

St Mary's Parish, Drogheda

Sunday 24th March 2019
Third Sunday of Lent

Fr Phil Gaffney PP
Fr Fergal Cummins CC
St Mary's Presbytery
Dublin Road ☎ 9834958

St Mary's Parish Centre
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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.



The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated here in St Mary's Church next weekend. On **Saturday 30th March at 11:00am** we welcome **Bishop Tom Deenihan** to the Parish as the boys and girls from St Mary's Parish Primary School receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

We wish the boys and girls every blessing as they prepare to receive the Sacrament. We thank the teachers and staff for all the guidance and help they provided to the children to prepare them for this special day in their lives.

On **Saturday 6th April at 11:00am** we welcome the boys and girls from Gaelscoil an Bhradáin Feasa to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The Legion of Mary: The Legion of Mary are holding their annual Acies ceremony at 3:00pm today Sunday **24th March**. This ceremony celebrates Legionaries renewing their consecration to Our Lady. There will be Mass here in St Marys Church and refreshments in the Pastoral Centre on the Dublin Road after the ceremony. All are welcome.

CÓR-FHÉILE AN EARRAIGH ~ SPRING CHORAL FESTIVAL 2019:

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

Church Cleaning in preparation for our Confirmation ceremonies will take place on Friday morning 29th March 9:30am to 10:30am in our church. We would greatly appreciate any help if you are available for an hour.

Parish Mission: Our Mission Prayer will be launched by Bishop Deenihan at the Confirmation ceremony on Saturday March 30th. **Our Mission Co-ordinator Mary Duff** will speak at all the Masses on Sunday next March 31st.

Third Sunday of Lent

In Sunday's gospel we will hear again the urgent call of Christ to change our way of life, to repent, to renew our relationship with God our Father. During Lent the themes of repentance and reconciliation are very much part of the sacred liturgy. These two themes are intimately intertwined: repentance is possible because God is offering us reconciliation, and being reconciled with God involves our commitment to a new way of life.

The call to repent is the call to turn over a new leaf, to begin afresh; reconciliation is the fruit of this turning around and links the personal new beginning with the work of the whole body of Christ to establish God's kingdom of peace, love and justice. What is brought out in today's gospel is that the possibility of repentance is continually offered to us.

Turning back to God is a process involving the re-evaluation of our lifestyle, our actions, and our attitudes ~ a process far more painful than the trip to the confessional.

Reconciliation, is linked with evangelisation, and working for peace and justice in the world. Almsgiving is also a key element in personal penance. Reconciliation must find a parallel at the individual level: a search for a greater personal integrity, a willingness to forgive wrongs done to us, and a willingness to renew our relationships with those around us.

God never abandons us. God constantly attends to us. St Thomas Aquinas OP tells us that we have the right to private ownership but not the private use of our possessions/gifts, and so the question that we are faced with today is: 'How do we use the gift of our time to do God's work?'

St Padre Pio: "As gifts increase in you, let your humility grow, for you must consider that everything is given to you on loan."

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis: "God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy."

St Joan of Arc: "I fear nothing for God is with me."

Our Parish Community

March 2019

Tues 26th March 8.30pm Baptism Meeting Team C Centre

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



Adoration in the Blessed Sacrament Church:

You are all warmly invited to come and pray in our Adoration Chapel during Lent. Adorers especially welcome for these hours:

Tuesdays: 3-4pm, 4-5pm,

Thursdays: 2-3pm, 3-4pm

Saturdays: 5-6pm, 6-7pm.

Please contact the Parish office or phone: 086~3658358.

Laytown-Bettystown Golf Classic ~ Friday 3rd May

St Mary's Roof Restoration Fund: Second Phase Fundraiser. 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!

St Mary's Roof Restoration Fundraiser 2019:

Would you like to walk the last stage of the Camino from Sarria to Santiago. It is 120 kilometres long, full of history and heritage. We are looking for volunteers who will raise €1500 each. Flights, food, hotel accommodation and transfers will cost approximately €900 leaving €600 for the Roof Fund. Travel dates are 9th-16th September 2019. Please contact: Joe: 085~2566305 or Michael: 087~7072955.

Céilí... Serving the New Evangelisation

Catholic Community

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 not be available to any other groups for these two 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 also 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.

Mass Intentions for week beginning Sunday 24th March 2019

Sunday 24th	9:00am	Special Intention
	10:30am	Jane, Christina & Joan Mohan, Jim, Jennell & Paul Byrne; Patrick Bradley
	12noon	Angela Sheeran; Mary Mc Hugh
	3:00pm	Legion of Mary Mass
	7:00pm	Dr Joe O'Sullivan, Rosemary Tallon
Monday	7:45am	Mary Conroy
Tuesday	7:45am	
Wednesday	7:45am	Margaret Tiernan
Thursday	7:45am	
Friday	7:45am	
Saturday	10:00am	Philomena Courtney; William O'Connor, Bernard O'Connor; Patty Martin
	11.00am	Sacrament of Confirmation St Mary's Parish Primary School 6th Classes
Sunday 31st	9:00am	Special Intention
	10:30am	Margaret Mohan <i>Month's Memory</i> ; Pat Davis <i>First Anniversary</i>
	12noon	Peggy O'Gorman <i>Month's Memory</i>
	7:00pm	



A prayer for those who have died...

Connie Owens (née Roe), St Finian's Park and formerly Platin Road

Siobhán Eustace Ryan (née Eustace), Beaubec
Mary Hughes (née Cunningham), Patrick St and formerly Platin Road.

Supporting Our Parish:

17th March 2019

Offertory: €1,222.00

Parish Dev. Fund: €855.00



Many thanks for your support.