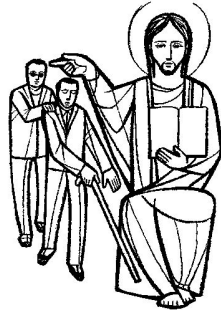


TODAY'S GOSPEL LUKE 6: 39—45

Jesus told a parable to his disciples: 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'



LONGFORD SCOUTS ARE BACK! Our registration night for existing and new Scouts aged 6+ will take place on Mon 28th Feb in The Scouts Den in The Mall at 7pm. We are also looking for new leaders. All training will be provided.

THE GREAT VIRTUE OF TEMPERANCE

This Sunday 26th February is a Day of Prayer for Temperance, a day that offers us an opportunity to reflect on our relationship with alcohol and other addictive substances a day on which we can take time to pray for those who suffer from addiction.

The whole area of Temperance can invoke in us an unpopular image and is sometimes perceived as restrictive, a sort of 'kill-joy and spoil sport.' Nothing could be further from the truth. Being temperate brings balance to our lives. Being addicted to any substance is very restrictive. This special day of prayer for temperance is celebrated on the last Sunday before Lent each year.

Pioneer heroic offering
For thy greater glory and consolation
For thy sake to give good example
To practice self-denial
To make reparation to thee for the sins of intemperance
I will abstain from all alcohol drink
Through Christ Our Lord. Amen



APPEAL

My heart aches greatly at the worsening situation in Ukraine. Despite the diplomatic efforts of the last few weeks, increasingly alarming scenarios are opening up. Like me, many people all over the world are feeling anguish and concern. Once again the peace of all is threatened by partisan interests. I would like to appeal to those with political responsibility to examine their consciences seriously before God, who is the God of peace and not of war; who is the Father of all, not just of some, who wants us to be brothers and not enemies. I pray that all the parties involved refrain from any action that would cause even more suffering to the people, destabilising coexistence between nations and bringing international law into disrepute.

And now I would like to appeal to everyone, believers and non-believers alike. Jesus taught us that the diabolical senselessness of violence is answered with God's weapons, with prayer and fasting. I invite everyone to make next 2 March, Ash Wednesday, a Day of Fasting for Peace. I encourage believers in a special way to dedicate themselves intensely to prayer and fasting on that day. May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war.

Franciscus

Monday, 28th February.
8.00am: Margaret Briody, her daughter Mary and DFM.
10.00am: Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, 1st March. Shrove Tuesday, St David, bishop
8.00am: Baby Persayus Marie McDonnell (A)
10.00am: William and Mary Lawrence (A)

Wednesday, 2nd March. Ash Wednesday
7.30am: No Intention 10.00am: William & Kathleen McHugh (A)
1.05pm: Aidan Balfe (Month's Mind) 7.30pm: Special Intention

Thursday 3rd March .
7.30am: John Hughes (A)
10.00am: Peter, Catherine and Mary Hanley (A)
1.05pm: Patricia Callas (Intention)
7.30pm Curry: Bridget Beirne (A)

Friday, 4th March. First Friday. St. Casimir
7.30am: Mass of thanksgiving for all who support Mary Meals
10.00am: Mary Mulligan (Month's Mind)
1.05pm: Martin Ward (Month's Mind)
7.30pm: Daniel Kieran Farrell (A)

Saturday, 5th March. St. Kieran, bishop
8.00am: No Intention 10.00am: Seamus and Mai Greene (A)

Sunday, 6th March. First Sunday of Lent
7.30pm (Vigil): Bernard Oates (A)
8.00am: Paddy and Patricia Glennon (A)
10.00am: Jimmy Conway (1st A) and his wife Betty (4th A)
11.30am: *Shared:* 5. Sam Dennigan (A). 2. Kathleen Gray (A).
3. Michael Ghee his parents Thomas & Bridie & sisters Patricia & Catherine Norris (A).
1.00pm: Joe Quinn (A) 6.00pm: Margaret Farrell (A)

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: We thank each one of you most sincerely for your continued generous contributions to our weekly collections. The amount received in the Offertory Collection for last weekend was €3,330.00.

SHROVE DUES COLLECTION for the support of the priests of the Parish is due at this time.

BAPTISM: With joy, we welcomed Crofa Kate Donnelly, Hughie Joseph Bruno Stokes and Julia Zofia Pawlowska into the Christian Community last weekend.

REST IN PEACE: Your prayers are requested for the happy repose of the souls of Teresa Nolan, Ferefad and Peggy Doherty (née Reilly) Templemichael Terrace whose funerals were celebrated during the week.

FRIDAY 4TH MARCH IS THE 1ST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH. Priests will bring Holy Communion to the sick and the housebound.

HOLY FACE OF JESUS NOVENA continues on Monday at 5pm. Feast day is Shrove Tuesday, Mass will be celebrated at 10am.

Lent 2022

- **ASH WEDNESDAY** is the 1st of 40 days of Lent. It is a day of Fast and Abstinence. Masses on Ash Wednesday will be at 7.30am, 10am, 1.05pm and 7.30pm. Ashes will be blessed and distributed at all Masses.
- **STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** On Friday evenings we will pray the Stations of the Cross at 7pm. This will be followed by Mass at 7.30pm.
- The **ROSARY** will be recited every morning Monday to Friday after the 7.30am Mass and on Saturday morning after the 8am Mass.

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES DURING THE SEASON OF LENT

Monday to Thursday - 7.30am, 10am and 1.05pm.
Friday - 7.30am, 10am, 1.05pm and 7.30pm.
Saturday - 8am and 10am.

PARISH PREPARATION FOR BAPTISM, EUCHARIST & CONFIRMATION

Children who are not baptised in 2nd and 6th Class and young people in Secondary School who wish to celebrate First Holy Communion and Confirmation this year will need to join the Parish Preparation Programme that will take place in the Family Centre on the Thursdays of Lent at 4pm. The Programme begins 3rd March.

THOSE TAKING PART NEED TO BE REGISTERED IN ADVANCE. PLEASE REGISTER AT THE PRESBYTERY IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO.