

# Mount Merrion Parish Newsletter

3rd October 2021

[www.mountmerrionparish.ie](http://www.mountmerrionparish.ie)

## PARISH TEAM

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## PARISH OFFICE

Monday – Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm

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 CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE  
[www.mountmerrionparish.ie](http://www.mountmerrionparish.ie)



Monday: 10:00am  
Tuesday: 10:00 am Liturgical Service  
Wednesday: 10:00am  
Thursday: 10:00am  
Friday: 10:00am  
Saturday: 10:00am | Vigil: 6:00pm  
Sunday: 10:00am | 11:30am | 7:30pm

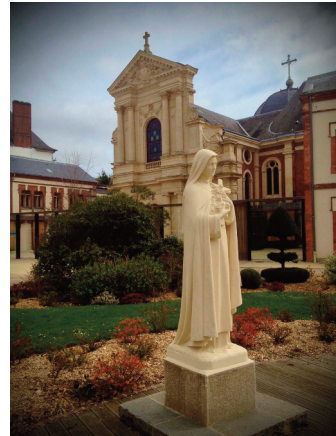


Our sympathies to the families,  
relatives and friends of **Teresa Hussey,**  
**John McCarthy and Josephine Doherty**  
whose funerals took place here this  
week.

## A few words from Fr Joe.....

I've only been to Lisieux once, it was a slightly strange mission. I went with an American friend who had brought a little portion of a beloved partners ashes to be scattered there. It was a little surreal making a visit where there was so much I wanted to see and learn, while at the same time searching for a suitable rose bed into which, with a simple ritual and prayer, we could fulfil a promise and complete a task.

The deceased friend had a lifelong devotion to St Thérèse. He often spoke of her 'Little Way' which was so supportive on his faith journey, while at the same time never failing to mention she was a Doctor of the Church with teaching so deep and profound it had influenced Popes and Bishops, and generations of believers.



He would quote and then expand on sayings like "I understand clearly that through love alone can we become pleasing to God, and my sole ambition is to acquire it."

Walking around the town of Lisieux that bright and beautiful autumn day, dropping into the museum, church and exhibitions of her life, and that of her parents and family, was both peaceful, informative and uplifting. We were enjoying our friendship, honouring a loss and being moved by the invitation to know God through sharing faith and love.

I had no idea then that I would now be Administrator in a group of parishes with such a strong attachment to St Thérèse. I find it very helpful to learn about her and from her. Reading back over some of the writings of Pope John Paul II from 1997 when he declared her a Doctor of the Church, it is obvious that he had a real sense of her relevance for the modern world and he was delighted that so many parishes in the developing world choose her as their patron. So, I guess for all of us we have the blessing that her spirit animates our lives and the responsibility to learn more from her teaching and put it into practice each and every day.



"It's death? It's life? I do not care! Jesus, my joy is to give you love."

## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 02nd October  
10.00 Cicely and John Gallagher – A  
Patricia Massey – R.D  
6.00 Margaret Burns – A  
Special Intention  
Sunday 03rd October  
10.00 Pauline Moriarty – A  
Eithne Manley Johnston – A  
Aoife O'Donnell - A  
11.30 Eileen O'Kane – M.M  
Betty King - A  
Angela Caslin - A  
Maighread McCarthy – A  
Mary McCarthy-Sanchez - A  
Monday 04th  
10.00 For all who are ill  
Hugh Church – A  
Tuesday 05th  
10.00 Liturgical Service  
Saturday 09th  
6.00 Mark and Eilis Taylor – A  
Mary and Patrick Johnson – A  
Sunday 10th  
10.00 Carl and Sinead Duane – A  
Felix and Alice Craddock and their  
daughters Maureen and Eileen - A  
Joe Soden - A

## Prayer for the Season of Creation 2021

Creator of All,



We are grateful that from your communion of love you created our planet to be a home for all. By your Holy Wisdom you made the Earth to bring forth a diversity of living beings that filled the soil, water and air.

Each part of creation praises you in their being, and cares for one another from our place in the web of life.

Enlighten us with the grace to respond to your covenant and call to care for our common home. In our tilling and keeping, gladden our hearts to know that we participate with your Holy Spirit to renew the face of your Earth, and safeguard a home for all.

In the name of the One who came to proclaim good news to all creation, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## 'He put his arms round them and gave them his blessing'

The scriptures this Sunday teach us about the importance and centrality of loving relationships to the expression of our faith.

The excerpt from Genesis (**First Reading**) begins our salvation story with a vision of humanity in harmonious relationship with nature. We are formed of the same elements as the earth we live upon and share with creation. Women and men are helpmates for each other and tasked with caring for God's creation.

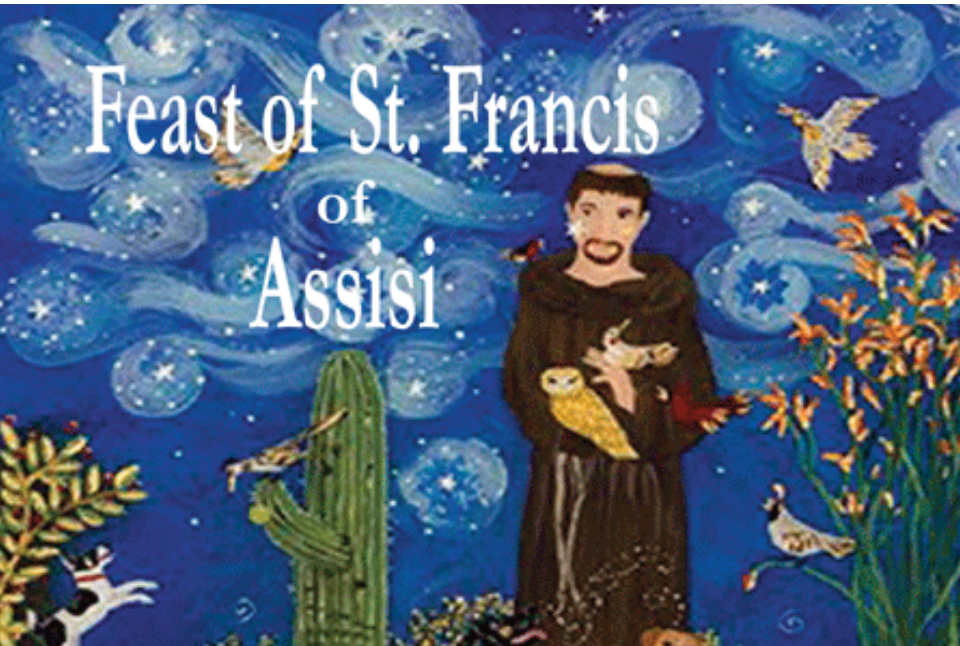
The song of the Lord's blessings upon us in the **Psalm** uses images of abundance to describe God's relationship with creation.

The theology outlined in the **Second Reading** reveals the solidarity and compassion of the Lord with the world and humanity by sharing with us in suffering, death, and in leading us towards Resurrection.

The **Gospel** contrasts two different aspects of human nature. The Pharisees attempt to exert authority and power over Jesus by testing his understanding of contested aspects of the law. Jesus responds by reminding them that the law was only given to them because they had lost touch with the essential truth of loving relationship at the heart of creation. His response to the Pharisees and subsequent welcoming of little children is a stark challenge to the patriarchy of the time. Unlike them, Jesus views women and children as equals to men.

Let us pray that we will be blessed with the same compassionate spirit of Jesus to build a more just society that urgently focuses on restoring our harmony with nature.

## 4th October 2021



Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life, and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us...." (Laudato Si', 1)

As we celebrate and remember St. Francis' love of the earth, care for animals, commitment to the poor and sick, let us use today as an invitation to consider how we might take space, as St. Francis did, for simplicity, peace, prayer and nature in our lives.