

# St. Mary's Parish, Drogheda

Sunday 16th September 2018  
Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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The Lord's Day **9:00am, 10:30am, 12 noon & 7:00pm**  
Monday - Friday **8:00am**  
Saturday **10:00am**  
Holydays **8:00am and 7:30pm.**

**Baptisms** are celebrated on the first Saturday and on the second and fourth Sunday of the month at 1:00pm. Please contact the parish office or the sacristy for a booking form.  
**Four weeks notice required.**

**Confessions** are available on Saturdays after 10:00am Mass, and every Sunday after 7:00pm Mass.



## Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

We've just heard Jesus tell the apostles that he is going to suffer terribly and be put to death. Peter is having none of this: he wants to shield Jesus, his friend, from suffering. But it was Jesus's integrity, his habit of speaking the truth, that would lead to his suffering. Jesus was not about to compromise on his integrity.

We know what it's like to want to protect someone, to shield them from suffering and sadness. That's what love does: it protects. But it can happen that love loses its way, becomes misguided, seeking to shield people from the consequences of their integrity. 'Don't stick your neck out, you will only have to pay for it,' isn't always or necessarily the best advice. A person's integrity may be worth suffering for, it may be necessary to do and say things that will inevitably lead to suffering.

We all want to protect those we love, just like Peter in the Gospel. We don't want loved ones to suffer! That's the most natural concern in the world. Yet we can't shield our loved ones from every challenge or difficulty, nor should we. Jesus opted for integrity over ease, even over life itself.

Being a person of integrity will inevitably, at times, involve some suffering. There are sufferings which are part and parcel of being a Christian, or simply being a person of integrity. To be shielded from such sufferings is to be tempted, like Jesus was by Peter, to take the easy way. There is good news even in this talk of the inevitability of suffering: the good news of the cross of Jesus which is what Christians encounter whenever we suffer for doing what is right.

Jane Mellett



## 50th Anniversary Pilgrimage - Feast Day of St. Pio Benevento & San Giovanni Rotondo

The Italian town of **San Giovanni Rotondo** is now home to the second most visited Catholic Shrine in the world. The town was made famous by Padre Pio who within two years of his arrival received the gift of the Stigmata.

The Sanctuary of Santa Maria delle Grazie comprises of the ancient church and new church, both dedicated to Our Lady of Grace. The heart of the sanctuary is without doubt the ancient church, consecrated in 1676 and where Padre Pio received the wondrous gift of the Stigmata, becoming the first priest in the history of the Catholic Church to receive the wounds of Christ.

As a response to the increasing number of pilgrims arriving in San Giovanni Rotondo to meet the humble friar, a bigger church was constructed and inaugurated in 1959. Described by Padre Pio as a 'matchbox' it is here where Padre Pio celebrated his last Mass on the 22nd of September 1968 and is now home to some fine mosaics and precious relics of St. John Paul II and Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta. In the crypt of the Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie one can visit the old tomb where the mortal remains of Padre Pio rested for almost 40 years.

In the adjoining capuchin friary where Padre Pio arrived in July 1916 one can see the typical capuchin cell where Padre Pio lived and the 'St. Francis Room' where he daily greeted and blessed the faithful who had travelled from all parts of Italy and beyond to meet the capuchin friar.

September 17th-24th Group organiser Annemarie Byrne. The Spiritual director is Fr. Phil Gaffney.

## Dates for your Diary:

**Sacrament of Confirmation** will take place in St Mary's Church for the five sixth classes from St Mary's Parish Primary School on Saturday March 30th 2019 at 11.00am.

**Sacrament of First Holy Communion** for the five second classes from St Mary's Parish Primary School will take place on Saturdays 11th & 18th of May 2019. More details to follow.

## Our Parish Community

### September 2018:

Tues. 18th Sept. 8.30pm Baptism Preparation Meeting **Team B** Centre  
Tues. 25th Sept. 8.30pm Baptism Preparation Meeting **Team C** Centre

**Hospital Visitation:** Please inform Fr. Phil or the Parish Centre if a relative is ill or in hospital.



## Parish Outreach

### Society of St. Vincent de Paul (New Members):

St. John's Hospital Visitation Conference visits Boyne View House and St. Mary's Hospital every Thursday at 7pm. If you would like to join us please leave your name and contact details at the parish office.

### St Mary's Youth Choir:

We are looking for new members for our Youth Choir, singers and musicians. We are also looking for a new choir director. Anyone who would like to join or help out with the choir please contact Fr Phil.

I want to say a word of thanks to Pauline Savage who has directed our Youth Choir for the past six years and to the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal who gave her great support.

**The Upper Room Youth Group:** Led by the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal (041.9830441). Opening registration night on Wednesday 19th September from 7.15pm - 8.45pm at St. Mary's Pastoral Centre, parents must attend to sign permission forms. Weekly meeting will be held on Thursdays from 7.15pm - 8.45pm in St. Mary's Pastoral Centre. Join us for faith, friendship and fun.

## Prayer and Pilgrimage

**Our Lady of the Rosary:** Sunday 7th October is the Feast Day of Our Lady of the Rosary. To mark the celebration the Legion of Mary invite everyone to take part in a candle lit procession and recitation of the Rosary after the 7pm Mass. Refreshments afterwards.

**Rotas for Ministers of the Word:** have been emailed earlier in the week and there are also copies available in the Sacristy for those without email addresses

### Legion of Maria Drogheda Curia:

Annual Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine on Sunday 30th September. Bus €15.00. Pick Up 6.45am bottom of Mary St., 6.50am bottom of Cherrymount Estate. 6.55am. Thatch Pub, Donore Road.

**Contact:** June 041.9831235.

**An Appreciation night for Fr. Joe** will be held in the City North Hotel on Thursday 8th November.

Tickets costing €25.00 are now available from the Parish Office and McCabe's Shop. Music by Phil & Mill.

Complimentary bus available. Anyone unable to attend but wishing to make a contribution may do so at the Parish Office.

**Tickets will be on sale after all the Masses on Sunday 23rd September and Sunday 30th September.**

## Mass Intentions for week beginning Sunday 16th September, 2018

<b>Sunday 16th</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Paddy Maxwell	
	<b>10.30am</b>	Rose Coyle <i>Month's Memory</i> ; Ollie Rice & Michael Byrne; Roisin Davis; Special Intention	
	<b>12.00noon</b>	Mary Quinn; Patrick Morrissey; Pauline & Michael Heeney & deceased members of the Heeney & Marley families and Johnny Callaghan; Ollie & Maureen Halpin	
	<b>2.00pm</b>	<b>Polish Mass</b>	
	<b>7.00pm</b>	Justina Berrill	
<b>Monday 17th</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	Teresa McDonald & Edward McDonald	
<b>Tuesday 18th</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	Special Intention	<b>Wed 19th</b>
<b>Thursday 20th</b>	<b>8.00am</b>		<b>8.00am</b> Special Intention
<b>Friday 21st</b>	<b>8.00am</b>		<b>7.30pm</b> St. Pio Mass & Devotions
<b>Saturday 22nd</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	John & Maureen Spence; Rita & Billy Gavin; James & Rita Kierans; Michael & Mary Pentony	
<b>Sunday 23rd</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Margaret & Thomas Hand	
	<b>10.30am</b>	Jean O'Rourke <i>Month's Memory</i> ; Jim, Jennell & Paul Byrne; Sr. Mary Dominic; Special Intention; George Rainsford	
	<b>12.00noon</b>	Kaline Murray; Ann Owens	
	<b>7.00pm</b>	Special Intention	

## A prayer for those who have entered Eternal Rest ...



*Thomas (Tommy) Brodigan*, Ballsgrove & Mornington  
*Baby Ezra Monks*, Dublin  
*Brian Grogan*, England & late of Sunnyside Cottages  
*Patricia Smyth*, Marsh Road & late of Clonmel.

## Supporting Our Parish:

9th September 2018

**Offertory: €1,297.00**

**Parish Dev. Fund: €1,530.00**

*Many thanks for your support.*

