

# Parish of St. Mary's

## Mostrim



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**First Sunday of Lent - 18<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024**

### This Weekend Feb 17<sup>th</sup>/ 18<sup>th</sup>

- 7.00 p.m.** 1. Sean Cullen (9<sup>th</sup> Anniv), Lisa Cullen (10<sup>th</sup> Anniv) and Ellen Cullen (10<sup>th</sup> Anniv).  
2. Harry Burke (Months Mind).
- 11.00 a.m.** 1. Pat and Kay Quinn.  
2. Brian Greene (4<sup>th</sup> Anniv).  
3. Joan Lynam, Gneeve.

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

### Next Weekend: Feb 24<sup>th</sup>/ 25<sup>th</sup>

- 7.00 p.m.** Bartley McGovern (Second Anniv).  
**11.00 a.m.** No Intention.

**Offertory Collection:** Sun Feb 10<sup>th</sup> / 11<sup>th</sup> - €1,150 - sincere thanks.

**The Annual Lourdes Assisted Pilgrimage Fund** - €689 - thank you.

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

1. Jesus he is about to start his public ministry. Mark tells us this was preceded by a deep inner struggle when his resolve to take on his God-given mission was tested. Recall important decisions in your own life. Were they accompanied by struggle and doubt? Who were the angels who supported you at that time? Give thanks for them.
2. Such periods of anxiety may seem like wilderness experiences at the time. Later, with hindsight, we may see them as being good for us. Perhaps, like Jesus, you recall a time when the Spirit of God led you into the wilderness to be tested and after the experience you had a clearer sense of your own identity / your purpose in life.
3. Repent and believe the good news was the heart of the message of Jesus. It was not a call to penance but to a change of heart, a change of attitude, leading to a change in behaviour. The kingdom of God is a kingdom of right relationships: with God, with one another, with creation, with ourselves. It is a change that leads to a fuller life. When have you found that a change in your attitude towards God, others, yourself, or the world around you, has led you to a more fulfilled or more fruitful life?
4. There is an immediacy about the call of Jesus: 'the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near'. Recall when you had a realisation that NOW was the moment of opportunity - for a change in your life, for a spiritual renewal, or a time to give a wholehearted yes to life. At this moment to what do you believe you are invited to say 'yes'?  
- John Byrne OSA (INTERCOM)

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

### WEBCAM

[churchtv.ie](http://churchtv.ie) ⇒ Longford ⇒ Edgeworthstown

### TROCAIRE CAMPAIGN 2024

*'I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.'* - (Genesis 9:13)

This year Trócaire's lenten campaign focuses on the country of Malawi, Africa. Malawi is one of the least developed countries in the world and has been badly affected by climate change. In the Machinga district, Malita and her family must make a one-hour trip up to five times a day to collect water. Please support Trócaire in helping communities develop sustainable access to clean, safe and reliable water supplies by taking home a Trócaire box today or going to: [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org).

*'Fresh drinking water is an issue of primary importance, since it is indispensable for human life and for supporting terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.'* (Laudato Si', 28/

### Sunday Scriptures

**First Reading** - This reading tells how after the flood God made a new friendship-agreement (covenant) with Noah and his descendants.

**Second Reading** - St Peter says that the waters of the flood of Noah's time were a type of the waters of our Baptism by which we are saved.

**Gospel** - After being baptised by John the Baptist Jesus spent forty days in the desert. While there he experience temptation.

### Thought for the Day

We need to rethink among other things the question of human power, its meaning and its limits. For our power has increased frenetically in a few decades. We have made impressive and awesome technological advances, and we have not realised that at the same time we have turned into highly dangerous beings, capable of threatening the lives of many beings and our own survival. Today it is worth repeating the ironic comment of Solovyov about an 'age which was so advanced as to be actually the last on

e.' We need lucidity and honesty in order to recognise in time that our power and the progress we are producing are turning against us. - Laudate Deum 28, Pope Francis (Veritas).

### Take the Risk for Christ

We pray for vocations and for those who are being called to discern a vocation to the priesthood, the diaconate or religious life. Today's Psalm says "Lord, make me know your ways...teach me your paths...make me walk in your truth..for you are God my saviour". We pray that the Holy Spirit will lead and guide those who are being called to discover their vocation.

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

**Intergenerational Text Alert Information Event** - in Edgeworthstown Library on 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb from 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. This crime prevention initiative is aimed at older individuals. The event begins @ 10.00 a.m. Members of the community are invited to drop in to get the text alert app set up on their phone and to explore information stands focusing on personal safety and wellbeing. At 11.00 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. there will be a 30 minute presentation - speakers will discuss the Longford Text Alert App and the See Something Say Something initiative.

We plan to have cameras present for an RTE documentary - attendees will be asked to sign a disclaimer for GDPT purposes. It is voluntary - no one who attends will be required to appear on the documentary.

### READERS OF THE WORD OF GOD - MARCH

**Saturday 7.00p.m.:** Matt Farrell.

**Sunday 11.00 a.m.:** Dolores Courtney.

### MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST - MARCH

**Saturday 7.00p.m.:** Niamh Cassidy, Sandra Durkan.

**Sunday 11.00 a.m.:** Anne Smith, Yvonne Tuite.

*Please arrange a substitute if you cannot be present.*