



## Mount Merrion Parish Newsletter

11th February 2024

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

### PARISH TEAM

Fr. Joe Mullan Parish Priest  
Mount Merrion, Kilmacud & Clonskeagh  
79 The Rise - text 087 232 6254  
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Fr Peter Ewaoche Johnson PC

Fr. Paddy O'Byrne A.P

Fr. Brian O'Reilly A.P

### PARISH OFFICE

Monday – Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm

Parish Secretary: Vivienne Dempsey  
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Head Sacristan: Shubert Laxina

COMMUNITY CENTRE Tel. 2884485  
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SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL  
Helpline 086 6009857

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 **Maureen Kennedy, Charles Kilroy, Diarmuid Mundow and Fr. Peter Kilroy** whose funerals took place here.



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

### 'Whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God'

The theme of today's readings is God's loving compassion and healing. We, too, are called to be loving, as well as pure and holy.

Two of the readings speak of leprosy: a disease that can now be cured, but at the time was seen as a punishment for sin. The belief was that either the leper or one of their family had offended God in some way. The **First Reading** reveals the requirements imposed on lepers. They were to make themselves physically unattractive, so that people would know they were unclean, and to live apart, outside the city walls. They were thus sentenced to indefinite exile from their community and excluded from worship.

The leper we meet in the **Gospel** breaks the law because of his faith. He approaches Jesus, pleading to be made clean. We see Jesus's compassion, mercy, and healing power in curing him. The leper can be readmitted to his community once he has seen the priest, though conversely, Jesus now becomes the outcast.

In the **Psalms** we hear the joy of the psalmist who, in acknowledging and repenting of his sins, is confident of the Lord's forgiveness.

The **Second Reading** calls us to be witnesses to Christ's teaching in everything we do, whilst always being sensitive to others.

This week, I may like to pray for the courage, humility and faith of the leper in the Gospel, as I bring my own desires and needs to Jesus. I ask for the Spirit's guidance to be loving and helpful to others at all times.



### LECTIO DIVINA FOR LENT

Commencing on **Thursday, 15th February** (and each Thursday during Lent) **after 10am Mass** in the Sacristy meeting room.

We shall be looking for the meaning and insight into the Sunday Gospels for Lent. Please join us on this Lenten Journey.

All are welcome.



### PRAYER ON ST VALENTINE'S DAY

Loving Father,  
I pray for an open heart and mind,  
so that I may recognise and be grateful  
for all the love in my life.  
I pray that I might find a new sense of  
wholeness, joy and peace in your love.  
Remove all obstacles so that I may  
grow in love throughout my life.  
Give me the grace to trust in your  
loving plan for me, so that whatever my  
circumstances over the course of my  
life, I may know that I am not alone,  
that I am loved by You, my Loving  
Father, who is full of tenderness,  
mercy and compassion.

AMEN



### Saturday 10th February

6.00 Do this in Memory Mass  
John and Maura Mulhall – A  
Tony and Joan O'Halloran – A  
John and Cicely Gallagher – A

### Sunday 11th February

10.00 Anne Cosgrove – A  
Eunan McGlynn – A  
Marcella Kelly – 58th A  
11.30 Paul Regan – 1 st A  
Ernest Byrne – A  
Bernadette Monaghan – A  
Nell and Tom Sexton – A  
Maurice O'Brien – 10 th A  
7.30 Rose Deering – A

### Monday 12th

10.00 For all who are ill

### Tuesday 13h

10.00 Liturgical Service

### Wednesday 14th Ash Wednesday

10.00 Frank Carney – A



The Annual collection for Accord Dublin, the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family will be made at all Masses on the weekend of **17th & 18th February**.

Accord Dublin throughout the Diocese offers:  
*Marriage Preparation courses – online, small groups Counselling for couples and individuals experiencing difficulties in their relationships, currently online or by phone. A relationship and sexuality programme for schools.*

ACCORD Dublin needs your support more than ever. Please give generously on 17th & 18th February

## LENTEN RETREAT

### KILMACUD PARISH

Fr Gerry Moloney, CSsR, former editor of Reality magazine will lead a three day Lenten retreat in Kilmacud.

Fr Gerry will be with us during Holy Week, **Monday to Wednesday March 25th - 27th** and will lead our Lenten reconciliation service on Tuesday



This Wednesday, 14th February, Ash Wednesday, we begin the season of Lent, a time to prepare our hearts for the new life which Jesus brings at Easter. Just as nature awakens to growth and new life at this time of year, each Lent invites us to bring springtime to our spiritual life.

Lent lasts 40 days connecting us to the 40 days Jesus spent in the desert fasting and praying, before going out to share the Good News. It ends before the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday.

There is a double focus in Lent – BAPTISM and PENANCE. For those of us already baptised, it is a time to recall our BAPTISM and prepare to renew it at Easter. While PENANCE or REPENTANCE means that, knowing that Jesus loves us, we notice the times when we did not act lovingly, we tell Jesus we are sorry, we try to put things right and we begin again to try to become more like Jesus - growing closer to God's Love by making the best choices we can.

Lent calls us to a time of self-reflection, penance and returning to God as we ready ourselves to renew our baptism



## Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

ECCLESIASTES 3:20



### We CAN Collect:

- Clothing
- Paired Shoes (tied together)
- Hats & Scarves
- Handbags
- Ties & Belts
- Soft Toys
- Clean, folded Bedding\*, Towels\* & Curtains\*

(\* must be in a separate bag)



### We CANNOT Collect:

- Duvets
- Blankets
- Pillows
- Cushions
- End of Life Clothing
- Mobile Phones
- Tablets

**DROP BAGS to the SCHOOL on FRIDAY 23rd February 2024 (until 6.30pm)**

Get involved! you have an opportunity to do a clearout & donate any unwanted textiles. Doing so can help us raise funds to support school projects. In addition, it will raise awareness amongst the children of the benefits of recycling and reuse.

As an added bonus, **LauraLynn, Ireland's Childrens Hospice** will also receive an additional 10% from Bag2School on top of what we raise!

Clothes must be of good quality for reuse in Africa, Asia & Eastern Europe.

Please try to fill as many bags as you can, don't forget to ask family, friends and neighbours to have a sort out too! You can return clothes in any kind of bag. Many thanks indeed for helping us with this fundraising opportunity.

**THE MORE BAGS YOU FILL = THE MORE FUNDS RAISED!!**  
**(DONATIONS CAN ONLY BE ACCEPTED ON THE DAY FRIDAY 23rd FEB)**

