



n today's gospel we hear about the miracle of the loaves and fishes. The feeding of the crowds in the wilderness is notably straight forward. Jesus was moved by compassion for the crowds and healed

them. Late in the day, the disciples assessed the situation (*in the wilderness there is nothing for the hungry crowds to eat*) and perhaps they, too, were moved by compassion when they suggested the crowds be sent to nearby towns where they could buy food. Jesus had another idea: feed them right here with what we have.



Taking the five loaves and two fish the disciples had on hand, Jesus blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples. The disciples fed the crowds, numbering five thousand men, plus women and children. Everyone had enough to eat, and they gathered up the leftovers. The story does not tell us how the hungry crowd is fed in the wilderness; only that no one leaves hungry. And so the story invites us to use our imaginations.

I wonder if the "miracle" of the feeding is not so much what Jesus does as what happens among the crowds in the presence of Jesus. Maybe the crowds experienced the transformative power of Christ's presence when he ordered them to make themselves comfortable on the grass, as if they were honoured guests at a meal. And when he blessed the loaves, the crowd sensed this meal was special. Perhaps as the disciples moved through the crowds distributing the food, no one feared there wouldn't be enough, and so they didn't think of themselves and their own needs. The men shared with their wives and sisters and mothers, and the children were fed first. Maybe Jesus' compassion was contagious in the way they cared for each other. And Jesus' healing touch inspired them to gratitude for a simple meal abundant by wilderness standards. Conceivably the most profound thing Jesus does in the story is to insist that the disciples imagine possibilities for distributing food for a hungry crowd so that there is enough for everyone.

Over the last few months during this Covid crisis I have had the privilege of working alongside so many amazing groups, individuals and community organisations who worked right through this, *and are still working tirelessly*, to make sure that no one was forgotten or left behind - that all are supported, especially the most vulnerable. I was awed by the enthusiasm, creativity, selflessness and compassion of people who constantly witnessed to the gospel values although some would never use those words or make that connection. There

MASSES

Clondalkin Village

Sundays: (Vigil) Sat 6.30pm, Sunday 10.00am, 12 noon Weekdays (Mon – Sat) 10am

Clonburris

6.30pm Sat & 11am Sun *Mass in Irish returns on first Sunday in August the 2nd at 9am

Knockmitten

Sundays 11.00am and 2.00pm (Polish) Mon & Fri 10.00am Wed 7.00pm

Parish Office Hours

Clondalkin: Mon-Fri 9:30 am - 12:30pm Clonburris & Knockmitten: Contact through Village

Submissions for Newsletter: Parishnewsletter1@gmail.com

were and are miracles happening in our community every day. In the midst of confusion and anxiety - love, care and compassion for *the other* was unapologetically put first. I really hope that we don't lose this as a community as the restrictions are lifted. And I pray that we as a family of faith, a church community, are suitably challenged to be the church we profess to be - a family of faith that is a constant and visible witness to the love, compassion, hope, forgiveness, justice and inclusion our faith is built on.

Our gospel today assures us that there is enough for everyone, it is for everyone and everyone is worth it.

This week ask yourself the question -

Where in my life are there opportunities to "share my food" so others will have enough? Frank Brown, Parish Pastoral Worker

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. Damían

An Historic Day.

Last Tuesday morning during the 10 O Clock Mass two of our younger parishioners received Jesus in Holy



Víllage Church

Communion for the first time. You maybe aware that the ladies from Scoil Aine, Scoil Ide and Scoil Mhuire were fully prepared for first Holy Communion from the end of April but the lockdown intervened. Christina along with her team and myself have asked families to pick a day themselves between now and the end of September for the big day. The families of Leah and Lucy chose last Tuesday morning for their daughter's big day. Lucy had her Mother, Grandmother and Great-grandmother with her and Leah's extended family tuned in from Poland on the webcam. It was a lovely day and as the families said afterwards there was no drama and no fuss. Maybe the way for the future. *Father Damian*

St. John Víanney -Feast Day 4th August

Born near Lyons (France) in 1786. He overcame various obstacles, including little education and lack of means, to be ordained a priest. Served in a remote parish as the Curé of Ars,



where his sanctity attracted thousands of visitors St John Marie Vianney is the patron saint of parish priests because he was such a good one himself. From an early age a vocation was discerned, and when the Curé at Ecully opened a school for ecclesiastical studies. John was sent. Studies and John were never great friends: his early years of education had been spent more in the fields minding sheep. Despite this difficulty, seminary proper had still to wait, for one of Napoleon's many wars intervened and John Marie was conscripted to fight against Spain. However, on the morning of departure, John went off to the church to pray and when he returned, found that the platoon had gone off without him. Thankfully the recruiting officer believed his story and sent him after the troops. But John never saw any action and after fourteen months, was able to resume his path to the priesthood. He had not long been in Ars when people began coming to him from other parishes and finally from every corner of the country. During the last ten years of his life he would spend up to eighteen hours a day in the confessional. His advice was sought by everyone, from bishops and priests to people in all sorts of difficulty. He loved especially those who were sick. John Marie died in 1859, aged 73 and within a short time was proclaimed Venerable by Pope Pius IX (3 October 1874). In 1905 he was enrolled among the Blessed of the Church. Pope Pius XI canonized him in 1925.

(Taken from Catholic Ireland - Archive of the Saints)



Recently Deceased **BETTY PATERSON** May she rest in peace

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, 8.00am – 8.00pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

Recently Married - Congratulations! Charlene Stokes and Kevin Ward

The Irish Hospice Foundation -National Freephone Service

Have you been impacted by a bereavement during COVID-19? Are you finding it difficult to cope with a bereavement at this time? Would it help to talk to someone in confidence about your loss? The Irish Hospice Foundation Bereavement Support Line is a national freephone service -

1800 80 70 77 available from 10.00am to 1.00pm, Monday to Friday.



Sunday 2nd August 6.30pm Vigil Ossie Murphy (1st An) Ann Martin (An), John Talbot (B'day Rem) 10.00am Tommy Curran (An) 12noon Olive, John & Lucy Corcoran (An) Patrick Koza (MM), Angela Fitzpatrick (2nd An), Shane O'Mahoney (MM) Monday 3rd August **10.00am** Eileen Smith (An) Patrick & Ellen Plunkett (An) Wednesday 5th August Thanksgiving for favour received 10.00am Thursday 6th August 10.00am Joseph Cleary (B'day Rem) Dermott McGann (B'day Rem) Friday 7th August 10.00am First Friday of the Month Sunday 9th August 6.30pm Vigil Liam Heffernan Snr (7th An) Lyndsey Conner (3rd An), Ruby Tighe (14th An) Maisie McGann (B'day Rem) 10.00am

Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you'll land among the stars.

Norman Vincent Peale

PT Higher Diploma in Theological Studies via Blended Learning

Interested in studying Theology in 2020? The one year, part-time Higher Diploma in Theological Studies at St Patrick's College, Maynooth is now offered as a "Blended Learning" programme. Suitable for those with an undergraduate degree in any discipline (or equivalent). The course will run from September to May, with online lectures taking place on Wednesday evenings, complimented with self-directed study.

There will also be 6 residential weekends over the course of the year. More details of the programme are available at: https://maynoothcollege.ie/courses/higherdiploma-intheological-studies

For admission to the course or other details, please contact Barbara Mahon, admissions@spcm.ie; +353 (0)1 708-4772 N.B. If COVID-19 restrictions make the weekend residential impossible, these will be held virtually.

We're looking for people to join the Newsletter team The parish weekly newsletter is currently being presented in an online version. We would love to hear from people out there who would be interested in joining our team, especially anyone with good communication and social media skills. For more information, please contact

Frank Brown, Parish Pastoral Worker at

parishnewsletter1@qmail.com

or leave your name and number with the Parish Office at office@clondalkinparish.com

Did You Know?

Sunday 2nd August is Sisters' Day



Whether it is in the closest of bonds or the farthest of distances between us, our

family is some of the closest ties many of us have outside of marriage and children. This day is to celebrate one of those very bonds, one that has sparked many stories, movies, and songs; the bond of sisterhood. So here's to you, all the sisters out there that cared for us, helped us and even helped shape us into who we are today - Sister's Day!

While sisters don't always agree, they always have each other's back and they will always be there for one another. Arguments here and there are natural, but that bond shared is something that can never be broken, no matter how difficult times maybe.

If you don't have a sister in your life biologically, you may have someone who has become a sister to you, and so today is the perfect day to pay tribute to that. There are also a lot of sisters that have not found each other until later in life, as well as half-sisters and stepsisters. Sisters come in many different shapes and forms, and Sisters' Day is about celebrating them all.



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

Chętnie wydajemy dużo pieniędzy i poświęcamy wiele czasu na rzeczy, które szybko



przemina lub stana się naszymi wyrzutami sumienia w przyszłości. W tej samej ludzkiej rzeczywistości, Jezus Chrystus daje nam samego siebie, Chleb Życia, za darmo, podczas codziennej Eucharystii, a my w tym czasie, zastanawiamy się, czy warto spędzić te 30 minut w kościele. Mamy moc powiedzenia "nie" Bogu, ale to nie powstrzyma Chrystusa od kochania nas. Nadal będzie próbował oddać się nam w Eucharystii, aby wypełnić nasze serca i cel naszego istnienia, mając nadzieję, że pewnego dnia pójdziemy za Nim i dołączymy do Niego w tym łamaniu chleba.

We are happy to spend a lot of money and spend a lot of time on things that will quickly pass or become our regrets in the

future. In the same human reality, Jesus Christ gives us Himself, the Bread of Life, for free during the daily Eucharist, and during this time we wonder if it is worth spending those 30 minutes in church. We have the power to say "no" to God, but that won't stop Christ from loving us. He will continue to try to give himself to us in the Eucharist to fulfil our hearts and the purpose of our existence, hoping that one day we will follow Him and join Him in this breaking of bread.



Congratulations to the 6th class Campus after school group that graduated

from Ronanstown Youth Service - The programme aims to make the transition into secondary school an easier process. It is about building confidence,

dispelling myths, making friends, personal development and encouraging the importance of education It's been a difficult time this

year for 6th class students

getting ready for the big leap into Secondary school so this support is even more crucial! If you would like to support their work or find out more click here! https://crosscare.ie/donate/ #youth #YouthWorkChangesLives #youtheducation



Clondalkin Men's Shed take a bit of time to do some out door work in the garden in between showers!!



We can't use our building just at the moment, but we are easily available.

> For a call back please phone, text or WhatsApp Susan on the numbers below

Tel: 01 4594666 Whatsapp: 086 1304629 cysinfo@crosscare.io

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SEAN W



With the Covid causing many problems with funerals and family meetings we can now offer Memorial Cards printed and posted to you at a total cost of 40 Wallet cards €80.00 20 Wallet cards €60.00

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