

St Mary's Parish, Drogheda

Sunday 26th April, 2020
Third Sunday of Easter

Fr Phil Gaffney PP
Fr Ciprian Solomon CC
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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.



Pope Francis was asked about how he is experiencing the Covid-19 Pandemic.

My major concern – at least what comes through my prayer – is how to accompany and be closer to the people of God. Hence the live streaming of the 7 a.m. Mass [I celebrate each morning] which many people follow and appreciate, as well as the addresses I've given, and the 27 March event in St Peter's Square. Hence, too, the step-up in activities of the office of papal charities, attending to the sick and hungry. I'm living this as a time of great uncertainty. It's a time for inventing, for creativity.

Pope Francis was asked about how he understands the mission of the Church in the context of the pandemic:

The creativity of the Christian needs to show forth in opening up new horizons, opening windows, opening transcendence towards God and towards people, and in creating new ways of being at home. It's not easy to be confined to your house. What comes to my mind is a verse from the Aeneid in the midst of defeat: the counsel is not to give up, but save yourself for better times, for in those times remembering what has happened will help us. Take care of yourselves for a future that will come. And remembering in that future what has happened will do you good.

Take care of the now, for the sake of tomorrow. Always creatively, with a simple creativity, capable of inventing something new each day.

When asked about the response being made by Governments, Pope Francis said:

It's true, a number of governments have taken exemplary measures to defend the population on the basis of clear priorities. But we're realising that all our thinking, like it or not, has been shaped around the economy.... It's a culture of euthanasia, either legal or covert, in which the elderly are given medication but only up to a point....

A photo appeared the other day of a parking lot in Las Vegas where they had been put in quarantine. And the hotels were empty. But the homeless cannot go to a hotel. That is the throwaway culture in practice.

Would the future economy be more human? Pope Francis responded:

This crisis is affecting us all, rich and poor alike, and putting a spotlight on hypocrisy. I am worried by the hypocrisy of certain political personalities who speak of facing up to the crisis, of the problem of hunger in the world, but who in the meantime manufacture weapons.

This is a time to be converted from this kind of functional hypocrisy. It's a time for integrity. Either we are coherent with our beliefs or we lose everything....

Mass Intentions for week beginning Sunday 26th April, 2020 will be celebrated in Private via webcam at 10:00am each day

Sunday 26th	10:00am Joe O Keeffe <i>Months Memory</i> , Alice Flood <i>1st Anniversary</i> ; Sue Murphy; James Tracey and deceased family members; Antonia Vultur
Monday 27th	10:00am Antonia Vultur; Special Intention
Tuesday 28th	10:00am Peter Mohan <i>1st Anniversary</i> ; Special Intention
Wednesday 29th	10:00am Angela Connell, Special Intention
Thursday 30th	10:00am James Francis Prendergast & deceased relatives & friends
Friday 1st May	10:00am Mass for all those on our Parish List of the Dead
Saturday 2nd May	10:00am Thomas & Mary O'Connor
Sunday 3rd May	10:00am Peggy Caffrey <i>Months Memory</i> , Mary Nolan

Important Notices

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



“While Masses are suspended, the voice of prayer should not be silent.”

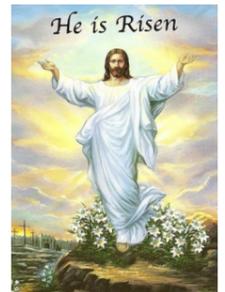
Bishop Tom Deenihan

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things,
and I desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you were already there
and unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you.

(Pause for silent prayer)

O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, all praise and thanksgiving be every moment thine! X3



Third Sunday of Easter 26th April 2020

This Sunday we listen to the famous story of Jesus appearing to two of his disciples on their way to Emmaus. They are leaving Jerusalem where their dreams were shattered. They have just experienced the betrayal, denial, condemnation and death of their close friend, Jesus. As they walk along, they are reflecting on the events that have just happened. They are asking each other, 'Where did it all go wrong?' Why did we put so much hope and trust into this man called Jesus. **With heavy hearts and with a sense of failure and disappointment they leave Jerusalem.**

This is an image and symbol of the Pilgrim Church which we are all part of. We are walking along with each other as members of the Body of Christ. We are not alone. Jesus too, walks with us on our journey as individuals and as a Church. Jesus is deeply interested in our story. Through this Gospel, he asks each of us what our own personal experience and story is.

As we walk along on our journey through life, and indeed as we struggle with the effects of the pandemic Jesus walks by our side as he walked along the road to Emmaus. He asks us to tell him our story and waits for us to share with what is deepest and most important to us. Having asked us to share our story with him, he walks by our side and listens. Each of us have a personal, unique and sacred story. Pope Francis reminds us of this when he says, 'Each of us have a story; a story of grace, a story of sin, a story of journey, many things. It is good to pray with our story.'

We have had plenty of time to reflect on our own story over the past few weeks. What will we do differently once we get back to normality whenever that happens?

As we continue our journey through this Easter Season, and as we try to cope with the restrictions on us and our families, we pray that we will know that Jesus is walking by our side as our friend and companion. He is also with us on our journey and indeed pilgrimage through our daily lives.

A prayer for those who died...



Bridie O'Hare, Beamore Road
Dessie Darragh, Balbriggan
Piotr Kaczmarczyk, Knightwood
Steven Malagraph, USA
Kieran Devine, Grangebellew

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.