Parish of St. Mary's



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Twentieth Sunday - 17th August 2025

This Weekend

August 16th / August 17th

7.00 p.m.

1. Michael Clyne and his son Michael, Devine

Crescent.

2. Ned Hogan (17th Anniv.), Bracklin Road.

11.00 a.m.

Michael and Catherine Smith and deceased

members of the Smith Family.

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

Wed 20th August People of the Parish.

Next Weekend: August 23rd / August 24th

7.00 p.m. 11.00 a.m. No Intention.
Gerry Quinn (recently deceased).

Offertory Collection: Sat 9th / Sun 10th August - €1,225 - sincere thanks.

<u>Mission Appeal</u> - Once a year a Missionary Order are permitted to visit the diocese to speak about their work and to seek our support. This weekend a member of the Comboni Fathers will visit Edgeworthstown Parish.

<u>Sunday Scriptures - First Reading</u> - This describes how the prophet Jeremiah was charged with treason and set upon by his enemies. Christians have always seen him as a figure of Christ.

<u>Second Reading</u> - The author exhorts his readers to persevere in their faith, regardless of cost. They must model themselves on Christ.

<u>Gospel</u> - The coming of Christ marks a time of division. People will be called on to declare their loyalties. This will result in disruption and dissension.

Thought for the Day

At every holy Eucharist we ask the Lord to send down his fire into our hearts, into our lives; so that we truly become ablaze with his love.

When St Teresa of Avila travelled about Spain founding monasteries, she took with her an uneducated lay sister called Anne of St Bartholomew. Sometime after Teresa's death, when she was a Prioress, she was subsequently asked not only to found new monasteries herself, but to do so in foreign countries. She complained to God in prayer: Lord, can you ask all this of me? I am nothing but straw! And he replied: Ah, but it is with straws like this that I light my fire.

Stmargaretsprestwich.com

RECONCILIATION: "A love of reconciliation is not weakness or cowardice. It demands courage, nobility, generosity, sometimes heroism, an overcoming of oneself rather than of one's adversary. At times it may even seem like dishonour but it never offends against true justice or denies the rights of the poor. In reality, it is the patient, wise art of peace, of loving, of living with ones fellows, after the example of Christ, with a strength of heart and modelled on his. - Pope Paul VI.

The Christian must not be lukewarm. The Book of Revelation tells us that this is the greatest danger of a Christian: not that he or she may say 'no,' but that they may say a very lukewarm 'yes.' Lukewarmness is, as the late Pope Benedict emphasised, what discredits Christianity most. Therefore it is one of the biggest problems facing the Catholic Church as a whole and therefore every Catholic diocese and Catholic parish including our own. We need to confront it straight on.

The greatest way of all God has established to inflame us is at Mass. Whoever draws near Christ draws near the fire, Origen said in the third century. If that's true, then all the more Christ says to us, 'Whoever receives me receives the fire.' Whenever we receive Jesus in Holy Communion, we ingest Fire. Christ has come to ignite that fire and how he wants each of us to become truly enkindled! St Catherine of Siena used to say in the 1300s, 'If you are what you should be, you will set the world ablaze!'

Mass is the place where Christ helps us to become who we should be. As we prepare to receive him today, we beg the great cloud of witnesses surrounding us now to pray for us that we may be enveloped by fire, always burn with love to the glory of God, and bring the flame of faith out to warm others hearts and fill our parish and the whole world with the fire of God's amazing love.

SUNDAY REFLECTION - In Luke's gospel there is a unique portrayal of what it means to be a follower of the Way of Jesus. His term is 'disciple'. The essential aspect of discipleship is 'staying with' Jesus especially on his final journey to Jerusalem.

Pope's Monthly Intention - August:

"Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons."

RECONCILIATION: - A soldier asked a holy monk if God accepted repentance. He said 'Tell me, if your cloak is torn, do you throw it away? The soldier replied 'No, I mend it and use it again.' The old man said to him, 'If you are so careful about your cloak, will not God be equally careful about his creature? - Anon

GENEROSITY: - "The man who gives little with a smile gives more than the man who gives much with a frown". (Jewish proverb). "You do not have to be rich to be generous. If he has the spirit of true generosity, a pauper can give like a prince" - Corrinne V.

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

BEST WISHES - Edgeworthstown Parish wishes the best of luck to our parishioner Longford Rose Sara-Lee Greene. We hope Sara-Lee has a wonderful week and are confident that she will represent her county and parish with distinction next week.

<u>Local Link</u> - Bus every Tues to Longford via Edgeworthstown, Bracklin Road. Call Local Link to book a seat - 044 93 40801. In Edgeworthstown @ for 10.30 a.m. Leaves Tesco Longford @ 1.00 p.m.

<u>EUCHARISTIC ADORATION</u> - Holy Hour in Our Lady's Manor on Saturdays from 9.45 a.m. to 10.45 a.m. All are welcome.

READERS OF THE WORD OF GOD - AUGUST

Saturday 7.00p.m.:

Wells.

Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Anne Mulligan.

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARST - AUGUST

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Gerard Haughey, Gerard Greene. Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Orla Noonan, Kate O'Donohue.

Please arrange a substitute if you cannot be present.

WEBCAM

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- Fr Tom Heafy -