

# Parish of St. Mary's

Mostrim

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Easter Sunday - 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021

This Weekend **Apr 4<sup>th</sup>**

- 11.00 a.m. 1. Kathleen and Sean Logan  
2. Lisa Moran (Months Mind)  
3. Sr Elizabeth Brady (Months Mind)

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

Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Apr People of the Parish

Next Weekend: **Apr 11<sup>th</sup>**

- 11.00 a.m. 1. Maura Doyle (First Anniv.), Tommy and Sean Doyle and deceased members of the Brady and O'Donnell Families.  
2. Yvonne Sheridan and her parents Oonagh O'Ferrall and Conal O'Ferrall, Camlisk.  
3. Frank, Bridie and Ann Cahill, Tinenaire.

**TROCAIRE** - Lenten Donations to Trocaire can be dropped into the Letterbox at the Parochial House.

Thank you to the many parishioners who continue to contribute to the parish by using the Letterbox at the Parochial House.

## EDGEWORTHSTOWN PARISH WEBCAM

Parish webcam is accessible at:  
churchtv.ie ⇨ Longford ⇨ Edgeworthstown

## EASTER REFLECTION

The ultimate among Solemnities, the greatest among Feasts – Easter is the day we celebrate the crowning, central truth of our faith in Jesus Christ. Easter is the most important day of the Christian calendar, more important than even Christmas. It is the day of the Resurrection and Christ's triumphant victory over sin and death.

Through the solemn observances of Lent, we join our sorrowful Blessed Mother in accompanying Jesus on the road to Calvary. Particularly on Holy Thursday and Good Friday, when we unite ourselves to our Lord's Passion, contemplating the suffering Jesus endured for love of us, we are transformed through this uniting in order to also share in Jesus' great culminating victory over sin and death. On Easter, we celebrate Jesus' glorious Resurrection from the dead – the basis for our faith, as Saint Paul emphatically reminds us in his first epistle to the Corinthians: "And if Christ be not risen again, your faith is vain, for you are yet in your sins. Then they also that are fallen asleep in Christ are perished" (1 Corinthians 15:17-18).

Just as we are called to share in Our Lord's Passion and Death, we are also called to unite ourselves to His Resurrection during Easter, for if "we have died with Him, we shall also live with Him" (2 Timothy 2:11). This greatest of gifts, given to us lovingly and freely by our Redeemer, has purchased for us eternal life. We can hope for no greater glory than to gain the

Beatific Vision and live eternally with God, the Blessed Virgin Mary, the angels and saints in Heaven.

The joy of our faith and hope rests in the words of Jesus to Martha before He raised Lazarus from the dead: "I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, although he be dead, shall live; and every one that liveth, and believeth in me, shall not die for ever" (John 11:25-26). Let us join our voices to Martha's as we echo her response to Jesus: "Yes, Lord, I have believed that thou art Christ, the Son of the living God" (John 11:27).

Easter not only is the foundation of our faith, Easter also invigorates our hope. Hope draws our eyes upward, where God resides. Saint Paul encourages us: "Therefore, if you be risen with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is sitting at the right hand of God. Mind the things that are above, not the things that are upon the earth. For you are dead and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ shall appear, who is your life, then you also shall appear with Him in glory" (Colossians 3:1-4).

While Christmas and Easter both have Octaves, the Church celebrates the Easter season for a longer period than it does Christmas. "Eastertide" extends to 50 days, and commemorates the 40 days Our Lord spent on earth after His Resurrection to the time of His Ascension into Heaven, as well as the 10 days from the Ascension to the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

On Easter Sunday, let us all join with the chorus of the faithful as we proclaim, "Yes, rejoice and be glad for Christ is truly risen! Alleluia!"  
By *Marta Timar Carmelite Sister*

## EASTER PRAYER

The Lord is risen!  
He is risen indeed!  
Alleluia!

Lord Jesus, we greet you, risen from the dead.

We thought that your way of love was a dead end, leading only to the cross: now we see that it is the way to life.

We thought that your whole life was wasted: now we know that it was gloriously worthwhile.  
We thought that your suffering was pointless: now we can see God's purpose in it.

We thought that death was the end of us: now we know that your life was too great to be ended by death.  
Lord Jesus, we greet you risen from the dead.

- Contemporary Prayers for Public Worship

"The resurrection is for Christians the supreme sign that God does indeed act in this world to bring life out of death, hope out of despair, victory out of defeat, and vindication to those who trust him. It is an invitation to live hope fully and to pray faithfully"  
- Archbishop John Habgood

## Pope Francis Quotes:

"We proclaim the resurrection of Christ when his light illuminates the dark moments of our existence, and we are able share it with others."

"Dear sister, dear brother, even if in your heart you have buried hope, do not give up: God is greater. Darkness and death do not have the last word. Be strong, for with God nothing is lost".

"Easter is the event that brought radical news for every human being, for history and for the world: the triumph of life over death; it is the feast of reawakening and of rebirth. Let us allow our lives to be conquered and transformed by the Resurrection!"

- Fr Tom Healy -

