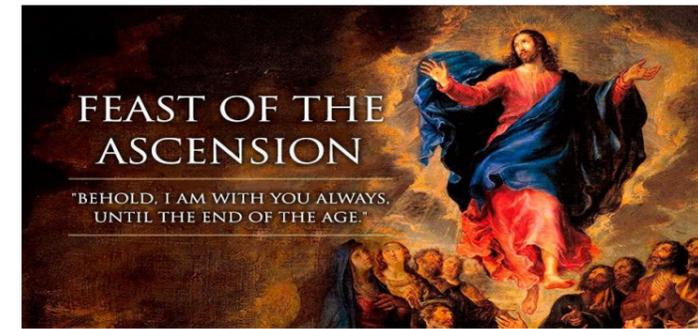
Finally, Pope Francis expressed his hope that the young people of Krakow, of Poland, and of the world might “enter Christ with your whole life.”

Jesus, said the Pope, “wants to turn your hands, my hands, our hands into signs of reconciliation, of communion, of creation.”

Rome, 18 May, Pope Francis

## Mass Intentions for week beginning Sunday 24th May, 2020 will be celebrated in Private via webcam at 10:00am each day

<b>Sunday 24th May</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	Frank McGovern; <i>Special Intention</i> ; Michael Mc Cormack; Maureen & Brian Gaffney
<b>Monday</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	Johnny Reynolds
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	Special Intention
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	Mary & Gerard Horgan
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	Teresa Norris <i>First Anniversary</i> ; Jim Berrill, Liam Halpin
<b>Friday</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	Rita & James Kierans
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	Joe Aspell
<b>Sunday 31st May</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	Mary Ann Prendergast & deceased relatives & friends; Robert Tiernan



### Coronavirus, Church and You

DCU's Mater Dei Centre for Catholic Education (Director, Dr. Gareth Byrne) has an important online survey recently made available. The Covid-19 pandemic has obviously had a profound effect on Church. As we pass the most severe period of lockdown, it seems a good time to assess how clergy and churchgoers have responded to the experience, and what they think the future might hold. The views of priests, religious and lay people are all welcome. To have your say go to: <https://www.dcu.ie/materdei-centre-for-catholic-education/news/2020/May/Coronavirus-Church-You-Survey.shtml>

### Lough Derg Online Retreat during May: Sunday 24th May and Wednesday 27th May [www.loughderg.live](http://www.loughderg.live)

#### A GUIDE TO YOUR ONLINE RETREAT

10:30am	Go to <a href="http://loughderg.live">loughderg.live</a>
10:45am	Welcome from the Prior, Msgr La Flynn
11:05am	The Word of God - Reflection on the Good Samaritan with Mary
11:30am	Prayer of Intercession with Rosary
12 noon	Angelus followed by Way of the Cross
1:45pm	Jesus the Healer with Deacon Martin
2:00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
2:20pm	Time of Contemplation
2:40pm	Closing Prayer

Lough Derg phone lines are open 9am-5pm, Monday-Friday, during May Tel: +353 (0) 71 9861518

Email. [info@loughderg.org](mailto:info@loughderg.org)

Website. [www.loughderg.org](http://www.loughderg.org)

### Important Notices

- 1. Cemetery Sunday** has been postponed due to Covid-19 restrictions. We hope to reschedule later in the year.
- 2. A Donate Button** is now available on our parish website for anyone who wishes to make a contribution to the parish.
- 3. The Parish Office** will be closed until further notice. For queries please phone 041.9834958.

### A prayer for those who died...



Sr. Mary Burns, MMM, Drogheda  
Martin Prendergast, Ballaun, Galway  
Paul McGowan, Hillview  
Kathleen Everitt (née Culligan), Carmelite Cottages  
Noel Kavanagh, Morans Tce. Drogheda  
John Byrne, Malahide; John Reynolds, Elmwood,  
Ian Guildea, Beechwood Drive & Balbriggan  
June Rooney (née Verdon) Bredin Street  
**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.**