

# Parish of St. Mary's

## Mostrim



Telephone: (043) 6671046

www.edgeworthstownparish.ie

edgeworthstownparish@gmail.com

Twenty Fifth Sunday - 24<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023

### This Weekend Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> / 24<sup>th</sup>

- 7.00 p.m. 1. Dorothy Farrell (Anniv).  
2. Pauline Flood, London and Garryandrew (2<sup>nd</sup> Anniv).
- 11.00 a.m. 1. Sr Elizabeth Barron.  
2. Sean McNally (Months Mind).

### Next Weekend: Sept 30<sup>th</sup> / Oct 1<sup>st</sup>

- 7.00 p.m. 1. Madeleine Kenny (16<sup>th</sup> Anniv) and her grandparents Christopher and Kathleen Kenny.  
2. Molly, Mickey and Deirdre Hussey (Anniv).
- 11.00 a.m. 1. Tommy and Margaret Gilchrist, Shantum.  
2. Martin Gilchrist.

**Offertory Collection:** Sun Sept 16<sup>th</sup> / 17<sup>th</sup> - €1,240 - sincere thanks.

#### • Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel •

##### • World Day of Migrants and Refugees •

1. 'I was there first'. Envy easily comes to the surface when faced with the good fortune of others, especially when compared to what seems less favourable treatment of ourselves. Can you recall that feeling in yourself and what it did to you? Can you also recall times when you were content with your lot, even though it seemed others had greater gifts, better opportunities, etc.
2. A parent or teacher who gives a lot of time to a difficult child does not love the others less, but if we are one of those other children we may not see that. Recall a 'Jesus person' in your life who helped you to overcome feelings of envy and helped you appreciate that the apparently more favourable treatment of another did not mean a lessening of love for you.
3. This leads us to the core message of this parable, namely, that God's love is a free gift, and not earned. Recall moments when you were particularly conscious of the gifts that God has given you by counting all the blessings that you have, no matter how small.
4. 'It is too late now' are words sometimes uttered to justify doing nothing about a situation. This parable tells us that where love is involved, it is never too late. Can you recall times when you got a positive response after taking action when you thought it was 'too late'?  
- John Byrne OSA (INTERCOM)

#### Thought for the Day

There are those who give little of the much which they have and they give it for recognition and their hidden desire makes their gift unwholesome. And there are those who have little and give it all. These are the believers in life and the bounty of life and their coffer is never empty. There are those who give with joy and that joy is their reward. And there are those who give with pain and that pain is their baptism. All you have shall someday be given; therefore give now, that the season of giving may be yours and not your inheritors.  
- Kahlil Gibran, *The Prophet*

**First Reading** - We often look upon God in very human terms. We make him as small-minded as ourselves. But in this reading God says: "My ways are not your ways."

**Second Reading** - This contains lines written by Paul from prison to his friends at Philippi. He is thinking of his death and longs for complete union with Christ.

**Gospel** - This contains the story about God's generosity, a generosity which rises far above our human standards.

#### Twenty Fifth Sunday

The forty-two parables in the Gospels are designed to take us up short and make us think again. Today's parable is a good example. The actions of the employer and the treatment of the workers simply would not work today as a labour relations strategy and would also not have worked in the time of Jesus. And what is the point? Really that it doesn't matter when we come to the Gospel, early, middle or late, by routes direct or circuitous, in full stride or falteringly: all that matters is that we come to the Gospel. Achievement counts for nothing; grace is everything, thanks be to God!

#### Season of Creation - Prayer of Intercession

1. That we may grow in consciousness of the great gift of creation and all of its elements, Lord hear us.
2. That we may deepen our gratitude for nature's rich Web of Life within which we live and may grow in openness to wiser and more just, nonviolent ways of caring for it and sharing it, Lord hear us.
3. That we may take up our prophetic responsibility in this time of crisis to speak God's Truth to each other and to call each other to conversion and to ways of living within creation wisely, sustainably, justly, and reverently, Lord hear us.
4. That the Synod currently in process will bring wise discernment of the guidance of God's Spirit to the People of God, effective widespread healing to Earth, and new life and energy to all Earth's communities, Lord hear us.

#### Present Moment

"Today is a gift from God which holds out immense opportunities for us. It is the first day of the rest of our lives; whatever yesterday was like, today is wholly new and the future lies ahead."

- Bishop David Hope

"The present moment is like an ambassador who declares the Will of God to me."  
- Jean Pierre de Caussaade

"The great spiritual teachers of all religions have themselves practiced and taught mindfulness.

To be mindful is to live in the present moment, not to be imprisoned in the past nor anticipating a future that may never happen.

When we are fully aware of the present, life is transformed and strain and stress disappear.

So much of modern life is a feverish anticipation of future activity and excitement. We have to learn to step back from this into the freedom and possibility of the present." - Dom Bede Griffiths OSB

#### READERS OF THE WORD OF GOD - OCTOBER

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Sinead O'Ferrall.

Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Eze Ejikeme, Ikedike Eze-Ejikeme

#### MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST - OCTOBER

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Niamh Cassidy and Diane Spillane.

Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Orla Noonan and Yvonne Tuite.

Please arrange a substitute if you cannot be present.

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- Fr Tom Healy -