



Mount Merrion Parish Newsletter

4th April March 2021

www.mountmerrionparish.ie

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE
www.mountmerrionparish.ie



Christ
THE LORD
is risen today
ALLELUIA



A few words from Fr Joe.....

I don't know how much I have in common with the President of the United States, Joe Biden. Obviously, we share a first name, which is a start, then he loves participating at Mass, never missing a chance to start his day at his local parish, and I guess I do too.

After that our paths diverge. During the week, he was quizzed about Lent, and asked first if had given something up and secondly what was he looking forward too when Lent was over. So, he gave up sweet things as his way of fasting and he



was really, really looking forward to a big bowl of ice cream on Easter Sunday. Me too! It's is sort of reassuring to hear someone in high office with such familiar, ordinary Lenten habits that he is happy to share.

When he was Vice President, one Ash Wednesday he came to the podium for a press conference on education, his forehead marked dramatically with ashes. The Sky commentators were immediately struck by this strange sight and presumed he must have bumped his head and raised a bruise, they began speculating. After it was confirmed the religious meaning of this black mark, one of the commentators said as a Catholic she was embarrassed to have forgotten all about it being the beginning of Lent and realised she should have known why his forehead had been marked. So, when we talk about Easter and the Risen Lord, the empty tomb and the dawning awareness of the disciples that the Lord had risen and gone ahead of them to Galilee we must be aware that some of our family and friends have 'forgotten' what this means.

The witness of the first Christians changed them and they spread the good news, building the church, soul by soul, heart by heart, mind by mind. We are called to both witness and rebuilding as Easter joy transforms our lives and hopefully we radiate the love of the risen Lord to others. Transforming what we did in Lent with prayer, fasting and almsgiving, into becoming an Easter People for the next 50 days is our common and shared mission. One Lent I gave up sugar, and then when Lent was over I stayed off for good. Two years ago, I gave up meat and alcohol and I have stayed off both since. Sometimes Lent changes our habits and creates space for new things in our spiritual lives. There is more to Easter than ice cream! Let's live Easter together.

NOTICE

Mount Merrion Parish Office is closed until April 12th. Contact by phone message or email only.



MASS INTENTIONS

Easter Sunday 04th April

10.00 Tom Costello – 1st A
Carmel Fleming – 1st A
Rory McDonagh – 1st A
Reddy Day – A

Monday 05th

10.00 For all who are ill
Lilian Lee – R
Joan Garvey – R
Bob O'Connell – A
Noel Feddis – R.D
Ann O'Sullivan – 1st A

Tuesday 06th

10.00 Liturgical Service

Wednesday 07th

10.00 Holy Souls
Eva and Charlie Vaughan – A
Paddy Murphy – R.D

Saturday 10th

10.00 Cyril O'Sullivan – R
John and Josephine Flannery – R
Mary King – R

Sunday 11th

10.00 Emily (Dolly) White – A
Dermod Walshe – A
Maura Hanley – A
Derrick King - A

Christ, my hope, has risen!

We have come, finally, to the season of joy and hope, following a long season of anguish and suffering. Many have struggled with the darkness of the past year. Many more have wept at tombs, asking 'where?', 'how?', 'why'? We have all been asked to carry crosses. Some of them have been almost unbearably heavy. Now, though, alongside his own cross, we stand with Jesus victorious and risen in glory.

We might be coming to this new season hesitantly, like the younger disciple (**Gospel**), perhaps still hurting from the scars of the year and hardly daring to hope. Or we may find ourselves, like Peter, rushing headlong, eager to see and to believe.

In the Acts of the Apostles (First Reading), we hear that the first witnesses were to go out with this good news and proclaim it to all people. We are the messengers of the Gospel today.

And we are to bear witness by living 'unleavened' lives (Second Reading) full of truth, sincerity and humility.

As St Ignatius said, 'Love is shown more in deeds than in words'. Haven't we seen that this past year!

So let us rejoice and be glad, and give thanks to the Lord (**Psalm**) this coming week.



**APRIL 24
5KM ROCK
RUN**

**ROCK WHILE
YOU CAN**

Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association | Aidlink

Calling out to all ROCK families across the globe!
Join us on April 24th for our annual 5k Rock Run
To donate go to idonate.ie and search 'Rock While You Can'

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

