

Parish of St. Mary's

Mostrim



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Fifteenth Sunday - 10th / 11th July 2021

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| This Weekend | Jul 10th / 11th |
| 7.00 p.m. | Thomas and Moira Carroll and deceased family members. |
| 9.00 a.m. | No Intention. |
| 11.00 a.m. | 1. John O'Connor, Marian Avenue and O'Connor Family, Lisnageeragh and Flood Family, 7 St Patrick's Terrace. 2. Margaret Kearney (First Anniv.). |
| Weekday Masses: St Mary's Church at 11.00 a.m. | |
| Wed Jul 14 th | People of the Parish. |
| Sat Jul 17 th | Norah Conway. |
| Next Weekend: | Jul 17th / 18th |
| 7.00 p.m. | John and Alice McCann. |
| 9.00 a.m. | No Intention. |
| 11.00 a.m. | 1. Pat Joe Donohoe, Lisnageeragh. 2. James Coyle. |

Offertory Collection: Sun Jul 4th - €935 - sincere thanks.

RECENTLY DECEASED - Please pray for Antoinette Foley, Abhainn Glas who died recently. May she rest in peace and rise in glory. Requiescant in Pace.

• The Deep End • The First Mission •

Two phrases come to mind as I read about the disciples heading off on their first mission: 'baptism of fire' and 'to be thrown in at the deep end'. We use these expressions to describe a difficult introduction to a new job or activity, when we are expected to learn as we go and cope with whatever obstacles we face. In today's Gospel, Jesus sends the Twelve out on their first mission. It is a challenging one and his instructions are brief and very specific: they are to bring nothing but a staff – no food or money – meaning they will have to rely on the hospitality of others for all their needs. They are to stay wherever they are welcomed, rather than move around from house to house, so they can't be choosy about their lodgings. Simplicity is key – no baggage, no luxuries, no distractions, nothing but the task of reaching to people. It might not be plain sailing, but Jesus offers advice for those difficult times too.

It appears their mission of preaching and healing was successful, as we are told the disciples came back eager to fill Jesus in. Imagine the experiences they must have had during this time – the people they met and helped, the generosity of those who welcomed them, the conversations on the road, the chance to share their excitement at everything Jesus was doing. They were certainly thrown into a challenging situation, but they returned with a fresh perspective and strengthened faith. Jesus calls us to step out into the unknown, his words as our guide and his bond with us unbreakable.

'A boat is safe in the harbour, but this not the purpose of a boat.' (Paulo Coelho) - Triona Doherty (INTERCOM)

• Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel •

1. Jesus gave the disciples a share in his mission by sending them out ahead of him. It was a gesture of trust and confidence on his part, even though they did not fully understand his mission. Have you ever been surprised by the trust shown in you by others to speak or act on their behalf?

2. Jesus sent the disciples out two by two. Perhaps your experience gives you examples of the value of having another with you when engaged in an important task.

3. The apparently strange instructions given by Jesus were intended to counteract practices by bogus preachers who used preaching as a mask for money-making. True disciples of Jesus focus on the mission and not on their own comforts. Is it your experience that vested interests can impede a task, whereas having the right motives makes your mission more effective?

4. The task of the disciples was to call people to repent, (metanoia = conversion, change the way we look at God and at other people). Who have been the disciples, the people in your life who have called you to be more trusting in God? To whom have you given this call? - John Byrne OSA (INTERCOM)

The Story of the Cracked Pot

An elderly Chinese woman had two large pots, each hung on the ends of a pole which she carried across her neck. One of the pots had a crack in it while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water. At the end of the long walks from the stream to the house, the cracked pot arrived only half full.

For a full two years this went on daily, with the woman bringing home only one and a half pots of water. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it could only do half of what it had been made to do.

After two years of what it perceived to be bitter failure, it spoke to the woman one day by the stream. 'I am ashamed of myself, because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your house.'

The old woman smiled, 'Did you notice that there are flowers on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side?' 'That's because I have always known about your flaw, so I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back, you water them.'

For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table. Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to grace the house.'

- Author Unknown

"I've discovered an astonishing truth: God is attracted to weaknesses. He can't resist those who humbly and honestly admit how desperately they need Him."

- Jim Cymbala

"The church is a hospital for sinners, not a museum for saints."

- Abigail VanBuren

READERS OF THE WORD OF GOD - JULY

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Matt Farrell

Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Maria Noonan, Ashling Reilly

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST - JULY

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Lauren McKeon, Mairead Fulham

Sunday 9.00 a.m.: Anne Smith

Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Yvonne Tuite, Kate O'Donohue

Please arrange a substitute if you cannot be present.

EDGEWORTHSTOWN PARISH WEBCAM

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

- Fr Tom Healy -