



Mount Merrion Parish Newsletter

18th July 2021

www.mountmerrionparish.ie

PARISH TEAM

Fr. Joe Mullan Administrator
Mount Merrion, Kilmacud & Clonskeagh
79 The Rise - text 087 232 6254
email seosamh139@gmail.com
Fr. Donie O'Connor Text 0899796447

Fr. Paddy O'Byrne C.C.
Kilmacud Tel: 2882257

Fr. Brian O'Reilly A.P

Audrey O'Sullivan Chairperson, PPC

PARISH OFFICE

Monday – Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm

Parish Secretary: Vivienne Dempsey
Tel. 2881271

E:parishoffice@mountmerrionparish.ie
Head Sacristan: Shubert Laxina

COMMUNITY CENTRE Tel. 2884485
E:mountmerrioncommunitycentre@gmail.com

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
Helpline 086 6009857



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE
www.mountmerrionparish.ie

Take Time

Take time to think;
it is the source of power.

Take time to read;
it is the foundation of wisdom.

Take time to play;
it is the secret of staying young.

Take time to be quiet;
it is the moment to seek God.

Take time to be aware;
it is the opportunity to help others.

Take time to love and be loved;
it is God's greatest gift.

Take time to laugh;
it is the music of the soul.

Take time to be friendly;
it is the road to happiness.

Take time to dream;
it is what the future is made of.

Take time to pray;
it is the greatest power on earth.

A few words from Fr Joe.....

Last Sunday evening a friend came round for a bite to eat and to watch the final of Euro 2020 with me. Like everyone else we too had to choose a side. As we both lived in Rome for a few years and came to love and admire so much of Italian life and culture it was hard not to side with the boys in blue. But on the other hand I've also lived in London, have English family members and am much more familiar with the guys who play in the premierships and for the well known English clubs. So maybe we were just neutrals!

So there was a match, two goals, one a piece, then extra time and finally a nerve wracking penalty shootout. There was an ecstatic winning team and the other side who tasted defeat, such is the sporting life. But what followed was extraordinary as defeat turned to criticism and bitter loss was expressed in unforgivable racism, shameful and upsetting. Every team has a spirit, and resilience in the face of defeat often brings out character and strength. Teams turn to their manager for support and encouragement and the manager of England seemed to excel in his capacity to hold and hug, stand with his players, calling out not their failure but his own decision making. He was proud of the young men in his charge and while deeply saddened by the loss he expressed only love and affection, admiration and hope for better times ahead. But his leadership and compassion wasn't in itself enough to extinguish the vitriol and bile flowing through social media.

As the first wave of reaction waned some extraordinary personal statements emerged from among the player group. Young black men especially courageous in accepting the sadness of the loss of a game, but undaunted in their self awareness of what really matters in life. A moment of madness saw a mural dedicated to one of the players defaced and then countless acts of affectionate admiration repurposed the same mural as a totem of public support. This young man, who is gifted at football, has also raised millions to feed hungry children and as always the light overcame the darkness, the bitterness and contemptible commentators drowned out in the chorus of praise and recognition. This is something that touches deep into the human spirit, something that Jesus knew and taught, there will be adversity and moments when 'men speak all kinds of calumny against you' but love will endure and with hope and joy, triumph.

Meanwhile a slogan heard a million times, 'bring it home' became the victors chant of 'bring it Rome' and so Italy awoke to welcome back the winners, the spoils of victory are sweet and no better nation to celebrate. The cup seemed to have spent the night in captain Chiellini's bed and with his Azzurri team mates they proudly brought it to their President and Prime Minister, missing out on the Pope who was in hospital and then to the Piazza and their beloved fans.

I doubt that there was any regrettable social media commentary in Italy, and maybe others can learn from them. As always sport is about so much more than the game and leaves us with much to reflect on and improve.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 17th

10.00 Kathleen McCamphill – Get Well

6.00 Michael Harnett – A
Frank and Josie Harnett – A
Lorna Kennedy – BR
Don Tedsen – M.M

Sunday 18th

10.00 Carl Duane – 1st A
11.30 Elizabeth O'Connell – 1st A
John O'Connell – R
Bill Morrissey – 5th A
Peter and Bobby O'Connor – A

Monday 19th

10.00 For all who are ill
Joseph McGoldrick – Special Intention

Tuesday 20th

10.00 Liturgical Service

Wednesday 21th

10.00 Timlin Family
Sheila Purcell – R.D

Thursday 22nd

10.00 Rose Kelly – A

Saturday 24th

6.00 Peg and Frank Huggard – A

Sunday 25th

10.00 Gabrielle Jones – A
Mary O'Neill – A
Barry Deasy – A
Frederick Johanna – A
Brian Ging – A
11.30 Derek Clinton – A
7.30 Geraldine Duggan – A
Mary Molumby – A



Dear Elderly Friends,
"I am with you always" (Mt 28:20): this is the promise the Lord made to his disciples before he ascended into heaven. They are the words that he repeats to you today, dear grandfathers and grandmothers, dear elderly friends. "I am with you always" are also the words that I, as Bishop of Rome and an elderly person like yourselves, would like to address to you on this first World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly. The whole Church is close to you – to us – and cares about you, loves you and does not want to leave you alone.

'You must come away ... and rest for a while'

The readings this week offer a welcome invitation to spend more time with our loving Lord who is our shepherd, and in whom we find nourishment, shelter, and peace for our minds and bodies.

In the First Reading, the prophet Jeremiah introduces the image of the Shepherd-King, who gathers, nourishes, and sets us free from fear.

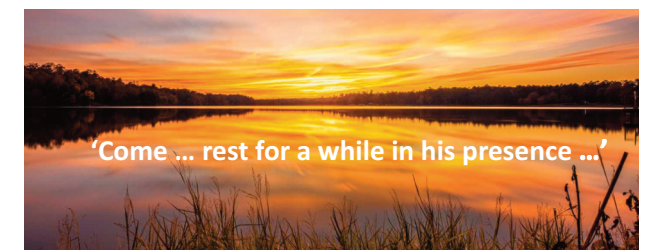
The image of a God who restores, revives, guides, protects, feeds, anoints, and longs for us to dwell in God's presence forever, is proclaimed in today's beautifully familiar Psalm.

The Second Reading reinforces the image of a people being gathered in and restored to a peaceful relationship with and through Christ Jesus. Through this relationship we are all united in the Spirit with the Father.

The Gospel scene is a perfect example of the Spirit at work in Jesus, as he compassionately responds to both the needs of his disciples and of his needy flock. Jesus recognises both the need for his beloved followers to be refreshed and restored in the stillness of his presence, and the need to respond with compassion to those who feel lost and are in need of his guidance.

Perhaps we can recognise this same dynamic in the expression of our own faith, as we ourselves need to make time to be still with the Lord, yet are also called to be active participants in his ongoing mission.

Let us pray for each other. May we have the wisdom to spend our time in a sustaining balance of both contemplation and action as we live out our faith, trusting that Jesus the Good Shepherd will be our guide.



Today I choose
calm over chaos,
serenity over stress,
peace over perfection,
grace over grit,
faith over fear.