

St Mary's Parish, Drogheda

Sunday 13th June, 2021
11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr Phil Gaffney PP
Fr Ciprian Solomon CC
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The Lord's Day 9:00am, 10:30am, 12noon & 7:00pm
Monday ~ Friday 8:00am; Saturday 10:00am
Holydays 8:00am and 7:30pm



Confirmation - 23rd August:

10.00 am; 12.00 noon; 2.00 pm; 4.00 pm; 6.00 pm.



Stewards required to assist at Sunday Masses, we are particularly short of people to help at the 12 noon & 7pm masses.

'It is like a mustard seed'

Something we may not often think about is Jesus' earthly relationship with creation. Jesus walked everywhere, went to quiet places to pray, preached from mountains, from boats on the water; his followers included fishermen in tune with the rhythm of the sea. In Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'* – On Care for Our Common Home, he reminds us that Jesus 'was in constant touch with nature, lending it an attention full of fondness and wonder' (*Laudato Si'*, 97). Jesus' parables are full of imagery from the natural world and in today's Gospel we have an example of this in the parable of the mustard seed. People of Jesus' time may have preferred the image of the lofty 'cedars of Lebanon' to explain God's kingdom, mustard plants however, only stand a few feet tall. Jesus is turning the ideals of power and triumph on their head. There is an ancient text which forbade planting mustard seeds in Palestinian gardens because the shrub takes over wherever it is planted and attracts unwanted birds. Author and activist, Shane Claiborne, compares it to kudzu, a wild vine that could blanket entire mountain areas, smother trees, even crack cement buildings. This mustard seed image of God's dream for this world is one which suggests that it will grow even in places where it is not wanted, putting cracks in seemingly mighty structures.

The New Testament not only tells us of the earthly Jesus and his tangible and loving relationship with the world. It also shows him risen and glorious, present throughout all of creation (Col 1:19-20). 'The very flowers of the field and the birds which [Christ's] human eyes contemplated and admired are now imbued with his radiant presence' (*Laudato Si'*, 100). As we watch out for traces of the mustard seed kingdom this week, let us also embrace the joy of Christ in all of creation.

Offertory Collection - In line with public health advice, the collection baskets will no longer be passed among the congregation during Masses; supervised collection baskets will be available at the church doors. Also, you can use the donate button on our parish website.

Calvary Devotions 2021 Sunday 20th June

Due to Covid 19 restrictions **Cemetery Sunday** has been postponed. **Next Sunday June 20th**, following all the morning Masses, we will recite the **Prayers for All The Faithful Departed** and bless the water which the four priests from St. Mary's and Holy Family will use to bless the graves later.

The Holy Water will be available in suitable containers for collection, in both churches, after each Mass if people would like some to sprinkle on their family graves. The **Cemetery Gates** will remain open until 9pm daily, from June 14th, for those who wish to prepare their family graves in advance. Please abide by the **social distancing** guidelines when visiting the church and cemetery. Anyone who would like to make a contribution towards the upkeep of the cemetery can do so by clicking on the **donate button** on our website or by placing the assigned envelope in the box at the back of the church.



Mass Intentions for week beginning Sunday 13th June 2021

Sunday 13th June	9:00am	Michael, Mary-Kate & Mena Rourke
	10:30am	Ita White; Special intention.
	12 noon	Ita Holly <i>Month's Memory</i>
	7:00pm	Special Intention
Monday	10:00am	Rita O'Hare; Nora Goggin
Tuesday	8:00am	Thomas & Martha Lowth; Agnes & Thomas Halpin; Bob & Olive Muller
Wednesday	8:00am	Rita O'Hare
Thursday	8:00am	Anna Carton & deceased members of the Leech family
Friday	8:00am	John Cahill; Tommy Cunningham
Saturday	10:00am	Seamus Corcoran <i>Month's Memory</i> ; Owen & Helen Lochrin
Sunday 20th June	9:00am	Michael, Mary-Kate & Mena Rourke
	10:30am	Bridget Batterbee; John & Mary Murray & John Murray Junior, deceased members of the Murray & Stafford families, Willie Ryan & Kevin Rogers; Eileen Fanning
	12 noon	Val Vaughey
	7:00pm	Paul Leech <i>Month's Memory</i>

Fr. Phil will take up duty in Mullingar on Saturday 3rd July. Unfortunately, it will not be possible to hold a farewell function in honour of his dedicated service to St. Mary's Parish. Those who wish to express their good wishes and thanks to him may do so by leaving their letters or cards in the Parish Office or the Presbytery.

Heavenly Father, we ask you to bless our Bishops and Priests. In a special way we ask you to send your Holy Spirit to guide and protect Fr. Phil as he starts his new ministry in Mullingar.

Memorare Remember,

O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. **O Mother of the Word Incarnate,** despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen



A prayer for those who died...

Patrick (Patsy) Faulkner, Wheaton Hall
Sallyann Murphy (née Morgan), Dublin Road & formerly Maple Drive
Ita White (née Reynolds), Killiney & previously Glasnevin
Margaret Jones (née Beecher), Ballyhooly, Cork.



Supporting Our Parish:

Parishioners can leave their envelopes or a donation to the parish in the boxes at the back of the church or you can now use the **donate button** facility on our website.

Any contribution will be greatly appreciated.
Many thanks. Keep safe and well.