

Parish of St. Mary's

Mostrim



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Twenty First Sunday - 22nd August 2021

This Weekend **Aug 21st / Aug 22nd**

7.00 p.m. No Intention.

9.00 a.m. No Intention.

11.00 a.m. No Intention.

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

Thurs Aug 26th *Norah and Rose Conway and deceased members of the Conway Family.*

Next Weekend: **Aug 28th / 29th**

7.00 p.m. No Intention.

9.00 a.m. No Intention.

- 11.00 a.m.
1. John and Mai Grimes, their son John and deceased family members.
 2. Ned Hogan (13th Anniv and Birthday Remembrance).
 3. Ina Marshall and Annie and Paddy Marshall.

• The Deep End • Leap of Faith •

Children are often adept at looking beyond the practicalities and seeing the possibilities. Where a parent or guardian might only see a messy room in need of tidying, a child sees an obstacle course, a castle, a jungle, a magical fairy forest. It can be refreshing to take a breath and remember that there is more to life than our physical, tangible world with its daily routines and to-do lists. Sometimes circumstances can leave us blinded to life's beauty or meaning.

In today's Gospel, some of Jesus' followers are finding it difficult to see beyond the physical. He has been teaching them that he is the living bread, but it is hard for them to accept. They dismiss it as 'intolerable language' and they wonder 'How could anyone accept it?' His teachings are too difficult to comprehend and they are annoyed and offended. Some of them even walk away.

But Jesus is offering something more than the practicalities, more than physical food or drink: he offers the bread of life, living bread, his very self. It is a difficult message, but Simon Peter gets to the heart of it: 'You have the message of eternal life, and we believe.' He is able to see beyond the obvious, to hear the truth at the heart of Jesus' words. Jesus demands a lot of his followers, who must each decide whether or not they want to follow. Are we ready to make that leap of faith?

- Triona Doherty (INTERCOM)

"Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you,
All things are passing away:
God never changes.
Patience obtains all things.
Whoever has God lacks nothing;
God alone suffices."
- St Teresa de Jesus

• Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel •

1. In this chapter Jesus teaches that the meaning of his life, and the meaning of all human life, lies in being prepared to give of oneself. Perhaps you can identify with what Pope Francis says: 'Those who enjoy life most are those who leave security on the shore and become excited by the mission of communicating life to others' (Pope Francis: The Joy of the Gospel, No.10)
2. 'This teaching is difficult', complained his hearers, including some of his own followers. Perhaps at times you also have wondered if you could go along with it. What helped you to overcome your resistance?
3. 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the message of eternal life.' In the midst of your doubts perhaps you have held on to your faith in Jesus because, like Peter, you found a more hopeful message in Jesus than you could find anywhere else. How has the gospel message been more attractive to you than any other?
4. 'The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life'. Recall the words and phrases of Jesus that are words of life for you.

- John Byrne OSA (INTERCOM)

"We cannot all do great things, but we can do small things with great love."

- St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

"The greatest mistake we can make is to stay on the ground after falling."

- Victor Manuel Rivera

"Our hearts were made for You, O Lord, and they are restless until they rest in You."

- St. Augustine of Hippo

Today's Scripture

First Reading: Joshua tells the people that now that they have arrived in the Promised Land they have a vital decision to make - to serve the one true God or to serve idols.

Second Reading: St Paul uses the image of a marriage relationship to express the bond of love that exists between Christ and the Church.

Gospel: Many of Jesus' disciples leave him because they cannot accept his teaching. Jesus then confronts his apostles with the same choice: "Will you also leave me."

A Prayer for Respect

Lord, there are many places
in our world
where some people do not respect
the background and traditions
and culture of others.
We know that prejudice
can turn to hatred
and even to murder
and such things often start in simple ways.
Lead us to live in such a way
that our first reaction
is to think good of people,
focussing on the positive
before we ever see the negative. Amen

READERS OF THE WORD OF GOD - SEPTEMBER

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Sinead Farrell

Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Noreen Grant, Mark Reynolds

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST - AUGUST

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Sr Maureen Brennan, Sandra Durkan

Sunday 9.00 a.m.: Mairead Fulham

Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Emma Reilly, Ita O'Farrell

Please arrange a substitute if you cannot be present.

EDGEWORTHSTOWN PARISH WEBCAM

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

- Fr Tom Healy -