



"Lord, to whom shall we go? You (alone) have the Words of Eternal Life!"

Mount Merrion Parish Newsletter

25th August 2024

www.mountmerrionparish.ie

PARISH TEAM

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PARISH OFFICE

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www.mountmerrionparish.ie

MASS TIMES

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



Our sympathies to the families, relatives and friends of **Keevsa Fehily and John Hughes, Jo Maher** whose funerals took place here.



The Monthly Collection for SVDP will take place this weekend of the **24th and 25th August**. Many thanks for your generosity.



XELDA QR CODE
Mass collection
60% CLERGY
40% SHARE

A few words from Fr Joe.....

Summer must be ending when the mornings are cool, the Leaving Cert results have landed and we've spotted the first young person in a school uniform out and about. The months of June, July and August have sped past and now autumn beckons, soon leaves will begin to turn golden and fall and the cycle of life that begins each September will start again.

Back in June we initiated a summer schedule of weekend masses in our Partnership, reducing the total number by 2 and inviting parishioners to gather in greater numbers at the available liturgies. This has gone very well with around 350 people participating in the Sunday morning celebrations in both Mount Merrion and Kilmacud. Given the reduction in the number of attending Sunday Eucharist and with fewer priests available to celebrate Mass, I propose to carry on with this new schedule for September and October. I invite leaders of ministry and music groups to reflect on this and to share the liturgical roles among their existing members.

In Mount Merrion the Family Mass Group and the Lisieux singers will alternate at the 6.00pm Vigil Mass. We will have a survey of numbers attending weekend liturgies one weekend in September and keep the situation under review.

This weekend we mark the 5th anniversary of the death of Fr Tony Coote and reflect on his contribution to life and ministry. His legacy continues to inspire us all and we commend his soul to the love and mercy of God.

The sudden disappearance of Margaret Barber has left a huge gap in the lives of all who know her and we continue to pray for news of Margaret and for the comfort of her husband and daughters. We have appointed Leelo Saalik as interim manager of the Parish Centre in Mount Merrion and greatly appreciate her willingness to take on this role in difficult times.

In all three parishes, during the month of September, the Parish Pastoral Councils, the Finance Committees and other pastoral groups should gather for a meeting and begin to plan for the year ahead. The need for new members, new volunteers and renewed energy and commitment is obvious as we meet the future with hope.

Finally, Archbishop Dermot has appointed Deacon Ciaran Egan to our partnership for his final year in formation before Ordination. Br Ciaran was ordained a Deacon in St Kevin's, Harrington Street on July 21st by Bishop Paul Dempsey. We look forward to welcoming Ciaran and supporting his ministry during September.

The Lord is close to the broken hearted; and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

This Sunday, the readings invite us to consider honestly the depth of our love for the Lord. The same challenging questions once put to the Israelites by Joshua, and later to the disciples by Jesus, are being asked of us today.

Today's **Gospel** depicts a moment of crisis for Jesus's followers. Some, who have already said yes to him, are now finding it difficult to accept what he is claiming. Jesus wonders aloud how they will respond to what is to come.

In the **First Reading** the people of Israel, too, are offered a clear choice: do they want to serve God, or desert God? They respond by declaring: 'we have no intention of deserting the Lord our God.'

In the mystery of spousal choice, submission and loving service, the **Second Reading** offers us an allegory for the Church's relationship to Christ.

The **Psalm** shows what this service looks, feels, and tastes like. It is in the form of the goodness of the Lord, who chooses to be close to us, especially in our distress.



Saturday 24th August

6.00 Fr. Tony Coote – 5th Anniversary
Molly Aylmer – A
Brid Sammin – 3rd A

Sunday 25th August

10.00 Neil Ruane – Months Mind
John and Rita Slattery – A
Margaret Tuohy – 5th A
Bill and Angela Dorrian – A
Donal Dorrian – A
Michael Lydon – 22nd A
7.30 Helen Lynch – M.M
Kitty O'Coilain – 1st A
Tommy McLoughlin – 5th A

Monday 26th August

10.00 For all who are ill
Michael Lydon – 22nd A

Tuesday 27th August

10.00 Liturgical Service

Wednesday 28th August

10.00 Fr. Tony Coote – 5th A
James Duplaa – Birthday Wishes

Friday 30th August

10.00 Bridget Curran – R.D

Saturday 31st August

6.00 Susan O'Sullivan – A
Jack Sheehan - A
Brian Murphy – A
Eileen O'Kane – 3rd Anniversary and remembering her husband Joseph

Sunday 1st September

10.00 Philomena Donnelly – A

UPCOMING RETREATS

Dominican Retreat Centre in Tallaght

A Look of Love - Jim Deeds - 26th to 29th August 2024

Using Scripture, meditation, body and breath work, music and story, Jim will lead us to an awareness of the God whose love is infinite and unconditional, a creative path on which we can find God in the mess of our everyday lives and reconnect to our inherent goodness.

Cost: €320 residential; € 215 non-residential.

"There's a crack in everything: that's how the light gets in" - Sean Goan

31st August to 5th September 2024

To help us counter the God of the Scriptures we will use the songs of Leonard Cohen, who has inspired millions as they face the paradox of believing in a loving God while living in a broken world. During this retreat his lyrics with help us to explore prayerfully how the word of God can speak to us today offering hope and meaning in difficult times.

Cost: € 530 residential; €300 non-residential.

Harvesting Gratitude - Carol Barry 13th to 15th September 2024

In light of the great Judeo-Christian tradition of Harvest Thanksgiving, a graced space is offered during these days to glean the kernels of truth and wisdom hidden in the mystery of our own daily life. This will be a time to 'ingather' i.e. to reflect, remember and recognise the grace of God at work within and around us in order to cultivate a spirit of gratitude, hope and outreach.

Cost: €280 residential; €180 non-residential.



Caring and Sharing Association ("CASA") will hold charity collections at the Church of St. Thérèse, Mount Merrion, on the weekend of the **7th and 8th September 2024**.

CASA charity bags will be distributed on the 31st August and 1st September 2024 and collected, before Masses, on the 7th and 8th September 2024.

What can be donated:

- Accessories (bags, belts, hats, scarves, jewellery etc)
- Bed linen
- Bric-a-Brac
- Clothing
- Homewares (ornaments, china, kitchenware, pictures)
- Perfume
- Recently published books (in good condition)
- Unwanted gifts

CASA cannot accept duvets, pillows, children's toys or electrical items

CASA is a volunteer led, registered charity, established in 1981, whose goal is to develop friendships and social outlets for adults and children with disabilities through a variety of social events and activities. CASA has 19 local groups nationwide with each group holding regular social events with one volunteer to support each CASA member during all of our activities. Our charity shops provide us with the ability to continue to work with people with disabilities and their families and each donation we receive truly makes a difference. Please give as generously as you can. Thank you. www.casa.ie

The Sisterhood of St. Elisabeth helps children in an orphanage and a psychiatric hospital



Sr Olga from St Elisabeth Convent in Belarus will be visiting us here in Mount Merrion next weekend. She is raising funds by selling icons, ceramics and decorations made in the convent. After our weekend Masses – **Saturday 24th @ 6pm and Sunday 25th @ 10.00 am and 7.30pm**, Sr Olga will have a stall at the entrance to the Church. Please support this good cause if you can.

Bayside Alpha are hosting on Zoom Bishop Barron's 6 week film series 'Conversion - Following the Call of Christ', starting on Sunday the 15th of September from 7:30pm to 8:30pm. Bishop Barron illuminates six biblical stories of conversion, demonstrating how six ordinary people were met by Jesus where they were and called to a better life through Him. To join this free course email Paul at alphabayside@gmail.com.