



Mount Merrion Parish Newsletter

27th March 2022

www.mountmerrionparish.ie

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www.mountmerrionparish.ie

A few words from Fr Joe.....
 In the past couple of weeks, we have celebrated anniversary Masses for a few parishioners who died in the early days of COVID 19, two years ago. At the time of the funerals of these dearly loved, and sadly missed parishioners it wasn't possible to gather with the families in the usual way at a wake, funeral mass or graveside. Many of the bereaved back then said that they hoped when times were better to come back and share prayers and memories with their wider circle of family and friends. It was very uplifting to see them here again, even while observing that the grief delayed is also pain extended, these are families healing slowly. I share this in the hope that all of us will remain very sensitive to the hard journey that many are on in our midst. Yes, it's wonderful that the worst effects of the pandemic are behind us, accepting that while numbers of infections are still high, the threat of serious illness is reduced for many. Yet we can also see that for those who are still in mourning, the lift in spirits others feel isn't so real for them. So, they might still need a call, a chat, a prayer and some support. Please remain alert to moments when these celebrations occur as we all join in the common purpose of remembering the dead, consoling the bereaved and sharing in the prayer of the church.

Happy Mother's Day to all who have children, from all of us who are children. Hopefully this will be day of marking love and affection, showing appreciation and deepening of relationships.



This weekend throughout the country every parish is having a collection for Ukraine. Our aim is to raise funds and share them directly with our partner church organisations in Ukraine who can best channel aid to those who will benefit most. Not only do we offer our financial support but also our moral support and constant prayerful petitions seeking a change of heart in those who wage this war. This collection will replace the SHARE collection at Mass. Thanks for your constant generous response to those in need, truly a kind Lenten act.



MASS TIMES
 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

Rest in Peace
 Our sympathies to the families, relatives and friends of **William Licken and Cepta Corrigan** whose funerals took place here.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
 Eucharistic Adoration takes place in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel on **Wednesdays and Fridays from 10.30am to 1.00pm. All are welcome**

EARTH HOUR
Saturday March 26th 8.30-9.30pm
 Join millions of people around the world and switch off non-essential lights for One Hour this Saturday as a symbol of commitment to the planet.
www.wwf.eu

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Saturday 26th 6.00 Joe Stanley – A Ciaran O'Kelly – M.M	Monday 28th 10.00 For all who are ill
Sunday 27th 10.00 Stephen Blake – A Anne McCormick – M.M	Tuesday 29th 10.00 Liturgical Service
Sunday 27th 11.30 Margaret Devane – A Lorna Kennedy – 3rd A Declan Whelan – M.M	Sunday 03rd March 10.00 Carmel Fleming – 2nd A 11.30 Celine McCormack – A
Sunday 27th 11.30 Barry Cooney – R David Siggins – R Claire Kiely – R	

'Rejoice! This child of mine was lost, and is found!'
 On this Laetare ('Rejoice!') Sunday midway through Lent, we are encouraged to celebrate with hope and joy before we enter the darker times of Holy Week. Today we particularly rejoice in the reconciliation and forgiveness of sins bought for us by Jesus's suffering and death.

In the **First Reading**, the Israelites celebrate their first Passover in the Promised Land. No longer reliant on the manna with which God had sustained them during their years in the desert, they rejoice that God has brought them to a place where the bounty of the earth feeds them.

The **Psalm** is one of praise, rejoicing in God's goodness. It glorifies the Lord, who hears and answers our prayers when we are afraid or in distress.

St Paul speaks of the 'new creation' made possible by Christ's suffering and death. Through this sacrifice, God has reconciled humanity to God's self, and our faults are forgiven. Because of this, we ourselves are then called to share the good news of forgiveness with others. (**Second Reading**)

The **Gospel** relates the first part of the story of the return of the prodigal son. We witness the total and utter forgiveness the father bestows on his selfish and wayward son, who now regrets his foolishness. Just as the father forgives his son, so we know that we too will be forgiven, as we express our sorrow for actions and inactions that take us away from God.

As we celebrate the joy of knowing that we are totally loved and forgiven, in these final weeks of Lent we ask for the grace to see ourselves as God sees us, and to see others just as God sees them too.

PARISH COLLECTION SUNDAY 27 MARCH

It is a source of inspiration that people all over Ireland are responding with customary generosity to support humanitarian efforts in this crisis. Many parish communities have already established links with charitable projects to support refugees and those remaining in Ukraine. Recognising these urgent needs, the bishops are asking that a special collection be taken up at all Masses on the weekend of Sunday 27 March. - Bishops

#PRAYFORPEACE

Help from Ignatius on our Synodal Pathway

A series of four evenings will be offered by Manresa's team to help all who seek a synodal pathway.

Wednesdays 23, 30 March; 6, 13 April 2022
 7:30 - 9:00 pm
 Register for any evening: manresa.today/synod

Wednesday 6 April Spiritual Conversation
 In a world Spiritual Conversation describes the reflective dialogue between Christians who value the work of the Holy Spirit. In a world often characterised by debate, how might we best speak and listen to one another in a more "synodal" way? Manresa's Aileen Murphy RLR and Piaras Jackson SJ will present this Zoom session.

Wednesday 23 March Paying Attention to God in Our Lives
 The more aware we are of our blessings and burdens, the more ready we are to find where God is leading us. The awareness prayer helps us to pay attention to how God is present to us and where God may be calling us. This online evening will be led by Piaras Jackson SJ and Aileen Murphy RLR.

Wednesday 30 March Noticing How the Spirit Moves
 Discernment describes how we allow the Holy Spirit to direct our attention and shape our decisions. Ignatius of Loyola paid attention to the "movement of spirits" as he came to understand how God works in our lives. Eileen O'Brien and Ashley Evans SJ will present this evening.

Wednesday 13 April Finding Inner Freedom
 The synodal pathway calls us to new ways of being church together: growing in inner freedom is at the heart of our discipleship as portrayed in the events of Holy Week. Mike Drennan SJ and Mary Hunt will guide this online session.

Please register to attend any evening: manresa.today/synod

LISTENING TO OUR YOUNG CHURCH DUBLIN DIOCESAN TEEN SYNOD

Event: Dublin Diocesan Teen Synod
 Event Timing: **Thursday 31st March 6.30 to 8.00pm**
 Organisation: Archdiocese of Dublin
 Location: Zoom
 Audience: Teenagers 13-17 years old.
 Zoom Admin Hosts: Kirsten Mahon & Gerard Hanley
 Contact us: gerard.hanley@dublindiocese.ie

Invitations with more details will be available at Masses, and on our website.

Synodal Pathway
www.dublindiocese.ie/synod

You are warmly invited to two Synodal gatherings in March, in the parish of **Mount Merrion**. The word "synodal" means journeying together and these gatherings will be an opportunity to share and listen to each other's experience of Church, in an organised, gentle and prayerful environment.

Second Gathering

Time:	7pm - 9pm
Date:	Monday 4 th April
Venue:	Community Centre