

# St Mary's Parish, Drogheda

Sunday 9th May, 2021  
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Fr Phil Gaffney PP  
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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.



## Church opening



We celebrated Easter 2021 against the backdrop of over a year now since Covid 19 was thrust upon us. Our social, economic, work and family patterns have been battered. But we really are now entitled to start dreaming about the world beyond COVID. What have we learned from this COVID pandemic? What lessons do we want to bring forward out of it.

Life has been dramatically altered for everyone, we are fed up with lockdowns; it has meant been at home; working or not working, home-schooling or alone, in hospital or nursing home. It is difficult hearing news of the high level of positive cases of Covid-19 and sadly of more deaths – our sympathies are with the grieving families.

The roll-out of the vaccines is welcome and offers hope? For many people it has been a time of challenge, a time to refocus and even make changes in our lives. This year due to lockdown has been all about re-setting the compass of our lives.

Many of us feel that we have been ignored by our political leaders despite our best efforts to comply with guidelines in providing a safe environment in our churches. It has been said by some persons in public life that 'religion is non-essential', that gathering for Mass and other religious services is less important than shopping or physical exercise or many other things.

This has been a source of extreme frustration for many of us. After all we took the utmost care to make sure that our churches are as safe as possible and we long for our churches to be open for Mass and the sacraments as soon as possible. We have petitioned our political leaders letting them know that God and our worship of Him are central to us; they are utterly essential.

Pope Francis pointed out recently that; 'the right to worship must be respected, protected and defended by civil authorities like the right to bodily and physical health'.

Lent gave us the opportunity to take stock of our lives and our relationship with God. Luckily our churches were open and many people could spend some time each day in silence, because all of us need to put at least some minutes of quiet into our day when we let God show us what is really going on.

Saying Mass in an empty church is something we have got used to but to know that we were joined by many of our parishioners as well as many others beyond the confines of our parish helped us to stay connected with God and his people.

So many of us are looking forward to Monday next – when we can gather together to celebrate Mass with our parishioners-The Eucharist is a great gift.

As Pope Francis said, we are meant to be "people of joyful hope, not doomsday prophets!" If we too discover the risen Jesus, we can all find hope and joy, and go out to share them with others. Jesus gave us real hope at Easter when he promised us "to be with us always" he assure us that we'll never be alone again.

Pope Francis has asked for a *marathon of prayer* during May to bring an end to the pandemic. Let us continue to pray for the people of India and Brazil and many other countries who are struggling to contain the virus.

**Daily Mass** resumes next Monday in St Marys at 8:00am and in Holy Family church at 10:00am  
**Baptisms.** Anyone who wishes to have their child baptised can call the parish office next week.

## 6th Sunday of Easter

You are  
my friends!  
Remain  
in my  
Love!



## St Mary's Schedule (On webcam only.)

Mass will be celebrated each day at and will be available via webcam. You can join us by going online to our website live stream.

**We have changed our webcam provider.**

**Our new provider is [www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv).**

The return to the public celebration of Mass and the Sacraments commence on May 10th. This is a source of joy and hope to our parish community.



## Mass Intentions for week beginning Sunday 5th May, 2021

<b>Sunday 9th May</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	Alice Tully <i>First Anniversary</i> & Paul Tully; Nicky Black <i>First Anniversary</i> & Philip McEntee; Betty Smith (née Boyle) <i>First Anniversary</i> Paddy Keegan; Michael, Mary-Kate & Mena Rourke
<b>Monday</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	Sean Dunne
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	Special intention
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	Special intention
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	Special intention
<b>Friday</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	Special intention
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	Sean Judge: Brian Duff & his parents Tom & Sarah, Maura Corbett & Lily Kilty
<b>Sunday 16th May</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	Michael, Mary-Kate & Mena Rourke
	<b>10:30am</b>	Kathleen Everitt <i>First Anniversary</i> ; Gerry Tiernan
	<b>12 noon</b>	Rea Mc Gowan <i>Month's Memory</i> ; Robert Geraghty
	<b>7:00pm</b>	Special Intention

**First Holy Communion - Will be postponed until September**  
**Confirmation - Will take place in June, exact date to be advised by Bishop Tom.**



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A QR code (short for "quick response" code) is a type of barcode that contains a matrix of dots. It can be scanned using a QR scanner or a smartphone with built-in camera. Once scanned, software on the device converts the dots within the code into numbers or a string of characters. For example, scanning a QR code with your phone might open a URL in your phone's web browser. This QR code on our parish bulletin and on our website can be used to donate money to our parish. This is another way of assisting people to donate online. Thank you for your generosity and support.

## A prayer for those who died...



**Michael (Mikey) Gregory**, Halpin's Terrace  
**Robert Mooney**, Stameen & late of Moorehall Lodge  
**Brendan Lynch**, Rosslea, Co.Fermanagh  
**Mary Donovan**, Blanchardstown

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.**