



ENDINGS AND BEGINNING

The feast of Jesus' ascension into heaven completes the mission of Jesus. It is the last act of the cycle of Jesus' life, and celebrates his return to the Father. It also marks the beginning of a new era when the disciples have to live in the absence of the Jesus they knew. Never again will he walk with them on the roads of Palestine, healing and preaching. That time has ended. A new age is about to begin.



Today's Gospel is taken from Matthew's account of this event. John makes no mention of it. Mark describes it in one sentence; "The Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to his disciples, was take up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God." Luke tells us that having met his disciples he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he blessed them he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. In the Acts of the Apostles there is a little more detail; "while they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight." Matthew tells us that the eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. The mention of Galilee recalls the words of the angel to the women on the morning of the Resurrection; "Go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen, and behold he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him." Why Galilee? It was the place where it all began. Jesus was a Galilean. He came from Nazareth. He spoke Aramaic. His accent, like Peter's, identified him as a Galilean. He called his first disciples by the lake of Galilee. He went through the towns and villages of Galilee proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God and healing the sick. It comes as no surprise that his final act on earth was from a

Masses

Clondalkin Village Sundays: (Vigil) Sat 6.30pm, Sunday 10.30am, 12 noon All Behind Closed Doors

Weekdays (Mon – Sat) 10am ONLY Behind Closed Doors

Clonburris Church Closed 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

mountain in Galilee. From the place where Jesus began, the disciples were sent to carry on his mission to baptise in the name of the Trinity and to bring his message to all peoples and all nations.

They would never be alone. Emmanuel, God-with-us, would be with them and with all believers till the end of time.

Sr. Anne

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

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A Word from Fr Damian

There but for the Grace of God.

This phrase is often quoted but this week it was very close to home when I heard that a door fell from an Air Corp helicopter and landed on the grounds of Moyle Park College. I'm sure you too had your thoughts of "ifs". If the door had landed on the road, the shops or the houses nearby, if it had happened the previous day when under normal circumstances the sixth year students from Moyle Park College would have had the graduation or if it occurred on one of our Sacramental days. Thankfully it did not and we woke up on a windy Friday morning without such tragedy. One kind parishioner texted me to say that our Guardian Angel was looking after the Village thus protecting us. While I wholeheartedly agree with this

sentiment the inference that when tragedies strike locations or people killed or injured did pray enough or were not God fearing. Harold Kushner in his book 'When bad things happen to good people' wrote about the challenge of believing in God when sad or bad things happen to us.

"God does not cause our misfortunes. Some are caused by bad luck, some are caused by bad people, and some are simply an inevitable consequence of our being human and being mortal, living in a world of inflexible natural laws. The painful things that happen to us are not punishments for our misbehaviour, nor are they in any way part of some grand design on God's part. Because the tragedy is not God's will, we need not feel hurt or betrayed by God when tragedy strikes. We can turn to Him for help in overcoming it, precisely because we can tell ourselves that God is as outraged by it as we are." As we enter this last part of our journey towards Pentecost maybe we can make a special effort to prepare, celebrate, join together, support each other and stay connected by taking part in our Novena. May the Spirit watch over us and bring us closer to understanding and trusting in our loving God. Take care, **Fr. Damian**



Music of Faith & Hope from the Public Square -Ecumenical Bible Week has been suspended until later in

the year due to restrictions around Covid19. Our theme this year is 'Faith in the Public Square' We are inviting musicians and singers from all the Christian traditions to record & share a hymn, song, piece of music or an original piece ... that speaks to this theme and to our current experience of faith in this most different of public spaces. We then hope to share these as reflections throughout this week to inspire, support, comfort, encourage, give hope and emphasise that we are connected in prayer and hope as a Christian family of faith, even in these most difficult of times. We ask you to share these with us in Mp3 or Mp4 format by PM or email: frank.brown@dublindiocese.ie before the close of Mon 25th May!!

The Villagers Senior Group

Hello to all our Villagers who are cocooning at home for the last few months. We hope you are all keeping well and enjoying our WhatsApp group



each day with plenty of entertaining stories, jokes and a few quizzes. It is a great way of keeping in touch with people who we have not seen or met for some time. We try to remember birthdays and make sure you are remembered on the day and give everyone the opportunity to pass on their wishes. We look forward to getting back to our Tuesday morning meetings in Quinlans in the near future. Meanwhile, keep safe, keep well, enjoy the lovely weather and keep in touch. *Geraldine*

Ecumenical Bible Week 2020 Sunday 31st May -Sunday 7th June



"In light of the C19 crisis and the increased digital presence, where to from here for faith communities?"

What is the effect of the C19 crisis on faith communities? This question will be part of the Ecumenical Bible Week 2020. In response to the current health crisis, we have postponed parish events and instead we are offering two periods of Ecumenical Prayer and one online discussion of the effect of coronavirus on the lives and worship of believers.

Our schedule is: Tuesday, June 2 10.00 am: Morning Prayer, led by Julie McKinley (Development Officer of the the National Bible Society of Ireland) and her husband Philip, a candidate for priesthood in the Church of Ireland. Thursday, June 4 3.00 pm: an online webinar. Chair: Pat Coyle, communications officer for the Jesuits in Ireland. Panel: Scott Evans (C. of I. chaplain in UCD); Sam McConkey (RCSI; Associate Professor in International Health Tropical Medicine; ruling elder in Clontarf and Scots Presbyterian Church); Bryan Shortall (Capuchin priest and author). Sunday, June 7 7.00 pm: Evening Prayer from the Lutheran Church led by Martin Sauter.

All Registration Details, Posters, website resources available on: <u>www.bibleweek.ie</u> & Facebook *@bibleweek*.



Ecumenical Bible Week began in 2014 and is mainly a collaboration between the Archdiocese of Dublin, The United Dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough, the National Bible Society of Ireland & Scripture Union. Many other traditions and faiths are involved in different ways.

Young adults Faith experience during the Pandemic

The Leadership Team for the Foundational Leadership Programme (FLP) invite young adults and youth leaders to take a four minute survey on their Faith Experience during the Covid 19 Pandemic. Take the Survey https://www.evangelisation.ie/2020/05/11/survey-youngadults-and-their-faith-experience-during-the-covid-19pandemic-may-2020/ *Please circulate and encourage young people to take part!!*

Please keep sending your prayers, your Mass intentions, your messages and pictures & Thank You for staying connected

A thought for this Sunday for our Polish Parishioners -*Thanks Chris*

Czy po 40 dniach od Zmartwychwstania nadal masz wątpliwości, czy to się



rzeczywiście wydarzyło? Jezus, zanim wstąpił do nieba, powiedział uczniom, którzy wątpili, by poszli na cały świat, głosili ewangelię i przyprowadzali nowych uczniów do Niego. Czy słyszysz w tych słowach nadzieję powołania? Czy tą nadzieją nie jest fakt, że Jezus powróci na ziemię w chwale, w ten sam sposób w jaki wstąpił do nieba. Zadaj sobie dziś pytanie, czy naprawdę jesteś uczniem Chrystusa? Jeśli tak, przygotuj się, bo w przyszłym tygodniu wyruszasz w podróż z Duchem Świętym, a twoje życie już nigdy nie będzie takie samo.

After 40 days of the Resurrection, do you still have doubts about whether this has really happened? Jesus, before ascending to heaven, asked disciples who doubted to go out into the whole world, preach the gospel, and bring new disciples to him. Do you hear the hope of calling in these words? Is this hope not the fact that Jesus will return to earth in glory, in the same way he ascended to heaven. Ask yourself today, are you really a disciple of Christ? If so, get ready because next week you are going on a journey with the Holy Spirit and your life will never be the same again.

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Coronavirus, Church and You

DCU's Mater Dei Centre for Catholic Education (Director, Dr. Gareth Byrne) has made an important survey available. The Covid-19 pandemic has obviously had a profound effect on Church. As we pass the most severe period of lockdown, it seems a good time to assess

how clergy and churchgoers have responded to the experience, and what they think the future might hold. The views of priests, religious and lay people are all welcome. To have your say go to: https://www.dcu.ie/ materdei-centre-for-catholic-education/news/2020/May/ Coronavirus-Church-You-Survey.shtml

In these challenging times **Please** continue to donate to the upkeep of our Parish

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