

# The Narrow Door



## Mount Merrion Parish Newsletter

21st August 2022

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



### Saturday 20th

6.00 Sheila Sweeney – A

### Sunday 21st

10.00 Peggy Tuohy – A

Fr. David Duane pp – M.M

11.30 Joseph Lannin – 1st A

Dr. John P.A Ryan – M.M

Timothy Cronin – 3rd A

7.30 Dermot Deering – A

### Monday 22nd

10.00 For all who are ill

12.00 Memorial Mass for Irene McMahon

### Tuesday 23rd

10.00 Liturgical Service

### Wednesday 24th

10.00 Molly Aylmer – A

Special Intention

### Friday 26th

10.00 Susan O'Sullivan – A

### Saturday 27th

10.00 Fr. Tony Coote – 3rd A

6.00 Fr. Tony Coote – 3rd A

John Butler – 1st A and Mary Butler – 27th A

Tommy McLoughlin – 3rd A

### Sunday 28th

10.00 Fr. Tony Coote – 3rd A

11.30 David Simpson – 13th A

Special Intention – Paul Simpson

Fr. Tony Coote – 3rd A

7.30 Fr. Tony Coote – 3rd A

May O'Colmain – A

### 'The last shall be first ...'

This Sunday's scripture bears testimony to the universal outreach of the Lord. Our God is one who desires to gather all people, from far and wide – north, south, east and west – and from lands that have never heard of the Lord.

God also wishes to reach those who are considered last, those who are overlooked. Today's readings reveal a Lord with priorities that differ from the norm.

The ones anticipating a place at the banquet will lose it, but those expecting no place at the feast will be offered one (**Gospel**). Those who have never seen or heard of God's glory will be the ones to see it (**First Reading**). Those experiencing suffering are to remember that they are that they are God's children and not forgotten (**Second Reading**).

This week may we, in response to all the Lord has done for us, go out into the whole of the world and proclaim the Good News through our lives (**Psalm**).

### A few words from Archbishop Dermot

So what do we do? Like a garden, our communities of faith need constant attention. We are called to listen to each other, and also listen to God. How might we do this? As next steps on the way, you might consider the following:

We need functioning structures—parish (and diocesan) councils and committees which work and which are empowered to work, and are allowed to work.

This is one of the ways our being the Church comes to life, an effective way of walking together, of becoming an effective, collaborative Church, one that makes a difference. Such a Church is a community which undertakes and shares responsibility for the life and ministry of the parish. It is not that this is not happening, but it needs to happen more: more widely, more deeply, and more inclusively. In this perspective, you might spend time with this question:

How can our parish structures root the life of our parish in our experiences more than in our ideas? We need more active involvement by all: the Church needs active involvement.

Involvement brings ownership and ownership brings responsibilities, but also its own reward. We need to look at our day-to-day service of the poor, at their cry, at our suffering planet and its cry. How will we find the courage to bring the word of God to relationships which divide the human family? Adapting an important question from Pope Francis (in EG, 224), I ask: How might we empower people in our parishes who are really concerned about generating processes of people building? Put another way, How do we help each other to begin to see others in their deepest dignity?

There is no authentic synodal way without listening for the voice of the Holy Spirit. On the Solemnity of the Assumption, let us not forget that this is what Mary did. How will we as a Church, discern the Spirit. And so I ask: Who will lead our communities in listening for the voice of God which is spoken in the heart of every person? What structures will help us find ways of waiting for God's word, and of acting in its light?

Our Church is where, together, we celebrate and are nourished by our faith. We need to look anew at how we celebrate the Liturgy, and at the quality of our celebrations.

The Liturgy is a key place of encounter with the Church and with the gospel. It is further a key place to serve our sisters and brothers in their days of joy, and in days of sorrow and loss. I therefore ask:

What must we do to ensure that the Word of God is proclaimed with hope, conviction, understanding, and that the Eucharist becomes Living Bread for those who find themselves among us?

These are some of my questions; there may be others. Indeed, there must be, and they will have other focusses and emphases, and we will need to hear them. But these are the questions I consider pressing at this time. Let us not forget we are at the beginning of a process, not at its conclusion!

### PARISH TEAM

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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  
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Head Sacristan: Shubert Laxina

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SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

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

Charity Registration No. 20016166



Monday: 10:00am

Tuesday: 10:00 am Liturgical Service

Wednesday: 10:00am

Thursday: 10:00am

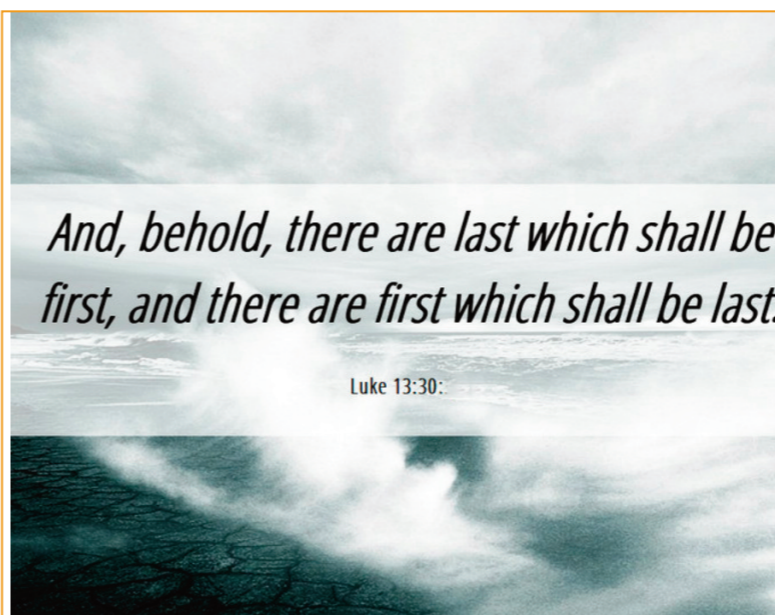
Friday: 10:00am

Saturday: 10:00am | Vigil: 6:00pm

Sunday: 10:00am | 11:30am | 7:30pm



**XELDA QR CODE**  
Mass collection  
60% CLERGY  
40% SHARE



The Monthly Collection for SVP will take place the weekend of 27th and 28th August. Many thanks for your generosity.



**SEASON OF CREATION 2022**  
During the Season of Creation we join our ecumenical family worldwide in prayer and action for our common home. This year, the theme is "Listen to the Voice of Creation", and the logo is "The Burning Bush".

The Bush contrasts the fire of so many unnatural fires that aggravate the climate crisis, with the sign of the fire as the LIGHT of the Holy Spirit that unites Christians.

<https://seasonofcreation.org>  
<https://www.catholicbishops.ie>