

Parish of St. Mary's

Mostrim



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Fifth Sunday of Easter - 2nd May 2021

This Weekend **May 2nd**

11.00 a.m. 1. John Victory (Second Anniv.)

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

Wed 5th May People of the Parish

Next Weekend: **May 8th**

11.00 a.m. 1. John, Margaret and Kevin Hughes and
Thomas and Rita Boland
2. Eddie Hughes

DIocese of Ardagh and Clonmacnois

Public Worship from 10th May 2021

Happily we will be able to gather again for public worship from Mon May 10th onwards.

It will be great to see the familiar faces of parishioners back in our Parish Church.

As before, there are a number of guidelines as follows:

- Two meter distance must be maintained with a maximum number of 50 people.
- Sanitiser will be available at all doors.
- Please enter by front doors and exit by side doors.
- Holy Water fonts to be left empty.
- Congregating outside the church is discouraged.
- Face masks are highly recommended and strongly encouraged.
- Funerals - From 10th May 50 mourners are permitted at a Funeral Ceremony.
- Marriages - From 10th May 50 guests are permitted at a Marriage Ceremony.
- First Friday Communion Calls may take place with the prior approval of the household.
- Singing at Mass - Congregational singing and choir singing are not permitted.

We will need to continue to rely on our volunteer cleaners and stewards so as to ensure our congregations remain safe.

Thank you to all for your kind support.

"Worshipping is stripping ourselves of our idols, even the most hidden ones, and choosing the Lord as the centre, as the highway of our lives" - Pope Francis

FIRST FRIDAY - First Friday Calls will resume on Fri May 14th.

RECENTLY DECEASED - Please pray for Bridget Farrell, Cranleybeg, and for Gretta Dunne, Lisryan who died recently. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Requiescant in Pace.

VOcATIONS PROMOTION

"It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit and then you will be my disciples." Are you being called to love the Lord and His people as a priest, sister or brother? Love demands truth and action. Speak to your local priest or Diocesan Vocations Director, or email the National Vocations Office: email: info@vocations.com.

TROCAIRE - Thank you for your kind donations to Trocaire's Lenten Campaign. The total amount received is €1,925 which has been forwarded to Trocaire.

Pope urges Catholics to pray in May for end to Covid-19 pandemic

Pope Francis invites Catholics and Marian Shrines around the world to dedicate the month of May to a marathon of prayer for an end to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Catholics across the globe are encouraged to dedicate the Marian month of May to praying for an end to the pandemic. The initiative, behind which the Pope has thrown his support, involves 30 Marian Shrines from various parts of the world.

Prayer initiative

"The initiative will involve all the Shrines of the world in a special way, so that they might encourage the faithful, families, and communities to recite the Rosary to pray for an end to the pandemic," read the statement.

Pope Francis will open the Marian month of prayer on 1 May with a Rosary broadcast across Vatican Media's platforms.

Each day will see Vatican News broadcast the recitation of the Rosary at 6 PM Rome time from the various Shrines taking part in the initiative.

The Pope will also close the initiative on 31 May with another specially-broadcast Rosary.

End to the pandemic

This year's dedication of May to pandemic-related prayer recalls a similar occurrence during the first wave in March 2020.

Pope Francis led the world in prayer during that confusing and difficult time, celebrating a live-streamed, daily Mass in the Casa Santa Marta.

After more than a year, and with the world still in the grips of the pandemic, the Pope and the Church around the world are once again leading the way in imploring God for an end to the suffering which so many people are forced to bear.

• The Deep End • Bound together •

Have you ever visited a vineyard, with its rows of vines, heavy with clusters of ripe grapes? If you're not familiar with vines, think of an apple tree laden with apples, or a fruit bush ripe for picking. In today's Gospel, Jesus uses the metaphor of a vine to describe his relationship with his disciples. He tells them that he is the vine, and they are the branches. The life of Jesus flows into us and sustains us, and this is the reason our lives can bear fruit in love, in kindness, patience, compassion and welcome.

The symbolism of the vine works on many levels. If a branch is separated from the vine, it cannot flourish on its own. It must be connected to the vine from which it gets its nourishment. Each of us must be firmly rooted in Jesus and nourish that relationship. He invites us to 'remain' in him - to rest in him, to be part of him. And if you look at a vine plant, often its branches are so entangled, it can be hard to know where one ends another one begins. We note that Jesus is addressing the disciples as a group rather than as individuals; 'you are the branches'. We are a community, and we grow together, bound together by the love of God.

Today we reflect on what it means to be so intimately connected with Jesus, the true vine. We bring to mind the many gifts he has given us, and the ways in which his love bears fruit in our lives.

- Triona Doherty (INTERCOM)

EDGEWORTHSTOWN PARISH WEBCAM

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

- Fr Tom Healy -