

St Mary's Parish, Drogheda

Sunday 21st March 2021
Fifth Sunday of Lent

Fr Phil Gaffney PP
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Hospital Visitation: is not possible at the moment, however please continue to inform Fr Phil or Fr Ciprian if a relative is ill or in hospital.



Fourth Sunday of Lent We should like to see Jesus

Those poor Greeks. Did you notice that they never actually get to meet Jesus? At the start of today's gospel, some Greeks who are followers of Jesus come to Jerusalem. They are travellers, outsiders, and would like to meet Jesus in person. But when Philip and Andrew relay the request, Jesus begins to talk about how his 'hour' is coming. It is the last we hear of the Greeks, who disappear from the story altogether.

But they are important nonetheless. Firstly, they indicate that word about Jesus is spreading. More importantly, they prompt Jesus to reveal that, when his hour comes, he will draw 'all people' to himself. In the space of a few short verses, we go from a brief mention of a group of foreigners seeking Jesus, to Jesus making it clear that his saving mission is for all people, of all nations, both Jews and Gentiles – including these Greeks! There is no suggestion from Jesus that some groups are 'in' and others 'out'. All are included. All are invited. All are welcome.

I remember once hearing someone describe their home as a domestic church, a place of 'indiscriminate welcome'. As we continue our journey through Lent and soon into Holy Week, we listen carefully to these words of Jesus. He came for everyone. He wishes to draw all people to himself. Notwithstanding the current restrictions on gatherings and public worship, let us take this time to reflect on the world we would like to build when things open up again. Are we open to everyone, including 'outsiders'? Do our homes, parishes and communities radiate welcome, where all who enter experience God's love?

'For some, the good news is that there are insiders and outsiders and they are the insiders. For others, the good news is that there are no outsiders.' (Rachel Held Evans)



This year Trocaire's Lenten Campaign will focus on exploring the Impact of Conflict on Families in South Sudan. This Lent, we learn more about the suffering of people who have lost their homes and loved ones to war, and how they are rebuilding their lives through love, friendship and solidarity. Trocaire boxes are available at the back of the Church or visit the website <https://www.trocaire.org> for more options to donate.

Mass Intentions for week beginning Sunday 21st March, 2021

Sunday 21st March	10:00am	Peter Branigan <i>Month's Memory</i> ; Enda Faughnan <i>First Anniversary</i> ; Michael, Mary-Kate & Mena Rourke; Eddie Maher
Monday	10:00am	Special Intention
Tuesday	10:00am	Special Intention
Wednesday	10:00am	Special Intention
Thursday	10:00am	Joachim Bird
Friday	10:00am	Special Intention
Saturday	10:00am	Vincent Manley <i>First Anniversary</i> ; William O'Connor. Fr Aidan Fox.
Sunday 28th March	10:00am	Frances Daly <i>Month's Memory</i> ; Rita Drum <i>Month's Memory</i> ; Michael, Mary-Kate & Mena Rourke; Bernard Reynolds; Margaret Tiernan; Angela Sheeran and family

St. Mary's Parish Drogheda Holy Week Timetable 2021

Due to the restrictions associated with Coronavirus Covid-19 all our ceremonies will be available via webcam only.

PALM SUNDAY 28th March

Mass at 10:00am

Blessed Palms will be available in the church after Mass.
We encourage families to collect one per family from the church.

MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK 29th March

Mass 10:00am

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK 30th March

Mass 10:00am

SPY WEDNESDAY 31st March

Mass at 10:00am

HOLY THURSDAY 1st APRIL

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00pm
Night Prayer at 9:00pm

GOOD FRIDAY 2nd April

A Day of Fast & Abstinence

Morning Prayer 10:00am

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion and Death 3:00pm
Stations of the Cross 7:00pm

HOLY SATURDAY 3rd APRIL

Morning Prayer 10:00am

Easter Vigil 7:00pm

EASTER SUNDAY 4th APRIL

Mass at 10:00am

Holy Water will be available for collection after Mass

EASTER MONDAY 5th APRIL

Mass 10:00am

EASTER TUESDAY 6th APRIL

Mass 10:00am

A prayer for those who died...

Derek Gavin, Five Oaks Village & late of Stameen
Joe Doonan, Highfield & late of Donore
Peggy Condra (née Rooney), Ballsgrove & late of Halpin's Terrace
Michael Garry, Ballsgrove
Paddy Murphy & Susan Murphy (née Dowd), England and Drogheda

May they rest in peace



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.