

**PARISH OF TEMPLEMICHAEL & BALLYMACORMACK.**

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*PARISH NEWSLETTER*



***Monday 5<sup>th</sup> April – Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2021.***

***Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> April. EASTER MONDAY***

8.00am: No Mass.

10.00am: Jimmy Mulligan & his mother Katie (A).

***Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> April. EASTER TUESDAY***

8.00am: Helen Donoghue

10.00am: Bridie McDermott (A)

***Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> April. EASTER WEDNESDAY***

8.00am: Christine McGowan (1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary)

10.00am: Pat McGuinness (A)

***Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> April. EASTER THURSDAY.***

8.00am: Bridie Miller & Robin Jeffries (A)

10.00am: Liam Foley (A)

***Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> April. EASTER FRIDAY***

8.00am: Special Intention

10.00am: John & Elizabeth Kilemade & Paddy Farrell

***Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> April. EASTER SATURDAY.***

8.00am: Gerard Reddington (Month's Mind)

10.00am: Jimmy Conway (Month's Mind)

***Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> April. 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY of EASTER***

6.00pm (*Vigil*): Ethna Kenny (A).

7.30pm (*Vigil*): Angela Rogers (A)

8.00am: No Intention

10.00am: Pat O'Donnell (A).

11.30am: *Shared*: 1. Annie Quinn (A) 2. Helen & Joe Gouldsbury (A)  
3. Maeve Cullen (Month's Mind)

1.00pm: Divine Mercy Mass

6.00pm: Sarah McGuinness (A).

***REST IN PEACE:*** We pray at this time for the happy repose of the soul of Frank Glancy, Temple Michael Terrace for whom funeral arrangements will be made later. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

***OFFERTORY COLLECTION:*** We thank you for your contribution to the Offertory Collection for the last week that amounted to €2,480.00. You may drop your envelope through the Presbytery letterbox. Or you may prefer to offer financial support electronically, the following are our banking details: St Mels Cathedral Account. Permanent TSB. BIC: IPBSIE2D; IBAN: IE48IPBS99073152096969

***DIVINE MERCY NOVENA*** commences Good Friday immediately after the 3 o'clock ceremony and will continue on-line up Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> April. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday and the 1pm Mass will conclude the novena.

***TRÓCAIRE:*** we encourage families to continue to contribute to the Lenten Trócaire collection that can be handed into the Presbytery any day during the week.. Much of the money raised this year will go to help people displaced in Southern Sudan.

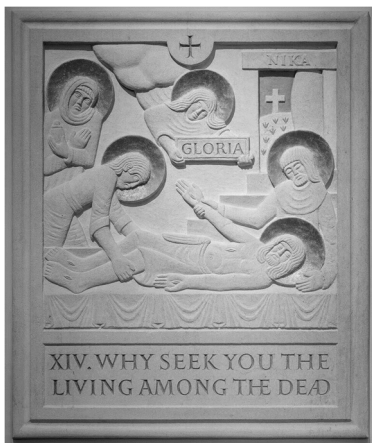
***HE IS RISEN, ALLELUIA!***

The enemies of Jesus put him to death unjustly. They thought they had seen the end of him. He would no longer cause them sleepless nights. They were wrong. On the third day, he came charging from the grave alive. He had Risen! His body was not in the grave. This time around, he will never die again. Death has no power over him anymore. He would live forever. He had gained a definitive victory over death, and this victory was not his alone but also for Christians who are his followers. Just as he died and rose from death, they too would rise from death, never to die anymore. His resurrection was their assurance of their own resurrection.

Therefore the liturgical assembly on this Easter morning exults in realizing all the hopes of the messianic people of God; the hope of liberation, of entering into the promised land, of restoration of justice, of restoration of justice, of New earth and New heavens.

The faithful of Christ have entered into this new reality and live and move in its light. The real newness is Christ who came into this world lived with humans, died and rose again and is ever present.

It is in him that the interior human being is renewed every day (2 Cor 4:6). The exterior person, the old reality, needs to be broken to open up the way for the birth of the new human reality, the fruit of redemption in Christ." To put on Christ" as Paul would say, means to enter into him and to live in him so that we become hidden in him and with him. Thus, "anyone who is in Christ is a new creature". The Christian is dead to sin and Risen with Christ to new life. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



## **Pastoral Message of Bishop Francis**

***We are an Easter people: our faith in the risen Lord remains undimmed  
One Year On***

Over the last year we have witnessed the wonderful courage, sacrifice and kindness of so many people. We have lots of Good Samaritans, ever watchful for those who are in need.

We have also seen suffering in a variety of different ways, front line workers exhausted and those in hospitals and nursing homes without visits. The closure of businesses has led to considerable worry. Many have spoken to me about the sad contexts in which funerals take place. Those who stand in silence as a funeral passes are standing with and alongside the bereaved family, acknowledging the family and community loss. It is a heartfelt stance of solidarity and support.

### **Young people, school and sacraments**

The work school staffs and management has kept learning to the forefront in the most challenging of circumstances. Parents have the demanding work of home schooling in the midst of already busy schedules.

In our parishes there are many who are preparing for the sacraments of First Penance, First Holy Communion and Confirmation. I hope that the celebration of these sacraments, as well as all the postponed Baptisms and Marriages, will be joyful and happy occasions for families, when it is safe for them to take place.

### **Clergy and parishioners**

I think of our priests whose pastoral work has been curtailed by restrictions and cocooning. I thank them for keeping in touch and reaching out in a variety of pastoral ways. I thank you for your generous support of clergy, both moral and material, at this very difficult time.

Over the last year the Church has played its part in this crusade of caution. I thank our clergy and all the committees and volunteers who do so much to keep our churches open and safe. All the planning and sanitising and the stewarding is very much appreciated as it keeps people safer and gives great reassurance.

### **Liturgy in Church**

Although our physical attendance at Mass is curtailed and at times not possible, we have a rich variety of ways to nourish our faith and our daily living. Private prayer, including reading scripture passages or the Mass readings, is very supportive. The 'domestic Church' is the family gathering around the kitchen table, in prayer and following Mass online. The 'domestic Church' has gained a new importance. The traditional Rosary, and the visits to church, are familiar practices. These are not substitute ways of worship, they are tried and tested routes that nourish our faith in the risen Lord. While streamlined Masses keep us connected to worship in a virtual way, and while the opportunity to do so is very much appreciated, it is not the same as being present in a church. We long to be back in church for Mass and the celebration of the sacraments. We look forward to the temporary measures being eased and lifted and returning to public worship.

### **Diocesan Assembly**

We were over half way through our Diocesan Assembly preparations when the first lockdown came. We look forward to resuming, while at the same time taking into account fresh insights into our living, and into how we are as Church. How we will minister as Church is a key consideration for the future. We have embarked on this journey just at a time when the Church in Ireland is moving on a path to discern the Holy Spirit's guidance. Both our Diocesan Assembly and the national synodal pathway will be a time of journeying together, as believers in the Good News of Jesus Christ. I look forward to resuming our journey.

### **Easter Joy and Easter Hope**

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is our reassurance that he continues to walk alongside us. It holds out the ultimate hope that God loves each of us, no matter what. We are an Easter people; our faith in the risen Lord remains undimmed. It is a faith that tells us, yes these are difficult times, but the Lord walks with us, encouraging us and giving us the wisdom to keep going in a positive and life enhancing way and to be especially supportive and protective of those around us. We look forward to the day when we can worship freely and meet up again with family, friends and neighbours with joy in our hearts.

I wish you and your family and friends a happy Easter.

**+ Francis Duffy**

**Bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnois**

**Easter 2021**