

St Mary's Parish, Drogheda

Sunday 11th April, 2021
Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday

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.



Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday



'We do not come through suffering and difficult times unscarred. We are changed by them. Often it brings some sort of growth into our lives and usually it is not a pleasant experience. We only have to think of the past year of lockdowns and isolation and fear. In Pope Francis' new book, *Let us Dream*, he says 'To enter into crisis is to be sifted. Your categories and ways of thinking get shaken up; your priorities and lifestyles are challenged. You cross a threshold, either by your own choice or by necessity, because there are crises, like the one we are going through, that you can't avoid.'

Today's Gospel shows us that even the most difficult situations can be transformed. The Risen Christ stands amongst the disciples even though the doors were firmly closed. The peace that he gives them (*Shalom*) is a peace of body, of mind and of spirit and it moves the disciples from despair and being 'locked away' to 'rejoicing'. Jesus then asks the disciples to be an unending witness to God's love. They, and we, are invited to be for others what Jesus has been for them. The Risen Jesus is active in all our lives and in the world around us, but we must be careful not to close ourselves off or let fear take over. John tells us that he writes these things so that we may come to believe and have life. Our call is to bring this peace and joy to others, 'so I send you'. Who can you reach out to today?

'Peace be with you' was the greeting of Jesus on meeting his frightened apostles. Who has come to you bringing peace at times when you were frightened? For whom have you been an agent of peace?

The greeting is joined with the gift of the Holy Spirit to empower the disciples to be forgiving. Forgiveness is at times an essential step on the road to peace. Perhaps you can recall when holding on to a hurt or grudge disturbed your inner peace. What helped you to forgive and find peace?

Thomas, doubting and questioning, is possibly a person with whom we can identify. What part have doubting, and questioning, played on your faith journey? How has your faith been strengthened by such moments?

'Blessed are they who have not seen and yet believed'. That requires great trust. Perhaps you have had the experience of being trusted without having had to prove every step along the way. What was it like to be trusted in that way? Who have you been able to trust in a similar manner?

Mass Intentions for week beginning Sunday 11th April, 2021

Sunday 11th April	10:00am	Derek Gavin <i>Month's Memory</i> ; Margaret (Georgie) Tuite <i>First Anniversary</i> ; Frankie Collins <i>First Anniversary</i> ; Michael, Mary-Kate & Mena Rourke; Robert Bromley; May & Thomas Farrelly & deceased family members; Bill & Kathleen Reynolds & deceased family members, Patrick & Louise McKenna & deceased family members; Gerard McDonnell; Patrick & Mary O'Toole
Monday	10:00am	Dan & Eileen Molony; Pat Mc Entee
Tuesday	10:00am	Special Intention
Wednesday	10:00am	Special Intention
Thursday	10:00am	Special Intention; Stephen Mc Kenna
Friday	10:00am	Dan Mc Evoy
Saturday	10:00am	Special Intention; James, Christina & Joan Mohan, Jim, Jennell & Paul Byrne, Hughie & Pauline Reilly
Sunday 18th April	10:00am	Patrick Campbell; Joe Kenny; Michael, Mary-Kate & Mena Rourke; Joe & May Kelly, Christopher & Brigid Hughes & family; Dermot Branigan

St Mary's Schedule (On webcam only.)



Mass will be celebrated privately each day at 10:00am 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. The Church will be open each day from 11.00am to 4.00pm so that people can call in to say a prayer or light a candle. Copies of the parish bulletin will be available in the Church.

Adoration in the main Church Monday to Friday 11:00am to 4:00pm.

Divine Mercy Sunday

At the heart of Divine Mercy devotion is the figure of Jesus, the unblemished paschal lamb who has been sacrificed for our sake. The Most Holy Eucharist is our sacrament of mercy that restores us to full communion with God.

In the Holy Eucharist we offer to God the body and blood, the soul and divinity of his dearly beloved Son our Lord Jesus Christ in atonement for our sins.

The great "Mercy Pope", Pope St John Paul II described divine mercy as God's "Easter gift" to the world. Like our own beloved Holy Father Pope Francis, Pope St John Paul II believed that mercy is the answer to the world's problems.

His final message was read out on Divine Mercy Sunday, the day after he died in 2005: "Humanity sometimes seems bewildered and overwhelmed by the power of evil, selfishness, and fear; but as a gift to humanity, the Risen Lord offers His mercy, His love that pardons, reconciles, and reopens hearts to love. It is love that converts hearts and gives us peace.

*Blessed
are those who have not
seen
and yet believe
John 20:29*



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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 Campbell, Newfield
Ted Dyer, St. Finian's Park
Gerard (Gerry) White, Julianstown
Tom Lynch, Ardi Ri
Paddy Gallagher, Rathmullen Park.

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.