

# St Mary's Parish, Drogheda

Sunday 24th July 2022

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr John Conlon PP St Mary's Parish Centre  
Fr Ciprian Solomon CC 24 James Street  
St Mary's Presbytery ☎ 9834587  
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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**



I give thanks to you, Lord,  
For the blessing of a long life  
For, to those who take refuge in  
You,  
Grant always to bear fruit.  
Forgive, O Lord,  
Resignation and disillusionment,  
But forsake me not  
When my strength declines.  
Teach me to look with hope  
To the future you give me,  
To the mission you entrust to me  
And to sing your praises without  
end.

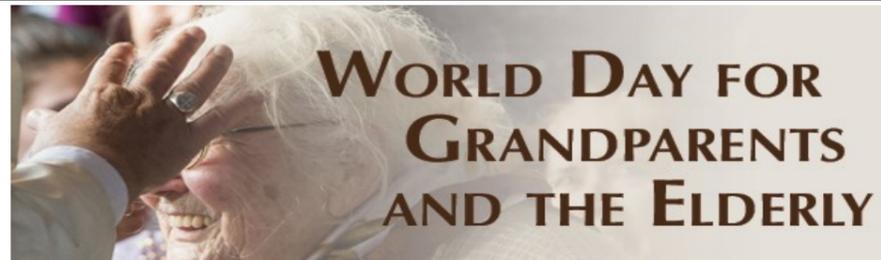
Make me a tender craftsman  
Of Your revolution,  
To guard with love my grandchildren  
And all the little ones who seek shelter  
in You.  
Protect, O Lord, Pope Francis  
And grant Thy Church  
To deliver the world from loneliness.  
Direct our steps in the way of peace.  
Amen.

### Prayer for Blessing of Grandparents

Lord God almighty, bless our grandparents with long life, happiness, and health. May they remain constant in your love and be living signs of your presence to their children and grandchildren. We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### Mass Intentions for week beginning Sunday 24th July, 2022

<b>Sunday 24th July</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	Joan Durney <i>First Anniverary</i> ; Willie Murtagh
	<b>10:30am</b>	Charlie Mc Gee; Kelly Ann Ward
	<b>12 noon</b>	Jim Gough <i>Month's Memory</i>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	Holy Souls
	<b>8:00am</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	Mary Mc Ardle
	<b>8:00am</b>	Basil Kennedy
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	Special Intention
	<b>8:00am</b>	Raisa Scukina
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	
	<b>8:00am</b>	
<b>Friday</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	Liam Keegan; Ronan Saurin
	<b>8:00am</b>	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	Jane Smith, Mary & Frank Smith & deceased members of the Smith & Hand families
	<b>10:00am</b>	Jem Matthews; Mary & Patrick Byrne; Peter Darcy
<b>Sunday 31st July</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	Paddy, Thomas & Patrick Reilly, Plunkett & Kelly families
	<b>10:30am</b>	Basil Kennedy; Margaret Nugent; Ena Bradley
	<b>12 noon</b>	Michael Murray <i>Month's Memory</i> ; Aidan Mac Kenna; Seamus Hallinan & Margaret Quinn; Michael Callaghan Anniversary, Susan & John Kelly & deceased family members, May Callaghan, Michael Callaghan & Frank Benson.
	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Holy Souls</b>



### Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pope Francis' Message for World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

Many people are afraid of old age. They consider it a sort of disease with which any contact is best avoided. The elderly, they think, are none of their concern and should be set apart, perhaps in homes or places where they can be cared for, lest we have to deal with their problems. This is the mindset of the "throw-away culture", which leads us to think that we are somehow different from the poor and vulnerable in our midst, untouched by their frailties and separated from "them" and their troubles. The Scriptures see things differently. A long life – so the Bible teaches – is a blessing, and the elderly are not outcasts to be shunned but living signs of the goodness of God who bestows life in abundance. Blessed is the house where an older person lives! Blessed is the family that honours the elderly!

Old age is not a time of life easily understood even by those of us who are already experiencing it. Even though it eventually comes with the passage of time, no one prepares us for old age, and at times it seems to take us by surprise. The more developed societies expend large sums on this stage of life without really helping people to understand and appreciate it; they offer healthcare plans to the elderly but not plans for living this age to the full. This makes it hard to look to the future and discern what direction to take. On the one hand, we are tempted to ward off old age by hiding our wrinkles and pretending to be forever young, while on the other, we imagine that the only thing we can do is bide our time, thinking glumly that we cannot "still bring forth fruit".



On Sunday 17th July, Rev Barry White, from Rathkenny in Co Meath, was ordained priest for our Diocese, in the Cathedral of Christ the King, Mullingar by Most Rev Tom Deenihan, Bishop of Meath. In his homily, Bishop Deenihan commented that "Barry as a successful young man who was offering himself in service to the People of God would be seen to be countercultural." The new Fr Barry, in the homily for his First Mass of Thanksgiving reflected, "As a newly ordained priest, I look out onto a new horizon in my life, and I will journey across uncharted waters, into the unknown, in and with the Church in Ireland, coming to terms with rapidly changing times and challenges. In these times of transition, the hope and strength of the priesthood rests on the solid foundation of the Eternal High Priest, Jesus Christ, who is "the same, yesterday, today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8): Jesus Christ, who stretched out his arms on the Cross, as a priest offering prayer and sacrifice, dies and rises, opening the doors to eternal life."

Let us pray for Fr Barry and that many more young men will answer the Lord's call to serve as priests.  
Contact: Vocations Director Fr Tony Gonoude Tel: 044 9373923

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



**Sarah Kelly (née Cushen)**, Cherrybrook Drive;  
**Michael Kelly**, Marsh Road.

*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.**