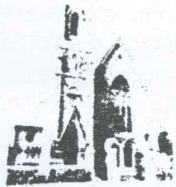


Parish of St. Mary's

Mostrim



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Twenty-First Sunday - 24th August 2025

This Weekend August 23rd / August 24th

7.00 p.m. No Intention.

11.00 a.m. Gerry Quinn (recently deceased).

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

Wed 27th August People of the Parish.

Next Weekend: August 30th / August 31st

7.00 p.m. Bartley & Kitty McGovern and Paddy Kiernan.

11.00 a.m. 1. Joe Kenny, Whitehill;
Mary Gallagher, Abbeylara and deceased
members of the Kenny and Duignan families.
2. Ita Doyle (Sixth Anniv).

Offertory Collection: Sat 16th / Sun 17th August - €1,115 - sincere thanks.

Mission Appeal: Thank you for your warm welcome and kind generosity to Fr Manuel of the Comboni Fathers who visited our parish on a mission appeal last weekend. The total amount donated to the Comboni Fathers was €670.

Sunday Scriptures

First Reading - The author describes Jews making their way back from the ends of the earth to worship in the restored city of Jerusalem. With them they bring non-Jews who join them in worshipping the one God.

Second Reading - As a father shows his concern for his son by seeing to it that he receives training in discipline, so God trains his children through suffering so that they may grow to maturity and reach their goal.

Gospel - The Kingdom of God is offered not just to the Jews but to people from the four corners of the world. However, only those who follow the path of Jesus will gain access to it.

• Thought for the Day •

Faith is not a crutch. It is a lifesaver! It does not help us to fall asleep at night; it helps us to get through the day when our days are dark. Life is not easy... for anyone.

Try. What? Try. Do something? Yes, the Lord invites us to try to pass through the narrow gate. We are supposed to work for it. We are supposed to do something. How can we do it if we are not strong enough? Through Him, with Him and in Him. What is the narrow gate? It is a person. Jesus Christ. Strive to live our life through Him, with Him and in Him. And you will find yourself... on His side.

Fr Alfonse - fralfonse.blogspot.com

• Reflections •

Reflection 1.

He also foretells we will be surprised by those who enter and those who don't. However hard we try, we often find ourselves excluding persons or groups from salvation. Jesus invites us to be wary of judging others, and to believe that all can be open to God's loving offer of salvation.

Sacredspace.com

Reflection 2.

Unlike Jesus, we seem very often too concerned about numbers as if that is the most important sign of the presence of the Kingdom and of its power to save the world. Rather than on numbers, Jesus asks us to concentrate on entering through the narrow door. This phrase has given rise to all sorts of negative spiritualities, but what Jesus is saying is to take up the cross and follow him every day of our lives. It is the cross that will bring us joy and everlasting life.

Reflection 3.

Of course Jesus' door is a narrow one but not because it is a torture chamber. No, not for that reason! Rather, because he asks us to open our hearts to him, to recognise that we are sinners in need of his salvation, his forgiveness and his love in order to have the humility to accept his mercy and to let ourselves be renewed by him. Being Christian is living and witnessing to faith in prayer, in works of charity, in promoting justice, in doing good. The whole of our life must pass through the narrow door which is Christ.

The late Pope Francis

St Augustine of Hippo • Feast 28 August

Five profound quotes from St Augustine (354-430), one of the greatest theologians and philosophers of the early Church: his writings – especially Confessions and The City of God – are filled with deep spiritual insights.

'You have made us for Yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You.'

'To fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek Him the greatest adventure; to find Him, the greatest human achievement.'

'Love, and do what you will. For if you love, you will do no evil.' (Homily on 1 John 7:8)

'Faith is to believe what you do not see; the reward of this faith is to see what you believe.'

'Late have I loved You, O Beauty ever ancient, ever new! Late have I loved You!'

Prayer of St Monica (mother of St Augustine) • Feast 27 August

St Monica is a patron saint of mothers, troubled children, and perseverance. Her life teaches that no soul is beyond the reach of prayer.

Prayer for Her Son's Conversion - 'Nothing is far from God, and I need not fear that He will not know where to find my son.'

Her Dying Words to Augustine - 'Bury my body wherever you will... Only one thing I ask of you: Remember me at the altar of the Lord.' (Her humble request, emphasising her lifelong devotion to the Eucharist.)

Gospel Concert In Support Of Church Repairs And Organ Repair

All Saints' Church, Mullingar, will host "Songs for Life & Hope" with James Kilbane on Sun 14th Sept at 6.00pm. This special evening of country with gospel music is in aid of church and organ repairs. Donation tickets are €20 and are available from Eventbrite or 087 9733233.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION - 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.:

Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Anne Mulligan.

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST - 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 Healy -