# Parish of St. Mary's





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Sixth Sunday of the Year - 11th Feb 2024

This Weekend

Feb 10th/ 11th

7.00 p.m.

1. Grainne Hussey (Months Mind).

2. Eveline Barron (Anniv).

11.00 a.m. 1. Mary Rooney, Ballymahon Road (Anniv).

Weekday Masses @ 11.00 a.m. - Our Lady's Manor

Wed Feb 14th

People of the Parish.

Next Weekend: Feb 17th/ 18th

7.00 p.m.

1. Sean Cullen (9th Anniv), Lisa Cullen (10th

Anniv) and Ellen Cullen (10th Anniv).

2. Harry Burke (Months Mind).

11.00 a.m.

1. Pat and Kay Quinn.

2. Brian Greene (4th Anniv).

3. Joan Lynam, Gneeve.

Offertory Collection: Sun Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup>- €1,470 - sincere thanks.

## Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel

1. In this section of the Sermon on the Mount Jesus proposes standards that go beyond external ways of behaviour. He challenges our inner attitudes. When have you found that living out of inner conviction is more life-giving than keeping up appearances?

Jesus applies his teaching to feelings of anger and sexual desire. He suggests that if we do not keep an eye on our feelings and thoughts we will not be able to control our actions. Perhaps you have experienced the truth of this. What has helped you to integrate your feelings so that you were able to live in right relationship with yourself and others?

3. For Jesus, people with genuine authenticity do not need to swear an oath to be convincing. Their 'yes' or 'no' suffices. Recall people who had this kind of credibility for you. When have you found that your simple, direct and honest communication had a positive persuasive force?

4. In recent times public discourse sometimes has little respect for truth. What effect does this have on how you view politicians or other people in the public eye? What helps you to distinguish the - John Byrne OSA (INTERCOM) truth from fake news?

## **Sunday Scriptures**

First Reading - This describes how lepers were considered ritually unclean and were compelled to live apart from the community.

Second Reading - St Paul urges us never to do anything offensive to anyone.

Gospel - This tells how Jesus cured a leper by touching him.

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### **ASH WEDNESDAY**

Wed Feb 14th - Masses @ 11.00 a.m. (Our Lady's Manor) and 7.00 p.m. (Parish Church)

Lent is a period of forty-six days that commemorates the time Jesus spent in the desert prior to beginning his public ministry as Messiah. As described in the gospel readings according to Matthew, Mark and Luke, following his baptism by John the Baptist in the Jordan River, Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert, where he fasted for forty days and was subject to temptation.

To honour this over temptation, Christians elect to Lent to refocus on to his death on over What Do We Do



sacrifice and conquest Catholics and other set aside the season of Jesus as we look ahead the Cross and rejoice miraculous return.

during Lent?

Lent is a time when participants can carry out a three-fold mission, with the key pillars being fasting, almsgiving, and prayer. Certainly, these components are not new within our Catholic teachings nor are they reserved only for Lent, as we are encouraged to practice them regularly throughout the year. However, a special and renewed focus on each of them during Lent can foster growth and appreciation within our collective faith and respective spiritual journeys.

Lent is a time to learn to travel light, to clear the clutter from our crowded lives and find a space, a Desert.

Deserts are bleak: no creature Comforts, only a vast expanse of Stillness, sharpening awareness of Ourselves and God. Ann Lewin

## **Sunday Reflection**

## World Day of the Sick / Day of Prayer for Temperance

Through the healing of the leper by Jesus, the gospel writer is posing a question: "Who is this man Jesus?" The close bond that exists between Jesus and his Father means that Jesus has the - St Paul's Sunday Missal power to heal those who are sick.

The Annual Lourdes Assisted Pilgrimage Fund collection will take place on the weekend of Feb 10th/ 11th - baskets will be circulated a second time for this collection - thank you.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place from 31st May - 5th June. See poster in Church for full details.

The 28th Annual Maria Edgeworth Festival of Literature & Arts takes place on 10th - 12th May 2024. Closing date for Poetry and Short Story Competition is February 23rd at 5.00 p.m. Entry online on https://mariaedgeworthcenter.com

Mostrim Players along with the youth players are staging a panto called "Hansel and Gretel go walk about" in Ardagh Community Hall on Fri 16th & Sat 17th Feb at 7pm and a Sunday Matinee on 18th Feb at 3pm. Tickets can be purchased in Lyons of Ardagh and A & N gift-stores in Edgeworthstown. You may also pay on the door.

## READERS OF THE WORD OF GOD - FEBRUARY

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Pat Apppleford. Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Noreen Grant.

## MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARST - FEBRUARY

Saturday 7.00p.m: Diane Spillane, Maura Coyle. Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Ita O'Farrell, Emma O'Reilly.

Please arrange a substitute if you cannot be present.