

St Mary's Parish, Drogheda

Sunday 27th September, 2020
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr Phil Gaffney PP St Mary's Parish Centre
Fr Ciprian Solomon CC 24 James Street
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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.



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

As we draw near to the end of his public ministry in Jerusalem, the conflict and tension between Jesus and the authorities increase and this is the background to the Gospels over the next few weeks. This parable of the two sons is spoken to the chief priests and the elders, and interestingly the parable of the Prodigal Son in Luke 15 which is making the same point, has a similar audience. In Matthew's story the second son who says yes but does not do what is asked of him represents the authorities and is somewhat like the older brother in the Prodigal Son. God as portrayed here does not want mere external observance, or obedience from a sense of duty. The elders and chief priests fails to grasp that behind the law lies God's saving will for all people. Jesus drives this point home when he tells them that the tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the Kingdom of God before them.

The readings today are an invitation to really make our own the faith that we profess. As with the people at the time of Ezekiel, we too sometimes like to make excuses for ourselves. We point to others' failings or to lack of good example to account for our own lack lustre commitment. Yet our faith is not in anyone else but Christ who emptied himself to become the way we are so that we might lead us to God. If we believe in him then we too must empty ourselves of everything that would keep us from being true to him. In the Gospel today, Jesus is warning us rather bluntly not to be all talk when it comes to the practice of the faith, convincing ourselves that we are doing what God want when it is not the case at all.

Congratulations to Rev Norman Allred who was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Meath by Bishop Tom Deenihan last Sunday in the Cathedral of Christ the King Mullingar. Fr Norman has been appointed CC in Mullingar. On Tuesday last he offered his First Mass of Thanksgiving in the Cathedral. May God bless him in his ministry. Fr Norman is a native of Salt Lake City Utah, USA.

Mass Intentions for week beginning Sunday 27th September, 2020

Sunday 27th Sept	9:00am	Michael Mary Kate & Mena Rourke; Una Mc Donnell; Fintan Keegan & Clare Keegan
	10:30am	Jim Jennell & Paul Byrne, James, Christina & Joan Mohan; Paschal & Lally Mooney, John & Alice Donagh & deceased family members; Special Intention
	12:00noon 7:00pm	Chris Boylan Special Intention
Monday	8:00am	Jim Cahill; Bernard Rogan; Marcella Kirwan
Tuesday	8:00am	Special Intention
Wednesday	8:00am	Special Intention
Thursday	8:00am	Alice Shannon & Mary Byrne
Friday 2nd Oct.	8:00am	First Friday - Mass for all on the Parish List of the Dead Adoration 8:30am - 4.00pm
Saturday	10:00am	John & Maureen Spence; Deceased members of the Kiernan Family; Veronica & Francis Somerville, David McDonagh; Sadie, Martin & Tommy Corcoran, John, Margaret & Catherine Molony; Michael & Mary Pentony; Sean Whearty
Sunday 4th Oct.	9:00am	Rita Murphy <i>First Anniversary</i> ; Deceased members of the Kierans family;
	10:30am	James, Christina & Joan Mohan; Christopher Matthews
	12:00noon 7:00pm	Robert Carter; Aly Farrell Special Intention

Eucharistic Adoration each Friday in St Mary's Church from 8:30 – 4:00pm
Adoration



A big Thank You to everyone who has donated to The Amie Dyer Appeal. Anyone who wishes to make a donation can still do so by going on line to Friends of Amie or if they prefer they can leave a donation into the Augustinian Mass Shop, St. Mary's Parish Office, or Holy Family Parish, Ballsgrove.



The return to the public celebration of Mass and the Sacraments commenced on June 29th. This is a source of joy and hope to our parish community. Morning Mass has resumed at 8:00am. The weekend Masses will be as normal. We have installed a loudspeaker in the car park.

A COVID-19 **SUPPORT TEAM** is established in the parish

- » The dispensation from the Sunday and Holy Day obligation is extended for the time being. Many parishioners may wish to attend Mass on a week-day rather than at weekends.
- » Hand sanitizers are in place **permanently** at each entrance to the church.
Please follow Health Guidelines and wear face masks.
- » Signs are in place to designate **every second seat** for use and for maintaining physical (social) distancing.
- » **Ushers** have been recruited to direct people to available seats including exit from the church, using the one-way system.
- » Thorough **cleaning** of church seats and other surfaces continues. Church seats will be cleaned with approved **sanitizing spray**.
- » Collection **baskets** will **not** be passed along during Masses; supervised collection baskets **will be available at the church doors**.
- » Ministers of the **Word** will be seated in their own seats, rather than the sacristy before Masses.
- » Ministers of **Holy Communion** will not be required to sign-in before Masses.
- » Communion should be received only on the hand.
- » Priests and Ministers of **Holy Communion** should visibly sanitize their hands before and after distribution of Holy Communion. Priests and Ministers should wear a face mask for the distribution of Holy Communion.
- » In the absence of choirs, **music ministry** will continue with a rota of instrumentalists and cantors as heretofore since Easter.
- » **People attending Sunday Mass are encouraged to take the weekly bulletin home with them.**
- » **Altar servers** will be able to maintain physical distancing in the sacristy and sanctuary.
Offertory procession and **Sign of Peace** will be omitted..
- >>In light of the above directives, we would ask parishioners **not to gather** at the entrances to the church before or after Mass.
Baptisms have resumed. Anyone wishing to book a baptism can do so by calling the Parish Office.

A prayer for those who died...



Emily White (née Monaghan), Ballsgrove
Michael (Mick) Byrne, Highfield
David Leslie, Finians Park
Mark Weldon, Trinity Street & Marian Park; Frances Johnson (née Fitzsimons), Ballsgrove & Marsh Road

May they rest in peace

Supporting Our Parish:

14th September, 2020

Offertory: € 1,210.00
Development Fund: € 1,055.00

Many thanks. Keep safe and well.

