

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
Dublin Road ☎ 9834958

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

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

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.



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