

PARISH OF TEMPLEMICHAEL & BALLYMACORMACK.



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PARISH NEWSLETTER

13th Week in Ordinary Time Monday 29th June to Sunday 5th July 2020.

Monday, 29th June. Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles.

8.00am: Fr. Seán Sheehan (A).
10.00am: Kathleen Clarke and deceased family members. (A).
7.30pm: No Intention.

Tuesday, 30th June. First Martyrs of Rome.

8.00am: No Intention. 10.00am: Pauric Dolan (A).
7.30pm: No Intention.

Wednesday, 1st July. St. Oliver Plunkett.

8.00am: Frank Devine (A).
10.00am: Denis Cremins (recently deceased in the UK).
7.30pm: No Intention.

Thursday, 2nd July.

8.00am: No Intention. 10.00am: Mai Sheehan (A).
7.30pm: No Intention.

Friday, 3rd July. St. Thomas, Apostle. First Friday.

8.00am: No Intention. 10.00am: Christina and John Kiernan (A).
7.30pm: No Intention.

Saturday, 4th July. St. Elizabeth of Portugal.

8.00am: No Intention.
10.00am: Margaret Mary and Gerard O'Donnell (A).

Sunday, 5th July.

6.00pm. (*Vigil*) Anne, Lorraine and Mary Brady (A).
7.30pm. (*Vigil*) Josephine & Oliver Keenan & their sons Peter & Martin (A).
8.00am: Holy Souls.
10.00am: Bill and Tess Farrell (A).
11.30am: *Shared.* Thomas Flynn (A). Molly and Christy Shiels (A).
Jackie Hughes (A).
1.00pm: Cathal O'Rourke (A).
6.00pm: No Intention.

The Cathedral will only open 15 minutes before Mass and the door will be closed as soon as Mass begins. Entry to the Cathedral will be by the Main Door only and exit will be to the left and right of the altar (Holy Family Chapel and Chapel of Repose).

REST IN PEACE: Your prayers are requested for the happy repose of the soul of Moya Shaw (née Foley), Clonbalt who was laid to rest during the week. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

RECENTLY BAPTISED: We welcomed Stefan Krosken and Alaia Rose McDonnell into the Christian Community last weekend.

FIRST FRIDAY: Next Friday is the first Friday of the month. Due to the Coronavirus there will be **no** visits to the sick or housebound.

PARISH FINANCES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: We are mindful that the current crisis is imposing financial burdens on every family and business in our parish. The current restrictions and suspension of Masses is impacting significantly on parish financial resources and ability to meet our responsibilities. We would like to thank most sincerely parishioners who pay through direct debit in the bank and those who dropped envelopes into the presbytery every week. If you wish you can drop envelopes through the presbytery letterbox or for anyone who may prefer to offer financial support electronically, the following are our banking details: **Account: St Mels Cathedral Longford, BIC: IPBSIE2D, IBAN: IE48IPBS99073152096969**

COVID 19 SUPPORT LINE FOR OLDER PEOPLE: ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

SUPPORT FOR POPE FRANCIS COVID 19 EMERGENCY FUND: Your help is urgently needed to help overseas missionaries and vulnerable communities to defend themselves against COVID 19. In Africa, Asia and Latin America, the church is often on the frontline. In remote inaccessible areas, it is missionaries who respond as best they can, to the medical and pastoral needs of suffering men, women and children. Missionaries already face too many challenges, working in over-crowded communities with no running water. In shantytowns and refugee camps where social distancing is simply impossible, and where self-isolation could mean starvation. To help protect these fragile communities, Pope Francis has announced the COVID 19 Emergency Fund. If you can, please give so that our less-fortunate brothers and sisters have a fighting chance against this virus. Donate by going on line: www.wmi.ie/covid-fund or call Fiona on 014972035. Bank of Ireland Transfer details: Account Name: Society for the Propagation of the Faith. IBAN: IE12BOFI900075456961636. BIC: BOFIE2D

Gospel for 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Matthew 10:37-42)

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows:

‘Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me.

Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me.

Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.

Anyone who welcomes a prophet will have a prophet’s reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man will have a holy man’s reward.

‘If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.’



Diocese of Ardagh and Clonmacnois Return to Public Worship: Pastoral Letter from Bishop Francis Duffy, 28th June 2020

On Monday most of our churches will open for public worship for the first time since early March. Thank God and thanks to the care taken by the Irish people that we are this far. I ask for understanding and patience in these early weeks because of the very restricted numbers that can attend Mass, depending on social distancing and the size of churches. As

we return, safe practices such as the distribution of Holy Communion on the hand only, and avoidance of a handshake as a sign of peace, will continue in addition to social distancing and signage.

The Sunday obligation continues to be lifted because the threat endures and there is the danger of resurgence. Many people would like to attend Mass but are rightly cautious about returning and will wait for a few weeks or attend on weekdays. I know you have been following Mass on social media, on webcams, on TV and on local radio. Although our communication is virtual, our personal communication with God and his with us, is real.

I thank our priests for the imaginative and innovative ways they have continued their pastoral outreach by telephone, letters and cards and by various social media platforms. I thank you for your generous support of your priests and your parish in these times. The virtual has become an important means of communication and will continue.

One feature that is largely absent in our strange experience is the community dimension. We miss interacting with others. This is especially true for those who have been cocooning. The closure of schools presented an ongoing burden for families and for teachers. I thank principals and school staffs for their online and remote engagement with pupils; an excellent support to the young people and their parents.

I know that many have felt the very heavy cross of illness and of bereavement. The immediate support that is a natural response has had to be measured and so the grieving experience has lacked that valuable community dimension. Young people who are looking forward to Confirmation will have an opportunity to celebrate the presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives. It will be different than normal, administered by your priest at a date to be decided locally. First Holy Communion will also take place, later than expected.

Economic uncertainty about the future remains and has impacted heavily on many individuals and families. We remember in our prayers, our leaders who are tasked with our safety and our economic recovery.

Our Diocesan Assembly has been postponed, but we continue to be in touch and will incorporate the experience of the past few months into our deliberations when we resume, as our theme puts it, “shaping the future with hope.”

I thank all who will assist in keeping our churches open and safe for the time to come. Such selfless and generous work is a service to the community. We look forward to a careful, albeit restricted and gradual, but welcome return to some degree of normality. We are at this hopeful stage because of the excellent, and at times heroic work, of our front line personnel and the vigilance of people in our country. We thank God for his continuing presence with us in these times and we thank him for the hope and help created by the generosity, good neighbourliness and community spirit of so many.

RETURNING TO CELEBRATE TOGETHER: We look forward to St Mel’s Cathedral resuming public worship on Monday 29th June. Because of the need to restrict numbers attending because of social distancing there will be three masses each weekday from Monday to Friday at 8am, 10am & 7.30pm. Two masses will be added to the Sunday schedule: 6pm Vigil on Saturday and 6pm on Sunday evening. At the moment, because of the need for social distancing and contact tracing people will need a ticket if they intend attending mass. Weekend Masses are as follows: Saturday Vigil 6pm & 7.30pm. Sunday 8am, 10am, 11.30am, 1pm, and 6pm.