



Mount Merrion Parish Newsletter

11th July 2021

www.mountmerrionparish.ie

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

www.mountmerrionparish.ie



Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them humanity cannot survive.

Dalai Lama

Rest in Peace

Our sympathies to the families, relatives and friends of **Catherine Vaughan, Mary Fitzgerald and Josephine Cox** whose funerals took place here this week.

A few words from Fr Joe.....

For fans of sport there has been such an abundance of coverage of games during the week, that you might never have left the couch! Rugby and GAA, Golf and Tennis, Cycling and Soccer, all being played at the highest level by exceptionally talented men and women. Some stadia have been empty, others have a sparse crowd and for others the fans are out in force and the atmosphere is terrific. Elite sport played at the highest level can be extremely passionate and energising, full of highs and lows, roars and groans and from the side lines, endless commentary, advice and admonition. "Ah ref!"

Behind the competitors and players are legions of coaches and staff, family and friends, all hoping and praying for success. Of course, there are winners and losers, the victorious and the vanquished, smiles and scowls, tears of joy and despair, stories of what might have been and near disbelief at unexpected success. There has been terrible pain and distress too, cyclists crashing to the ground, skin stripped off by the unforgiving road surface, a soccer player motionless on the ground, paramedics rushing the jolt his heart back into motion, a young tennis player overwhelmed by the occasion and ridiculed in commentary. There is a lot of human emotions, hope and defeat caught up in the world of sport.

Some of these men and women, icons and sporting heroes are superstars, mega rich and maybe a little spoilt, others still perform under an amateur code, playing for pride not profit. Together they have given us all relief from the stress and weariness of Covid, a welcome break from a dullness that had come into our lives. So, let's celebrate their talent, appreciating all that sports contributes to our world and acknowledge their God given talent and exceptional hard work.

If none of the above touches your life then maybe you'd have appreciated watching the kinder garden children at their sports day last week. With their parents roaring them on, tiny children ran in their egg and spoon race, a timeless and universal childhood experience, a first taste of competition, success or defeat, revealing an appetite for sport that can last a lifetime.



They set off to preach repentance

Mark 6:12

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 10th

6.00 Kathleen Kehoe – A
Niall Harnett - A
Jim Tooher – 1st Anniversary

Sunday 11th

11.30 Sylvester Rabbite – 1st A
7.30 Dr. Barbara Murphy - R.D

Monday 12th

10.00 For all who are ill

Tuesday 13th

10.00 Liturgical Service

Thursday 15th

10.00 Margaret Colfer – A
Helena McPeake – A

Saturday 17th

6.00 Michael Harnett – A
Frank and Josie Harnett - A

JESUS CALLS US TO BE MISSIONARIES

By virtue of their Baptism, every Catholic is called to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ - a mission which cannot be separated from the Catholic Church.

It is truly Baptism that makes us missionaries. A baptized person who does not feel the need to proclaim the Gospel, to announce Jesus, is not a good Christian.

The first necessary element of all authentic missionary discipleship is the changeless center, which is Jesus. This is because proclaiming the Gospel cannot be separated from Christ or from the Church.

Announcing the Gospel is not an initiative of individual believers, groups or even large groups, but it is the Church's mission inseparably united with her Lord. No Christian proclaims the Gospel on his own, but only sent by the Church who received the mandate from Christ himself.

Jesus' message to his disciples concerns not just priests, but every baptized person, who is called to witness, in the various environments of life, the Gospel of Christ.

Like the disciples were warned, the message may not be welcomed, but this aligns with what Jesus himself experienced "was rejected and crucified."

Only if we are united with him, dead and risen, can we find the courage of evangelization.

The center of the mission must always be Christ. Bring the message of the Gospel to the world in a humble and radiant exultation, beyond any rejection, misunderstanding or tribulation.

Pope Francis

Take nothing for the journey except a staff



This week's readings tell of people who receive a mission. It has always been God's plan from the beginning to choose ordinary people like us to help spread the Good News. Jesus asks us to listen, and really come to know him. All we need do is trust him, and we will be blessed with all we need to follow his way.

Amos, a shepherd, has simply listened and responded with courage and faith to God's call. He has spoken up for the poor of Bethel. Today, the royal priest tells Amos to mind his own business and leave. **(First Reading)**

The **Psalmist**, too, listens to the Lord's 'voice ... of peace for his people'. He sings praise to God's promise of faithfulness, mercy, justice and help to all who trust in him.

Paul's letter to the Ephesians begins with a long prayer of praise and blessing to God. We have always been part of God's plan: 'Before the world was made, God chose us.' Through the gifts of Christ and our faith, we are God's loved and forgiven sons and daughters. **(Second Reading)**

In the **Gospel**, Jesus sends out the apostles in pairs to support one another, teaching others the message of love and repentance they have seen and learnt from him. They are to carry nothing other than their staff, but to trust in God's love and rely on the hospitality of others. If they are not welcomed, they are not to make a scene, but simply 'shake off the dust from under their feet', then move on.

Let's pray this week that we show Jesus's message in our love for those we encounter each day. We ask to be witnesses to the joy of our faith in the way in which we live our lives.

THE HEART OF COMPASSION BY JOYCE RUPP

Compassionate God,
your generous presence
is always attuned to hurting ones.
Your listening ear is bent
toward the cries of the wounded
Your heart of love
fills with tears for the suffering.
Turn my inward eye to see
that I am not alone.
I am a part of all of life.
Each one's joy and sorrow
is my joy and sorrow,
and mine is theirs.
May I draw strength
from this inner communion.
May it daily recommit me
to be a compassionate presence
for all who struggle with life's pain.