Parish of St. Mary's





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Easter Sunday - 31st March 2024

This Weekend Mar 30th / 31st

Easter Vigil @ 9.00 p.m. John Gaynor (2nd Anniv).

11.00 a.m. 1. Austin Reilly (Anniv).

2. John and Mary Campbell, Cloncaugh.

3. Helen Kearney (6th Anniv).

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

Tues Apr 2nd
Wed Apr 3rd

Noel McGlynn, Rathowen.

Wed Apr 3rd Next Weekend: People of the Parish.

Apr 6th / 7th

7.00 p.m.

1. Yvonne Sheridan, Camlisk (17th Anniv), her

parents Conal O'Ferrall (43rd) Anniv and Oonagh O'Ferrall (30th Anniv) and her nephew

Brian O'Ferrall.

2. Sean and Kathleen Logan and their deceased

family members.

3. Tommy, Maura and Sean Doyle and deceased members of the Brady

and O'Donnell families, Cam

Tony and Harry Devine.

11.00 a.m. 1. Tom Reynolds (Months Mind).

2. Anne Cahill and Frank and Bridie Cahill.

3. Claire Reilly and her parents Bernard and

Sheila McGuinness.

4. Philomena Donoghue (First Anniv).

Offertory Collection: Sun Mar 23rd / 24th - €1,180 - sincere thanks.

<u>FIRST FRIDAY</u>: Fri Apr 5th - The usual communion calls to the sick and housebound of the parish will take place on Friday.

<u>Sunday Scriptures- First Reading</u> - This is part of an early sermon of St Peter. He tells us how he was a witness to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The risen Jesus is the Saviour of all those

who believe in him as well as the Judge of the living and the dead.

Second Reading - Through our Baptism we already share in the risen life of Christ, though in a hidden and mysterious way.

<u>Gospel</u> - Early on Sunday morning some of the disciples discovered that the tomb in which Jesus was buried is empty. Then the truth of what the Scriptures had foretold began to dawn on them namely, that Jesus would rise from the dead.

Pope Francis on Easter:

Easter is the feast of hope - "Dear sister, dear brother, even if in your heart you have buried hope, do not give up: God is greater. Darkness and death do not have the last word. Be strong, for with God nothing is lost!"

Easter is the exodus to love and goodness - "This is what Easter is: it is the exodus, the passage of human beings from slavery to sin and evil to the freedom of love and goodness. Because God is life, life alone, and we are his glory: the living man."

- Fr Tom Healy -

· Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel ·

In some ways this Gospel is a difficult one for prayer. It only presents a part of the story and the full unfolding of the good news the story contains lies in the next part of the text. However, even with this section there is plenty of material for reflection and for prayer.

1. The disciples are in a state of shock and suffering from a traumatic loss. Jesus, the one in whom they had placed so much hope, has been murdered and killed. Then, before they have time to recover comes another shock - the body of Jesus is missing. In recent years, information in newspapers and on TV is at times dominated by bad news.

What was that like for you? How did you cope? What or who sustained you then?

- 2. Mary and Peter, and possibly others came and discovered that the tomb was empty. The part of the story we have in this text gives no explanations of what has happened. They are left in a state of bewilderment 'for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise form the dead.' Have you been in that kind of a situation, faced with events you cannot explain, possibly events which have dashed your hopes in another person, or in God?
- 3. Yet in spite of the lack of explanation, the beloved disciple 'saw and he believed'. Have there been times when others have done something that you could not understand and which they could not explain at the time and yet you believed that all was not as it seemed? ...times when you decided to trust in spite of the evidence? Have there been times when others have shown this kind of faith in you when you were not able to offer satisfactory explanations and all you could say was 'trust me'? Have there been times in your relationship with God when you have felt that you were faced with an empty tomb and still you believed? Where have you found life in such experiences? -John Byrne OSA (INTERCOM)

Easter Love

On Easter we celebrate love, love coming down from heaven, love blanketing the earth in a transforming embrace; unique and infinite love, giving more than we can imagine for us, to cleanse our sin, a perfect sacrifice, Lamb of God, the walking, talking Word. He is teacher, role model, friend, this God in human form, dying, then rising from the dead, proving all who believe will also rise

to have eternal life, with Him, Lord of all.

Oh, Happy, Happy Easter!

By Joanna Fuchs

THANK YOU - A since thanks to all who have assisted in any way with the Easter ceremonies in our parish. The contribution of each one is recognised and appreciated – Happy Easter to all!

READERS OF THE WORD OF GOD - APRIL

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Matt Farrell. Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Gerry Greene.

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARST - APRIL

Saturday 7.00p.m: Niamh Cassidy, Sandra Durkan. Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Anne Smith, Yvonne Tuite.

WEBCAM

Please arrange a substitute if you cannot be present.

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