

**PARISH OF TEMPLEMICHAEL & BALLYMACORMACK.**

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PARISH NEWSLETTER



**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2021 - 18<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time**

- Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> August. St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross.**  
8.00am: Mary McGowan (*Birthday Remembrance*)  
10.00am: Jim & Bridget Spillane; Jerry & Jimmie Spillane
- Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> August. St Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr.**  
8.00am: Ann Balfe (*Recently Deceased*)  
10.00am: Julie Newman (A)
- Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> August. St Clare**  
8.00am: John King (A)  
10.00am: Fr James Edwin Coyle (*100<sup>th</sup> Anniv of his death in Alabama*)
- Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> August. St Jane Frances de Chantal**  
8.00am: Thanksgiving for all who supported the Clarke family  
10.00am: Martina Sweeney (A)
- Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> August. St Fachtna**  
8.00am: Angela and Brian Stephenson for their forthcoming marriage  
10.00am: Philo Thomas (A)
- Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> August St Maximilian Kolbe**  
8.00am: John & Mary McLoughlin & daughter Roisin O'Flynn (A)  
10.00am: Martin Devlin & his sister Joan Black (A)
- Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> August Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
6.00pm (Vigil): Peter Clarke (*Month's Mind*)  
7.30pm (Vigil): Mary & Frank Brennan & daughter Mary Hanaphy  
8.00am: Leo & Tina McDermottroe (A)  
10.00am: Sinéad McGuinness (A)  
11.30am: Shared: 1. Sonny Canning (A)  
2. Joe Kearney (A)  
1.00pm: Thomas Harvey & DFM (A)  
6.00pm: Thanksgiving for those who supported Donlon Family on death of Johanna

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION:** We thank you for your contribution to the Offertory Collection for the last week that amounted to €3,660.00.

**BAPTISM:** With great joy, we recently welcomed Hannah Kitty Mulligan, Maddison Grace Stokes, Alfie Conway Malone, Summer Hilda Gill, Bethany Rose Marie Kinsella, Gabriel Florkiewicz and Harmony Marie McDonnell into the Christian community.

**NEW PARISH BANK ACCOUNT:** The Parish has changed its bank account. Our new banking details are as follows:

**Bank:** Allied Irish Bank, 58 Main Street, Longford

**Account Name:** St Mel's Cathedral

**National Sort Code:** 93-21-40      **Account No:** 02724370

**IBAN:** IE49AIBK93214002724370      **BIC:** AIBKIE2D

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS:** Problems with Alcohol? Alcoholics Anonymous can help. We meet in the Family Centre (Back of Cathedral) Tuesdays at 1pm; Wednesdays at 8pm; Thursdays at 1pm; Sundays at 11.30am.

**SAMARITANS** are available on free call 116123, 24 hours if you would like to talk about something that is bothering you.

**ACCORD CATHOLIC MARRIAGE CARE SERVICE** CLG is currently recruiting volunteers to train as marriage preparation programme facilitators.

Accord is seeking registration of interest from those who have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church and the enthusiasm to be part of a team supporting couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. Additional information is available on [www.accord.ie](http://www.accord.ie).

Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation programmes locally in accordance with best practice. Contact by email to [info@accord.ie](mailto:info@accord.ie).

The closing date for receipt of registration of interest forms to be included in selections for this year is Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August.

**MARY MEALS:** Longford walks to KNOCK for Aug 15<sup>th</sup>. The walk will commence from St Mel's Cathedral on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Aug at 8.30am. The daily Longford 5.5K circuit walk 7<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> Aug. Sponsorship forms and tee-shirts are available in Louis Herterich's shop. Kitty Ross 086 0405621. [www.marysmeals.ie/fundraising/project/kitty-ross/step-by-step-walk-from-longford-to-knock-2021](http://www.marysmeals.ie/fundraising/project/kitty-ross/step-by-step-walk-from-longford-to-knock-2021)

## Gospel for 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (John 6:41-51)

*I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.*



The Jews were complaining to each other about Jesus, because he had said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' 'Surely this is Jesus son of Joseph' they said. 'We know his father and mother. How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?'

Jesus said in reply,  
Stop complaining to each other.  
'No one can come to me  
unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me,  
and I will raise him up at the last day.  
It is written in the prophets:  
They will all be taught by God,  
and to hear the teaching of the Father,  
and learn from it, is to come to me.  
Not that anybody has seen the Father,  
except the one who comes from God:  
he has seen the Father.

I tell you most solemnly,  
everybody who believes has eternal life.  
I am the bread of life.  
Your fathers ate the manna in the desert and they are dead; .  
but this is the bread that comes down from heaven,  
so that a man may eat it and not die.  
I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.  
Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever;  
and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

### **REFLECTION:**

This first reading today, from *the First Book of Kings*, tells about the Prophet Elijah. This prophet is so human and like us. He is tired of the spiritual journey and he is tired of having to serve God and have no support at all. So he asks to die. Instead, the angel of God, perhaps God Himself, tells Elijah to get up and eat and to go to Horeb, the mountain of God. The important aspect that we must notice is that Elijah obeys God. This is the heart of our spiritual life. This is how each one of us wants to live even when we are not faithful. Like Elijah, we must work with all our energy to obey the Lord!

The second reading is from the *Letter to the Ephesians*. This short section is an instruction about how to live a life in accordance with our faith in Jesus Christ. It is so easy to leave the Lord Jesus and follow other ways of thinking and living. Instead, we are told that, if we want to live in a fully human way, we must also live deeply the life of the Spirit. The life of the Spirit is seen by living in love, as Christ has loved us. That means that we must be willing to give up our lives for the love of others.

The Gospel from *Saint John* today is about Jesus being the bread that God sends us from heaven. This is a teaching that some people simply cannot accept. Even in the time of Jesus disciples left Jesus because of His saying: 'You must eat my flesh and drink my blood'.

In the early Church some were accused of cannibalism because this teaching about eating and drinking was so strong. Jesus wants us to become Him so He gives Himself to us as our food. With most food, the food becomes us when we eat it. With the bread from heaven, the Eucharist, we become Jesus when we consume it.

With the Eucharist, we also can walk to Mount Horeb, to the mountain of the Lord. We can meet the Lord personally and be at home with Him. Only faith guides us on this path. To walk with the Lord, we must love others and sacrifice our lives for them. We will be transfigured by this God who loves us.

