

**PARISH OF TEMPLEMICHAEL & BALLYMACORMACK.**



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**PARISH NEWSLETTER**

**14<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2020.**

**Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> July. Sr. Maria Goretti.**

8.00am: James Connolly (Intention).

10.00am: No Intention.

7.30pm: Special Intention.

**Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> July. St. Maelruain**

8.00am: No Intention. 10.00am: People of the Parish.

7.30pm: No Intention.

**Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> July. St. Kilian**

8.00am: No Intention.

10.00am: Dominic Noone (A).

7.30pm: Dan O'Sullivan (A).

**Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> July.**

8.00am: No Intention. 10.00am: Denis Madigan (A).

7.30pm: No Intention.

**Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> July.**

8.00am: Francis Airlie (A).

10.00am: Regina Minnock. (A) 7.30pm: No Intention.

**Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> July.**

8.00am: No Intention.

10.00am: Con, Hannah and Condy O'Sullivan (A).

**Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> July. St. Benedict, Patron of Europe.**

6.00pm: (Vigil) Laura Sullivan (A).

7.30pm: (Vigil) Rose, Harry and Laurence Belton (A).

8.00am: Tony Donlon (A).

10.00am: Veronica Gray (A).

11.30am: Shared. Eileen and John Canning (A).

Kevin Masterson (A).

1.00pm: Kathleen & Francis Duffy, their daughter Betty & DFM (A).

6.00pm: Anne, Margaret and Jimmy Davey (A).

**The Cathedral will only open 15 minutes before Mass and the door will be closed as soon as Mass begins. Entry to the Cathedral will be by the Main Door only and exit will be to the left and right of the altar (Holy Family Chapel and Chapel of Repose).**

**REST IN PEACE:** Your prayers are requested for the happy repose of the souls of Arthur O'Connor, Rathowen and Jimmy Baxter, Battery Road, who were laid to rest during the week. May they rest in peace.

**RECENTLY BAPTISED:** We welcomed Melany Karmena Pompova into the Christian Community last weekend.

**CONFIRMATIONS:** For all the boys and girls in 6<sup>th</sup> Class in the schools of our parish the end to their time in National School has been so difficult. Mixing and interacting with friends was discouraged, Graduation Days were quieter gatherings than usual and they missed the celebration of the Holy Spirit in their lives in the Sacrament of Confirmation. We are pleased to announce the new dates and times for Confirmation. Because of the requirement of social distancing each school will have its own ceremony and the priest associated with the school will administer the sacrament:

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August, 6pm: St Joseph's**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> August, 6pm: Stonepark**

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> August, 6pm: Melview**

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August, 6pm: Melview**

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> August, 6pm: St Michael's**

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August, 6pm: Gaelscoil**

**NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL:** Commencing next Tues 7<sup>th</sup> July at 4pm and continuing daily for nine days in the Cathedral.

**DUES COLLECTIONS:** We thank you for your contributions, Shrove Dues €12,950. Easter Dues €13,750, Pentecost Dues €14,590 and Trocáire €10,826.

**MÍLE BUÍOCHAS:** As many of us return to church this weekend we are so appreciative of how parishioners have continued to support our collections over the past number of months. The reality that most households in the parish have been affected by the sudden change in the economy, makes your generosity all the more outstanding. People who have begun to contribute on-line may wish to continue that way using the account details below. The offertory collection will be taken up at all masses. **Account: St Mels Cathedral Longford, BIC: IPBSIE2D, IBAN: IE48IPBS99073152096969**

**COVID 19 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, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.



**RETURNING TO CELEBRATE TOGETHER:** As we return to St Mel's Cathedral for public worship we need to restrict numbers attending each mass because of social distancing. We hope our mass schedule is able to accommodate people who wish to attend so we appreciate your understanding and flexibility if you cannot get to the mass you usually attend. A ticket system is in place to ensure that we keep within the required restrictions. Tickets are available at the presbytery. The Mass Schedule is amended for the moment and is as follows: Monday to Friday at 8am, 10am & 7.30pm. Two masses will be added to the Sunday schedule: 6pm Vigil on Saturday and 6pm on Sunday evening. Weekend Masses are as follows: Saturday Vigil 6pm & 7.30pm. Sunday 8am, 10am, 11.30am, 1pm, and 6pm.

**SUPPORT FOR POPE FRANCIS COVID 19 EMERGENCY FUND:** Your help is urgently needed to help overseas missionaries and vulnerable communities to defend themselves against COVID 19. In Africa, Asia and Latin America, the church is often on the frontline. In remote inaccessible areas, it is missionaries who respond as best they can, to the medical and pastoral needs of suffering men, women and children. Missionaries already face too many challenges, working in over-crowded communities with no running water. In shantytowns and refugee camps where social distancing is simply impossible, and where self-isolation could mean starvation. To help protect these fragile communities, Pope Francis has announced the COVID 19 Emergency Fund. If you can, please give so that our less-fortunate brothers and sisters have a fighting chance against this virus. Donate by going on line: [www.wmi.ie/covid-fund](http://www.wmi.ie/covid-fund) or call Fiona on 014972035. Bank of Ireland Transfer details: Account Name: Society for the Propagation of the Faith. IBAN: IE12BOFI900075456961636. BIC: BOFIE2D



**TODAY'S READINGS, especially the Gospel, give the same message in a more powerful way: "Take your yoke . . . and you will find rest."**

In the Gospel, Jesus offers rest to those "who labour and are burdened" if they will accept his "easy yoke and light burden." By declaring that his "yoke is light," Jesus means that whatever God sends us is made to fit our needs and our abilities exactly. The second part of Jesus' claim is: "My burden is light."

Jesus does not mean that the burden is easy to carry, but that it is laid on us in love, that it is meant to be carried in love, and that love makes even the heaviest burden light.

We need to unload our burdens before the Lord. One of the effects of Worship for many of us is that it gives us a time for rest and refreshment, when we let the overheated radiators of our hectic lives cool down before the Lord. This is especially true when we unload the burdens of our sins and worries on the altar and offer them to God during the Holy Mass. But whether we are in Church, alone in our quiet spot where we come before God each day, in our homes, or in the homes of our friends and neighbours, we find that prayer and Christian fellowship bring us the rest and refreshment that we all need so much.

There is nothing quite like coming to the Lord and setting aside our burdens for a while - nothing quite like having our batteries recharged, our radiators cooled down, and our spirits lifted. Jesus promises us rest from the burdens that we carry -- rest from the burdens of sins, legalism, and judgment, from the weight of anxiety and worry, from the yoke of unrewarding labour, and from the endless labour for that which cannot satisfy.

The absolution and forgiveness, which, as repentant sinners, we receive in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, take away our spiritual burden and enable us to share the joy of the Holy Spirit.

We need to be freed from unnecessary burdens: Life's greatest burden is not having too much to do, nor having too much demanding our attention and care. Some of the happiest folk are the busiest and those who care the most.

Rather, the greatest burden we have is our constant engagement with the trivial and the unimportant, with the temporary and the passing, and with the ultimately uncontrollable and unpredictable. The issue in life is not whether we shall be burdened, but with what we shall be burdened. The question is not "Shall we be yoked?" but "To what and with whom shall we be yoked?" Jesus has no interest in unburdening us from our exaggerated self-esteem and from other modern infatuations (which are themselves debilitating burdens), in order to leave us with nothing to carry, no work to do.

Instead, Jesus is interested in lifting off our backs the burdens that drain us and suck the life out of us, so that he can place around our necks his own yoke, his burden, that brings to us and to others through us, new life, new energy, new joy. God's incomparable, compassionate forgiveness is a gift that releases us into life with God as responsible human beings who want to grow deeper in love and joyful obedience. We are called not only to find peace, refreshment and rest for ourselves, but also to live the kind of life through which others, too, may find God's peace, God's refreshing grace, and the joy of placing their lives in God's hands.