

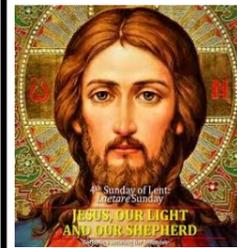
St Mary's Parish, Drogheda

Sunday 14th March 2021
Fourth Sunday of Lent

Fr Phil Gaffney PP
Fr Ciprian Solomon CC
St Mary's Presbytery
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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.



Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday) - Out into the light

Today, the 'middle' Sunday of Lent, is known as Laetare Sunday – *Laetare* means 'Rejoice!' We tend not to think of Lent as a time to rejoice, but signs of joy are central at Mass today, such as the use of flowers on the altar and rose-coloured vestments for the priest instead of the usual Lenten purple. The shadow of the cross still looms large, but we look forward with hope to Easter, when light will conquer the darkness.

We are offered an opportunity today to pause and reflect on our Lenten journey. In our gospel we hear that 'the [person] who lives by the truth comes out into the light'. On the other hand, Jesus says that those who 'prefer darkness to the light' live in fear that their actions will be exposed.

We hear a lot of talk these days about transparency. We have seen the damage caused by those whose private actions gravely contradict the message they proclaim in the public sphere. Some questions we might ask ourselves this Lent are: Am I living a truthful life 'in the light'? Am I honest in my dealings with others, trying always to choose what is right and just, or are there things I do in secret that are unkind or dishonest? Am I attentive to the needs of others or am I more inclined to think of myself? Lent offers us the opportunity to step out into the light, to allow the light of Jesus to sweep away any darkness or destructive habits and to begin again.

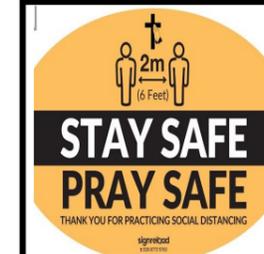
'We proclaim the resurrection of Christ when his light illuminates the dark moments of our existence, and we are able share it with others; when we know when to smile with those who smile, and weep with those who weep; when we accompany those who are sad and at risk of losing hope; when we recount our experience of faith to those who are searching for meaning and happiness... and there – with our attitude, with our witness, with our life – we say 'Jesus is Risen,' with our soul.' (Pope Francis)



This year Trocaire's Lenten Campaign will focus on exploring the Impact of Conflict on Families in South Sudan. This Lent, we learn more about the suffering of people who have lost their homes and loved ones to war, and how they are rebuilding their lives through love, friendship and solidarity. Trocaire boxes are available at the back of the Church or visit the website <https://www.trocaire.org> for more options to donate.

Mass Intentions for week beginning Sunday 14th March, 2021

Sunday 14th March	10:00am	Val Vaughey; Michael, Mary-Kate & Mena Rourke; Mary O'Riordan; Michael Byrne, Ollie & Maureen Rice.
Monday	10:00am	Patrick Callan, Kathleen Mongey; Tony O' Shea; Patrick & Annie Mc Entee
Tuesday	10:00am	John Owens, Patrick & Maureen Mc Donnell & Gary Martin, Valerie Walker
Wednesday	10:00am	St. Patrick's Day
		Brian Connolly & deceased relatives; Christy Flanagan
Thursday	10:00am	Peter & Paddy Reynolds, Mary & Mrs. Reynolds
Friday	10:00am	Bill Murphy <i>Month's Memory</i>
Saturday	10:00am	Andrew Conlon, Special Intention
Sunday 21st March	10:00am	Michael, Mary-Kate & Mena Rourke



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 this week, you will need to go directly to our web page rather than using MCN. 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.

Each Friday from 10:30am - 11:00am in the Church we will play a recording of the Stations of the Cross and you can join us via our webcam.

LIGHT THE FIRE! 2021 – St. Patrick's Day with the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal a Livestreamed event, beginning at 2:30pm - go to www.slaneparish.ie. Event begins with the recounting of the story of the life of St. Patrick, followed by Holy Mass celebrated by Bishop Thomas Deenihan, Bishop of Meath, and concluding with a time of Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction. More details at www.franciscansisterscfr.com/st-anthony.



St Patrick's Breastplate

I arise today, through
God's strength to pilot me,
God's might to uphold me,
God's wisdom to guide me,
God's eye to look before me,
God's ear to hear me,
God's word to speak for me,
God's hand to guard me,
God's shield to protect me,
God's host to save me.



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.

POWERED BY
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A prayer for those who died...



**Fr. M.V Daly former PP Stamullen
Paul Dooley, Rowan Heights
Sean Michael Joyce, America.**

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.