

Parish of St. Mary's

Mostrim



Telephone: (043) 6671046

www.edgeworthstownparish.ie

edgeworthstownparish@gmail.com

Second Sunday of Advent – 5th / 6th Dec 2020

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for Michael Smith, Bracklin, and for Albert Dovey, Corboy who died recently. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. *Requiescant in Pace.*

DEC 8th - FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION is a Holyday - Mass on Mon 7th @ 7.00 pm; Tues 8th @ 11.00 am.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Eucharistic Adoration will now take place from 11.30 to 12.30 on Monday to Friday. All are welcome to take part in this special time of devotion to Jesus present in the Blessed Sacrament.

• The Deep End • The Beginning of the Good News •

The second Sunday of Advent turns our attention to John the Baptist. John was an interesting individual. We are told he dressed a bit strangely, and spent a lot of time in the desert, 'the voice of one crying out in the wilderness'. Yet it seems he was very popular with 'all the people of Jerusalem' went out to hear him. John must have been a dynamic speaker and one in whom people found hope and inspiration. In John the Baptist's time, the people lived under the oppression of the Roman Empire and were waiting for someone who would liberate them. John points to one who is greater than he, he points the people to Jesus.

When Pope Francis released the encyclical *Fratelli Tutti* in October this year he noted that dark clouds hang over our world and he urged everyone to embrace a spirit of friendship, kindness, compassion and solidarity as we move forward, to help ensure the dignity of every person and a more sustainable world for all. We have certainly experienced a type of wilderness this year. As we continue to battle the effects of Covid 19 and find a way forward. Our communities need messengers, like John, who bring good news, hope and a vision for the future, who point us toward a new way forward.

As we prepare to welcome Christ into our lives once more, let's make the most of this advent time, the most of this waiting time. May we use this space to reflect on what type of world can be born out of this wilderness we find ourselves in. May we reach out to those who are crying out for hope during these difficult months, like John the Baptist, offering a positive vision for the future.

- Jane Mellett (INTECOM)

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

FIRST READING: Isaiah offers us an image of God as a Shepherd who searches, carries us and consoles us. Isaiah says: Here is your God.

SECOND READING: We are waiting for a new heaven and a new earth. The Day of the Lord will surprise us.

GOSPEL: St Mark's Gospel invites us to into our own wilderness to recognise the voice of the Holy Spirit.

"Have a heart that never hardens, and a temper that never tires, and a touch that never hurts" - Charles Dickens

"The first duty of love is to listen" - Paul Tillich

READERS OF THE WORD OF GOD - DECEMBER

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Kayanna Greene, Selina Greene

Sunday 9.00 a.m.: Niamh Gogan

Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Kate Crossan, Kate O'Donoghue

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST - DECEMBER

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Sandra Durkin, Mairead Fulham

Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Kathleen Dowler, Emma O'Reilly

Please arrange a substitute if you cannot be present.

- Fr Tom Healy -

This Weekend Dec 5th / 6th

7.00 p.m. Mary O'Connor, Kilsallagh

9.00 a.m. No Intention

11.00 a.m. 1. Barney Dunne, Lisryan and deceased family members

2. Elizabeth O'Neill (nee Harper) and deceased members of the Harper family.

Weekday Masses: St Mary's Church at 11.00 a.m.

Mon Dec 7th @ 7.00 p.m. John Rawle

Tues Dec 8th Teresa and John Canning

Wed Dec 9th People of the Parish

Next Weekend: Dec 12th / 13th

7.00 p.m. 1. Michael and Mary Eivers, Bracklin

2. Patrick Brady, Longfield

9.00 a.m. Brigid, Daniel and Lily Murray and Sean and James McKeon

11.00 a.m. 1. Frank Keenan, and his daughters Margo and Patricia and deceased members of the Clyne family.

2. Paddy Walsh

WORSHIP IN DECEMBER

Thankfully our churches reopened on Tuesday last. There was a great sense of joy among the daily Mass going congregation - it was good for people to meet and to befriend each other and to be united in prayer once more. We hope and pray that our churches will be able to remain open into the future. Daily Mass takes place @ 11.00 each morning. **The maximum number permitted remains at 50 for Masses; 25 for Funerals and 25 for weddings.**

The following protective measures are expected to be in place:

- 2m social distancing guidelines adhered to (members of the same household can sit/stand close together)
- Wearing of face coverings
- Where possible separate points of entrance and exit, clearly marked
- No congregation by people outside the premises before and after any ceremony
- Stewards on site to assist in this regard

Choirs, chanting and congregational singing - Specific Guidance on this will be provided later by the Government.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

The Parish Pastoral Council met during the week to consider how best to plan for Christmas. It was decided to have two Vigil Masses and two on Christmas Day as follows:

Christmas Eve - Masses @ 7.00 p.m. and 9.00 pm.

Christmas Day - Masses @ 9.00 a.m. and 11.00 a.m.