

Happy St Patrick's Day! – a day when we remember the roots of the Christian faith in Ireland. There is no doubt that to be a Christian in Ireland today is difficult. Often it is easier to hide our faith, to avoid ridicule, arguments and debates which can wear us down. However, today we should take example and energy from St Patrick. His story was not a walk in the park either. We celebrate our Christian identity today and celebrate the Gospel message that a courageous Patrick brought to us, a message that was preserved and passed on; a message that is very relevant to today's world and which continues to nourish and sustain us.

Take heart from the parable of the Mustard Seed in the Gospel today. The mustard seed plant is sometimes wild and out of control. Author and activist, Shane Claiborne, compares it to kudzu, a wild vine that could blanket entire mountain areas, smother trees, even crack stone buildings and footpaths. The shrub was banned in certain areas of Palestine because of how it could completely take over gardens. When we are struggling with being a Christian in modern Ireland, feeling excluded in a world that wants to forget God, we can take courage from the parable of the mustard seed. It grew in places where it was not wanted. You might recall the people in your own life who nourished your faith and who guided you along your spiritual path.

'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.' (St Patrick's Breastplate)

"PRO LIFE LEITRIM" talk with Dr. Fidelma Healy-Eames, former Senator and founder of MyAdoptionStory.ie will speak along with others in Bush Hotel, Ck-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim on Tues Mar 19th @ 7:30pm. All welcome."

MISSION APPEAL - Many thanks to all parishioners for your gracious welcome to Fr Terry Smith of the Holy Ghost Missionary Order last weekend as he made an appeal in support of their missionary work. The collection amounted to €1,123 - Fr Terry has written to express his gratitude for your generosity.

LONGFORD BRANCH OF THE ALZHEIMER SOCIETY OF IRELAND - Annual General Meeting take place in The Longford Arms Hotel, on Tues 26th Mar @ 8.00 p.m. Guest speaker is Jennifer Edgeworth, Senior Clinical Psychologist.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES SCHEME (VTOS) - Are you over 21 and unemployed? If so you could join the VTOS programme and receive business and computer training FREE OF CHARGE. Interested? Contact Maeve Madden, Longford VTOS. Tel 087 2050589 as soon as possible

TAX FORMS - Thank you to all who have returned forms in relation to the Tax Relief Scheme for Charities. All outstanding forms would be most welcome to enable us to maximise our claim from this valuable source of income.

READERS OF THE WORD OF GOD – MARCH

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Pat Appleford, Mary Kelly McGrath.

Sunday 10.00 a.m.: Niamh Gogan, David Greene.

Sunday 12 noon: Dolores Courtney, Gerard Greene.

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST - MARCH

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Angela Kelly, Marie Reilly, Mairead Fulham.

Sunday 10.00 a.m Kathleen Dowler, Ita O'Farrell, John Cahill.

Sunday 12 noon: Maria Noonan, Liam Tuite, Angela Dockery.

Please arrange a substitute if you cannot be present.

Parish of St. Mary's



Mostrim

Telephone: (043) 6671046

www.edgeworthstownparish.ie

edgeworthstownparish@gmail.com

St. Patrick's Day - 17th Mar 2019

This Weekend: March 16th/17th
7.00p.m. 1. Patrick & Ann Gallagher, Garryandrew
 2. Mary Doyle (née Nolan) 1st Anniv., Lacken & Dublin.
10.00a.m. No Intention
12noon John O'Neill, Lisnagh

The Manor – Sunday 17th March – The Mitchell Family

Weekday Masses: The Manor at 11.00 a.m.

Next Weekend: March 23rd/24th
7.00p.m. 1. Tommy & Sean Doyle and deceased family members of Brady & O'Donnell families, Cam
 2. Paddy McLoughlin, Kilsallagh
 3. Teresa & Patrick Monaghan and deceased family members
10.00a.m. 1. Ann Sheridan (2nd Anniv), Lisnagrish
 2. Jim, Elizabeth & Anna of the Hagan family, Lisnare & Cullogue.
 3. Kay Quinn (Month's Mind)
12noon Mick & Ethel Grimes, Bracklin Rd. & deceased members of the family.

Offertory Collection: Sun March 10th - €1,290.00 - sincere thanks.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION takes place in our parish on Tues, Wed and Thurs from 11.30 until 6.00 p.m. New people are always required to participate in this prayer. Could you become involved as a commitment for the Season of Lent?

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT? – POPE FRANCIS

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and trust in God.

Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.

Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

EDGEWORTHSTOWN TIDY TOWNS - We will hold our annual Spring Clean on Sat March 23rd. Meet outside the Edgeworth Hotel at 2.00 p.m. All welcome. Include your children as well (they must be under your supervision). Let's get our town looking its best for the good of us all, so please come out and show your support by helping. Tidy Towns will supply hi-viz vests and gloves. Any further queries contact Tom Doolev on 087 2405387. See you on the 23rd!