



It was a very different Sunday and Saint Patrick's Day here in the Village. My brother priests and I had the strange experience of saying Mass to ourselves although this not completely accurate as we now realise the number of people who listened or watched Mass on the parish radio or via the parish webcam.

As I write this front-page piece, I'm aware that it is not the traditional front page as we will not have a printed edition of the newsletter for the first time in many years. The decision of the Archdiocese to have Mass 'behind closed doors' where the expected congregation will be more than one hundred was a wise one as we saw what happened when some public houses breached the recommended guidelines.

What pastoral plan should we adopt for the foreseeable future? We will continue to have the 07.30, 10.00 and 19.30 Masses Monday to Friday. We appreciate if you continue to observe the guidelines and protocols. We had a team meeting on Wednesday where the uncertainty and fears about the Coronavirus were aired. The resounding emphasis from the meeting was that we need to be both prayerful and practical. Inside you may read of initiatives that are as a result of the guidelines or creative ways in which we can keep connected with our parishioners especially the most vulnerable. I realise this is a work in progress as we face new challenges daily and the Parish Team does not have all the answers. There is an enthusiasm to support, reach out and care for each other. We need your help as we move forward and face these challenging times. If you are unwell or in one the vulnerable categories, please do stay at home and watch via the webcam whilst Mass is broadcast or join in the Adoration. Through social media we are expanding the interaction with parishioners to nourish their faith. The Lenten book club will be via Facebook this Wednesday at 8pm. You are invited to pray for one another, those who are sick, the health service employees and the blue light services. Please do reach out to a neighbour who lives alone or who have not left their homes in a few weeks by phoning or writing an old-fashioned letter.

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

### Masses

### Clondalkin Village

Sundays: (Vigil) Sat 6.30pm, Sunday 9am Gaeilge), 10.30am, 12 noon & 5.30pm All Behind Closed Doors

Weekdays (Mon – Fri) 7.30am 10am & 7:30pm. Sat 10am Open to the public -Max 100 people & observe the social distancing guidelines

### **Clonburris**

Sunday (Vigil) Sat 6.30 pm Sunday 11am Holy Days 11am and 6.30pm

### Knockmitten

Church Closed

Parish Office Hours Clondalkin: Mon-Fri 9:30 -12:30 Closed to the public but please contact through Phone & Email Clonburris & Knockmitten: Contact through Village

Submissions for Newsletter: Parishnewsletter1@gmail.com

On a practical note there parish finances have taken a hit so if you are passing by the church please leave your envelopes or donation in the safe at the right hand side of the Church or click on the donate button on the bottom right of the parish website.

The prayer is one you might say at the time of Holy Communion when watching or listening to Mass at home.

### An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen. **Fr. Damian** 

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# Some important Parish information to keep you up-to-date

**Confirmation** for the 1<sup>st</sup> April is postponed until further notice

**Baptisms** The ceremony is restricted to parents, siblings and godparents

All pre-baptism meetings cancelled until further notice

Reconciliation – Confession will be offered after the weekday Masses from 23<sup>rd</sup> March as there will probably be no reconciliation service for Lent

First Communions – No decisions made at this time as we wait to see what unfolds

Holy week will be as per diocesan recommendations

Funerals & Masses in general

Vigil and Sunday Masses going forward will be behind closed doors, webcam and radio broacasting as usual.

Weekday masses will continue in public where numbers do not exceed 100. If this happens on a consistent basis (2 or more days) then these masses also may need to be held behind closed doors

Funerals proceed in line with diocesan directives with numbers limited to less than 100 We ask people to respect the notices on the pews to respect spacing.

The Pastoral centre will be closed for meetings until further notice

The Parish Shop is closed

The Office is closed to the public. Contact only via email and phone.

## We will do our best to keep you updated as information unfolds - Keep calm & Healthy

Monday 23rd March - M Novena after 10am Mass a Thursday 26th March - Exposition of the Blesse Morning: In the Church 10 Evening: In the Church 10	nd Rosary. Adoration: d Sacrament 0.45 - 11.45am		Altar Linen: Flowers <b>Víllage</b>		CHURCH DUTY Teresa Coyne No flowers during Lent	Thank You
8.30pm. All welcome! Legion of Man Monday mornin not be taking p	y meetings in the Convent igs and Thursday evenings lace until further notice in	will	9.00am 10.30am	' <b>igil</b> Mick Liam,	Katie McDonald, Laurend Kathleen & Joe Fagan (A Peter Fitzgerald (An) Boner (60th B'day Rem) Babs & Gay Norton (An)	n)
Radio Maria Ir each day accord prayer, cateche Mass will be air studio chapel, i studio chapel, i RADIO MARIA RADIO RADI	<i>(Freeview in</i> NI). p for mobile devices: Radio on the Listen Live link. by dialing our listening ser call to a Dublin number ac	on of Daily our se who wision <u>:</u> o Maria vice on ccording rge	12noon 5.30pm Monday 2 7.30am 10.00am 7.30pm Tuesday 2 7.30am Friday 27 10.00am 7.30pm	David Smith (12th An), Joan Pegg Elizabeth & Nicholas West and Mary & Patrick Hendley (An) Nuala O'Connor (9th An) Margaret Cummins (MM) <b>23rd March</b> Mick Bonar (6oth B'day Rem) Patrick Ferris (B'day Rem) Betty Millea (22nd An) <b>24th March</b> Special Intention <b>7th March</b> Roseanne McMahon (2nd An) Bernie Byrne (2nd An) 7 <b>28th March</b>		
School Reunion In the mea stories, ph	s NS 85th Anniversary ever r Thursday 2nd April has n to later on in the year. Will se pass on the message. ntime, we are going to gath otos or other memorabilia to display on the day. If yo p: hscl@stcilliansns.net, 086) 1425 945, dropped int	nt low been l past ner any people u have	Sunday 2 6.30pm V 10.30am 12n00n <i>Clonbur</i> Sunday 2 David	9th M Yigil Mary Frank Dalto Yís Cl 2nd M d O'Do garet O	arch William Doyle (26th An) Christina Murray (5th An Minogue (9th An) & Patricia Farrell (An) n McElroy (32nd An) <i>hurch</i> Iarch herty (BR), Eileen O'Con 'Neill (An)	nor (An),
N	<b>Recently Deceased</b> MARY CORRIGAN MANCY LOUGHRAN May they Rest in Peace			celeb declare	hbishop Oscar Romero was sho prated Mass on <b>24th March 19</b> ed a Martyr by Pope Francis and Saint on 14th October 20° e are many things that can through eyes that have c	9 <b>80</b> . He was l canonized as a 18. only be seen

### Lead kindly Light

St. John Henry Cardinal Newman was a professor at Oxford University. When he was an Anglican priest, along with the other scholars, he started the Oxford movement. When he was thirty-two years old, his health was bad, and he took a break from his writings and went to Europe to recuperate. But unfortunately, he contacted a deadly fever. He wanted to return to England, but no transportation was available. As he waited, his life became lonely and tedious; he was experiencing great physical and emotional despair. It is then that he penned a beautiful hymn asking God for light:

"Lead, kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom, Lead Thou me on; The night is dark, and I am far from home; Lead thou me on: Keep Thou my feet; I do not ask to see The distant scene-one step enough for me." In his confusion and distress, Newman prayed to the God of Light to lead him from darkness to light, from confusion to certainty, and from sickness to health. God heard his prayer and led him home safely. In 1845, he was converted to the Catholic faith.

"W dzisiejszych czytaniach możemy odnaleźć wiele nadzieji dla nas. "Bóg nie widzi tego, co widzi człowiek". Nie ma znaczenia, co ludzie o nas myślą, nie ma nawet znaczenia, jak my oceniamy samych siebie. Bóg widzi nas na swój własny, miłosierny i sprawiedliwy sposób. Poprośmy Pana Jezusa dzisiaj, aby otworzył nasze oczy, tak jak otworzył je niewidomemu w Ewangelii, abyśmy mogli patrzeć na ludzi i na samych siebie tak jak On."

In today's readings we can find a lot of hope for us. 'God does not see as man sees' It doesn't matter what people think about us, it doesn't even matter how we judge ourselves. God sees us in His own merciful and just way. Let us ask Jesus today to open our eyes as He opened them for the blind one in the Gospel, so that we could look at people and ourselves as He does."



Archbishop Eamon Martin is inviting priests and bishops and the faithful to join with him, after the Angelus on the Feast of the Annunciation on 25 March, in consecrating Ireland and her people to the Immaculate Heart of Mary for protection from the coronavirus.

RTÉ will air a Mass every weekday at 1030am on RTE News Now and later on RTE Player during the current COVID19 restrictions. This will be followed at 1155am by a daily religious reflection from a different faith group or Church each day

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It's now clear that COVID-19 is a deadly serious global pandemic, and we in Ireland are not spared. All necessary precautions in place for our protection are only a discomfort and should be heeded. We, who are older have seen and undergone worse and are here as witnesses and now the younger generation will have experiences to relate. Look out for each other , reach out safely to each other and keep in contact. We thank all the people on the front line, doctors, nurses, carers, ambulance drivers etc. and let us do our bit by obeying the precautions. We are all in this together!! **Teresa** 

We pray for all those in our country and throughout the world suffering from the Corona Virus. May its victims and their families be strengthened by the support of our community of faith and restored soon to full health. We also pray for our leaders and medical personnel who deal with the virus. May we keep calm and may we join together in solidarity with care and compassion to tackle this emergency. This we ask in confidence through Christ Our Lord. Amen



The Pastoral Centre is closed to all groups and meetings until the danger of the COVID-19 is past. Let us pray and hope it will be sooner rather than later.



### A Mother's Love

A little boy came up to his mother in the kitchen one evening while she was fixing supper, and handed her a piece of paper that he had been writing on. After his Mom dried her hands on an apron, she read it, and this is

what it said: For cutting the grass:  $\epsilon_{5.00}$ For cleaning up my room this week:  $\epsilon_{1.00}$ For going to the shop for you: 50cents Baby-sitting my baby brother while you went shopping:  $\epsilon_2$ 

Taking out the rubbish €1.00

For getting a good school report card: €5.00 For cleaning up and raking the yard: €2.00

Well, his mother looked at him standing there, and the boy could see the memories flashing through her mind. She picked up the pen, turned over the paper he'd written on, and this is what she wrote:

For the nine months I carried you while you were growing inside me: No Charge

For all the nights that I've sat up with you, doctored and prayed for you: No Charge

For all the trying times, and all the tears that you've caused through the years: No Charge

For all the nights that were filled with dread, and for the worries I knew were ahead: No Charge

For the toys, food, clothes, and even wiping your nose: No Charge

Son, when you add it up, the cost of my love is: No Charge. When the boy finished reading what his mother had written, there were big tears in his eyes, and he looked straight at his mother and said, "Mom, I sure do love you." And then he took the pen and in great big letters he wrote:

### "PAID IN FULL"

On this Mother's Day, strange as it may be we still have many blessings. Let us give thanks for the love of all mothers, young and old and we remember especially mothers who have gone to their eternal reward.

#### The heart of a mother is a deep abyss at the bottom of which you will always find forgiveness Honoré de Balzac

### A Note for our children

I gave birth to you, but you came with no instructions. All I knew was that I loved you long before I saw you. I know I made some mistakes and for that, I am sorry, but I was doing the best I could with what I knew. Everything I did for you, I did from love. You are my child, my life, my dreams for tomorrow. I will always love you, and there is nothing that could ever destroy my love for you. And every day we thank God for you. Your forever mums on this Mother's day.



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