



MOUNT MERRION PARISH NEWSLETTER

25th January 2026

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS TIME	CLONSKEAGH	KILMACUD	MOUNT MERRION
Weekdays	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am
Liturgy w/ Eucharist		Thursday	Tuesday*
Bank Holidays	11:00am	10:00am	10:00am
Saturday		10.00am	10.00am
Saturday Vigil Mass		6.00pm	6:00pm
Sunday	10.30am	11:30am	10:00am & 7:30pm

A few words from Fr Joe.....

Last Monday I believe was called "Blue Monday", to reflect that it is just about the most depressing day in the whole year! It was the third Monday in January, with all of last month's pay check long since spent, all the joy of Christmas gatherings, bright lights and holidays fading from the memory and of course it comes during a cold, wet, miserable few days.

Well I'm happy to say there were a number of things that really lifted my spirits on Monday and the days since. The first of these uplifting moments was attending the Prayer for Christian Unity Week, hosted by the Carmelite Sisters in Kilmacud. They had invited the Secretary General of AMRI, Gerard Gallagher to speak on the theme of 'Hope'. Gerard was once upon a time a fellow seminarian with me in Maynooth, he left in favour of marriage and has worked his entire professional career for church related groups, especially with young people. His current role is to work with the Religious of Ireland, older and younger members, and to assist them with governance and oversight of their work, encouraging the religious and advocating for their work at home and abroad. It was a joy to hear him speak with such obvious regard and respect for the religious and to bring a huge sense of hope for the future. Congregations of Religious may be smaller in number but they still have a huge impact in the prayer and social ministries of the Church.

Then I watched, and was very impressed, by some of the work done for Catholic Schools week by our local schools. Prayer, letters of Gratitude, Grandparents Day and many more activities reflected the serious intent of our young people to grow in faith and to know and love God day by day.

On another evening, I attended a Finance Committee meeting and found two new members, parishioners with exceptional talent, stepping forward and taking on a role in an essential part of what it takes to make our parishes work. Hopefully their example will encourage others to volunteer.

And lastly, I bumped into two ladies who have regenerated a baptismal team, under the guidance of their Parish Pastoral Council and intend to offer great support to the families with young children who are coming to begin their faith journey. Many ministry teams would benefit from a little regeneration and new members and it's just brilliant to see the seeds of new growth.

I could go on, there were many more marvellous moments in parish ministry this past week, all of these aspects of the life and ministries in our Trinity of Faith partnership of parishes really do affirm our common mission to carry on the work of the local church and to do it together, and always with a smile. No Blue Mondays here!

Mass Intentions

SSaturday 24th January

6.00 Gerard O'Kelly - 2nd A

Kevin Smith - A

Eileen McCarthy - Remembrance

Sunday 25th January

10.00 Micheál Gabriel

O'Cuinneagáin - A

Michael MacEnri - 10th A

Joseph Lynch - 3rd A

Intentions of the Minister of the Word

Eamon Donnelly - A

Mary O'Connor - 1st A

Sheila Gouldson - 4th A

7.30

Nora and Eoin de Blacam - A

Monday 26th January

10.00 For all who are ill

Bríd Clancy - Months Mind

Tuesday 27th January

10.00 Liturgical Service

Saturday 31st January

10.00 Carmel O'Mara - A

6.00 Maureen Kennedy - 2nd A

Sunday 1st February

10.00 Eunice McCarthy - M.M

John Burke Flynn - 1st A

Maria Halpin - 1st A

John Sheridan - A

Brigid Sheridan - A

Louise Steenson - A

Paddy and Bridget Duffy - A



THE YEAR OF ST. FRANCIS

10th January 2026 - 10th January 2027

Saint Francis, our brother, you who eight hundred years ago went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace, intercede for us before the Lord. You recognized true peace in the Crucifix of San Damiano, teach us to seek in Him the source of all reconciliation that breaks down every wall. You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war and misunderstanding, give us the courage to build bridges where the world raises up boundaries. In this time afflicted by conflict and division, intercede for us so that we may become peacemakers: unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ. Amen



The monthly collection for SVP will take place this weekend the 24th and 25th January. Many thanks for your generosity.

PATRICIAN MEETING

SUBJECT/TITLE: THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS

SPEAKER: CAOIMHE DOYLE

DATE: WEDNESDAY 28th JANUARY AT 8PM

VENUE: COMMUNITY CENTRE, MOUNT MERRION

ALL ARE WELCOME

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - 18th - 25th January

It was the great desire of Jesus, the night before his Passion and Death, that all his disciples be united as one, and each year from 18-25th January, the Church prays in particular for this desire of Jesus. The texts for this year's Week of Prayer were prepared by Christians in Armenia under the overall theme: "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling" (Ephesians 4:4)

Evening Prayer will be offered for this great desire of Jesus at 4.30pm each day at the Carmelite Monastery, Upper Kilmacud Road. All are welcome to join us in person or via live-stream on our YouTube channel: @KilmacudCarmel More details on our website: www.kilmacudcarmel.ie/christianunity

Speakers for the week are:

Sun 18th: Reflection by a Carmelite Sister

Mon 19th: Mr Gerard Gallagher, Secretary General AMRI

Tues 20th: Rev. Martin Sauter, Lutheran Church

Wed 21st: Rev. Natasha Quinn-Thomas, Church of Ireland, Delgany

The Word of God and the Ministers of the Word

On Sunday January 25th the Word of God is celebrated. Ministers of the Word read from the Old and New Testaments at each Mass during the week. On behalf of the Parish I would like to thank the current and past Ministers for their service and dedication. Mass at 10.00am on Sunday Jan 25 will be offered for their intentions. Would you like to read at one of the daily or weekend Masses on a rota basis? You would be very welcome, just leave your contact (phone and email) details with the Parish Office at 01 2881271 or email parishoffice@mountmerrionparish.ie.

Sandra King, Co-Ordinator, Ministers of the Word

Questions about God and Jesus? About the synodal reform of the Church? Why not consider studying some theology? Join us online at 6pm on Tuesday 10th February for an information session, and to hear from some of our students. See our website to register <https://www.tcd.ie/loyola-institute/> or email loyola@tcd.ie



Our sympathies to the families, relatives and friends of **Elizabeth Berney and Eoin McCarthy** whose funerals took place here this week