

# St Mary's Parish, Drogheda

Sunday 7th April 2019  
Fifth Sunday of Lent

Fr Phil Gaffney PP  
Fr Fergal Cummins CC  
St Mary's Presbytery  
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The Lord's Day 9:00am, 10:30am, 12noon & 7:00pm  
Monday ~ Friday 7:45am & 7:30pm  
Saturday 10:00am  
Holydays 7:45am and 7:30pm

**Baptisms** are celebrated on the first Saturday and on the second and fourth Sunday of the month at 1:00pm. Please contact the parish office or the sacristy for a booking form. **Four weeks notice required.**

**Confessions** are available on Saturdays after 10:00am Mass, and every Sunday after 7:00pm Mass.

**Marriages** are facilitated by the Parish Centre: 9834587.



## Fifth Sunday of Lent

Meister Echart said that: "The sinner of today is the saint of tomorrow. What is a saint, after all other than a forgiven sinner. The logic of the kingdom of God teaches that the more we have been forgiven, the more we love; the less we have been forgiven, the less we love (Luke 7:47).

The Holy Spirit can enlighten our hearts and minds so that we grasp or touch something of the depth of God's mercy and forgiveness. For it is in knowing God's forgiveness that we can forgive, and in experiencing God's mercy that we can be merciful.

This story which is very unique to John the Evangelist seeks to underscore the unique role and mission of Jesus as the one with power to forgive and save; the one who destroys sin but saves the sinner and becomes the path to our redemption and life in God.

This gives us an insight into the radical nature of God's forgiveness: it is all-embracing and abundant that no one is beyond redemption and that every sin can be forgiven. Our own judgment of others must reflect the infinite mercy of God revealed to us in Christ Jesus.

O Lord Jesus, may we hear your voice  
telling us to move on and sin no more. Amen.

*Heavenly Father, you sent your beloved Son that we would be forgiven. Lead me to repent of my sins: the evil I have done and the good I have not done: so I may praise you from the bottom of my heart for the gift of your mercy, Amen. poured out upon me. Cardinal Vincent Nichols*

## Holy Thursday Speaker:

**Orla Walsh** will speak about faith and family during Holy Thursday's Mass of the Last Supper at 7:30pm. Orla is a married woman, mother of three teenage children, who is the vice principal of Mount Sackville Girls Secondary School in Dublin. Orla will talk about how we can nourish, support and enrich families in following their Catholic faith more closely.

## Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation Christus vivit (Christ is Alive):

To respond to our vocation, we need to foster and develop all that we are. This has nothing to do with inventing ourselves or creating ourselves out of nothing. It has to do with finding our true selves in the light of God and letting our lives flourish and bear fruit (CV 259). We let ourselves be transformed by Christ, even as we develop "the habit of doing good, which also is a part of our examination of conscience. We do not simply identify sins, but also recognize God's work in our daily lives, in the events of our personal history and the world around us, and in the witness of all those men and women who have gone before us or accompany us with their wisdom. This helps us to grow in the virtue of prudence and to give an overall direction to our life through concrete choices, in the serene awareness of both our gifts and our limitations" (CV 282).

## Chrism Mass 2019

This year's Chrism Mass will take place in the Cathedral of Christ the King Mullingar on Wednesday 17th April at 7:00pm. Bishop Deenihan will bless the oils which will be used in our Diocese for the next year. All are welcome.

### Confessions:

**Palm Sunday:** after the 7:00pm Mass. Visiting clergy.  
**Holy Thursday:** after the Mass of the Lord's Supper.  
**Good Friday:** after the Liturgy of the Lord's Passion.  
**Holy Saturday:** 3:00pm~4:00pm.

### Parish Financial Statement for 2018:

A member of our Finance Committee will address the congregation on the Parish Finances at all Masses today. A finance statement will be available in the church.

### Congratulations:

To the boys and girls from Gaelscoil an Bhradáin Feasa who received the Sacrament of Confirmation yesterday!

### Thought for our Reflection:

Whenever I am moved to judge others, may I also be moved to think of how merciful I am towards them and their wellbeing.

### Diocese of Meath Vocations

Retreat for men (18-40)

**The Men of the Passion Story** ~ A journey with the characters of the Stations of the Cross. Tullamore Parish Centre on April 13th 2019. 12noon ~ 6:30pm Mass. Information and booking: youthretreat@gmail.com

## April 2019

Mon 8th April 8.00pm  
Tues 9th April 8.00pm  
Tues 9th April 8.30pm  
Wed 10th April 8.00pm  
Thurs 11th April 7.30pm

P.T.A.A.  
Liturgy Meeting  
Baptism Meeting **Team A**  
Holy Hour of Adoration  
St. Pio Mass & Devotions

## Teach Mhuire

Centre  
Centre  
Church  
Church



**Hospital Visitation:** Please inform Fr Phil, Fr Fergal, or the Parish Centre if a relative is ill or in hospital.

## Laytown-Bettystown Golf Classic ~ Friday 3rd May

**St Mary's Roof Restoration Fund:** To secure your Tee -Time for our golf classic, please contact: Joe Harlin: 085~2566305. Team of 4: €300. T-Box sponsorship: €100. **Prize giving at 9:00pm in the Black Bull. Join us for raffle, music and refreshments.** Last year's classic was great fun. This year's classic will be bigger and better!

## Our Lady of Lourdes Church:

To Celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Liam Lawton will join the Lourdes Youth Choir for a Gala Concert on Sunday 7th April at 7pm. Tickets €20.

## Choral Festival 2019:

Fifteen local choirs will take part in this year's choral festival at 7:00pm today Sunday April 7th in Holy Family Church, Ballsgrove. Proceeds of the night to SOSAD.

**St. Mary's Diocesan School 2019 Spring Fair:** will take place on Thursday 11th April from 4:30pm-6:30pm in the school. This is a family event so Mams/Dads/Grannies/Grandads welcome. Various events planned.

**X-Pert Dietitian Care course for Type 2 Diabetes** starting in St. Theresa's Building, Hardman's Gardens, (beside Lourdes Church) on Friday 10th May. This is a free course that runs for 6 weeks, if you are interested please contact Ger Nolan on 041.6850675 for more information.

## Céilí... Serving the New Evangelisation

**Parish Mission** led by the Céilí Community. The Mission Team will arrive on **Saturday 12th October and the Mission will conclude on Sunday 27th October.**

The Mission Team will be based in the Parish Pastoral centre for the duration of the Mission. **The Pastoral Centre will be unavailable to any other groups for these 2 weeks.**

**The Mission Team** will visit all the homes in the Parish as well as working in our schools and with our young people. They will visit the Nursing homes and the elderly in the parish. **Accommodation:** anyone who would like to provide a room for our visiting Mission Team please let us know or leave your name in the Parish Office. The visitors require just bed and a light breakfast. They will leave their accommodation after breakfast and return each night at approximately 10:00pm.

**Any parishioner** who would like to get involved in our Parish Mission preparations please let us know. We will need **a lot of volunteers** to help with our planning as well as helping out during those two weeks.

**Parish Mission Prayer:** God our Father, we ask you to bless our Parish Mission. You invite us to come to you with all our hearts. Pour out your Spirit upon us. May we experience the healing power of Jesus. May we be renewed in faith, hope and love. May the peace of the Holy Spirit light up our lives. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

## Mass Intentions for week beginning Sunday 7th April 2019

<b>Sunday 7th</b>	<b>9:00am</b>		
	<b>10:30am</b>	James Hayden	
	<b>12noon</b>	Barry Behan <i>Month's Memory</i> ; Mary Smith, Frank Smith & deceased members of the Smith & Hand families; Barney, Kitty & Paddy Woods; Sonny Murphy; James McQuillan, Kathleen & Denis McQuillan; Lena Healy	
<b>Monday</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>		
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>7:45am</b>	Margaret Tunney	<b>7:30pm</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>7:45am</b>		<b>7:30pm</b>
			<b>8:00pm</b>
			Holy Hour of Adoration
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>7:45am</b>	Conor Buckley	<b>7:30pm</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>7:45am</b>		<b>7:30pm</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	Vincent Carroll	
<b>Sunday 14th</b>	<b>9:00am</b>		
	<b>10:30am</b>		
	<b>12:00noon</b>	Noeleen Smith <i>First Anniversary</i> ; Baby Charlie Rose Healy <i>First Anniversary</i> ; Frank Byrne <i>First Anniversary</i> ; Robbie Brombley; Rosaleen Brunton	
	<b>7.00pm</b>		



## A prayer for those who died...

**Babs Mc Keon**, Mount St Oliver  
**Patricia Flanagan (née Reynolds)**, Congress Avenue  
**Lynn Browne (née Keeley)**, Clogherhead  
**Sr Agnes Maria Hinder MMM**, Drogheda  
**Edward (Eddie) Carolan**, Morans Terrace  
**Frank Carley**, Milltownpass, Co Westmeath.

May they all rest in peace.



## Supporting Our Parish:

31st March 2019  
Offertory: €1,081.00  
Parish Dev. Fund: €995.00

Many thanks for your support.