

PARISH OF TEMPLEMICHAEL & BALLYMACORMACK.

The Presbytery, Longford Tel: 043 3346465

Website: www.longfordparish.com

Email: stmelscathedral@gmail.com 

PARISH NEWSLETTER



Monday 15th March – Sunday 21st March 2021.

Monday, 15th March.

8.00am: Jim Barry. *Months Mind.*

10.00am: Special Intention. (A)

Tuesday, 16th March

8.00am: John Raymond Connolly, *(Funeral today in Nottingham)*

10.00am: Margaret & Thomas Ward. (A)

Wednesday, 17th March. Solemnity of St. Patrick.

6.00pm Vigil: Thomas Phipps.

7.30pm Vigil: Frank & Molly Glancy. (A)

8.00am: Bridie & Francie Gilmartin. *(60th Wedding Anniversary).*

10.00am: Matt O Hara. (A).

11.30pm: Brendan O Beirne. *(Intentions of Retired Teachers Assoc).*

1.00pm: Pat Mimmagh & DFM.

Thursday, 18th March. St Cyril of Jerusalem.

8.00am: Michael Patrick Mahon. (A)

10.00am: Peggy Drumm. (A)

7.30pm: Máiread Mc Corry née Mc Rory. (1st A)

Friday, 19th March. Solemnity of St. Joseph, Husband of BVM.

8.00am: No Intention.

10.00am: John & Bridget Gilmurray, son William & DFM.

7.30pm: Pat & Lillie Foy. (A)

Saturday, 20th March.

8.00am: No Intention.

10.00am: Special Intention *(Mass of Thanksgiving).*

Sunday, 21st March. FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

6.00pm *(Vigil):* John Cheevers & deceased family members.

7.30pm *(Vigil):* Dermot Brennan. (A)

8.00am: No Intention

10.00am: Tom Browne & deceased family members,(A).

11.30am: *Shared:* 1) Paddy Devlin (A) 2) Angela Ryan. (A)

1.00pm: Margaret & Edward Adams

6.00pm: Baby Angel Carolan.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: We thank you for your contribution to the Offertory Collection for the last week that amounted to €1,865.00. You may drop your envelope through the Presbytery letterbox. Or you may prefer to offer financial support electronically, the following are our banking details: St Mels Cathedral Account. Permanent TSB. BIC: IPBSIE2D; IBAN: IE48IPBS99073152096969

+ REST IN PEACE: Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of Maeve Cullen, Deanscragh; John McNally formerly Dublin Road; Bella Duignan, formerly Dublin Road; and Gerard Reddington, Templemichael Glebe who were laid to rest during the week. May they rest in peace.

WEEK OF PRAYER 13th-19th MARCH to mark the beginning of Pope Francis' *'Amoris Laetitia Family year'*.

On 19th March 2021, the Church will celebrate five years since the publication of Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* (The Joy of Love) on the beauty and joy of love in the family. On that day, Pope Francis will launch a year dedicated to the family which will conclude on 26th June 2022 on the occasion of the 10th World Meeting of Families in Rome.

FEAST OF ST. PATRICK. We celebrate the Feast of our patron saint on Wednesday. Masses will be at 6pm & 7.30pm on Tuesday evening and at 8am, 10am, 11.30am and 1pm on St Patrick's Day. There will be no evening Mass on Wednesday.

FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH: On Friday we celebrate the Solemnity of St. Joseph spouse of Our Blessed Lady. Mass at 8am, 10am and 7.30pm.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE INAUGURATION: On the 19th March 2013, Pope Francis began his ministry as successor of Peter, Bishop of Rome. We pray for his intentions at this time.

DATES OF PASSOVER AND EASTER: At the Council of Nicaea in 325, the date for Easter was fixed as the Sunday after the full moon after the spring equinox. Sunday, 4th April 2021 is the feast of Easter. Eastern Christians calculate the date of Easter according to the Julian Calendar, the Calendar in general use before the Gregorian reform of 1582.

GOSPEL FOR 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT. Jn. 3:14-21.

God sent his Son so that through him the world might be saved.

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

‘The Son of Man must be lifted up

as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,

so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son,

so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost

but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world

not to condemn the world,

but so that through him the world might be saved.

No one who believes in him will be condemned;

but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,

because he has refused to believe in the name of God’s only Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced:

that though the light has come into the world

men have shown they prefer darkness to the light

because their deeds were evil.

And indeed, everybody who does wrong

hates the light and avoids it,

for fear his actions should be exposed;

but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light,

so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.’

The Gospel of the Lord.



St Patrick – 17th March: The history of St Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland who was born in the second half of the 4th century, is inevitably sketchy. Even his year of birth is uncertain, with some scholars hitting on 373 while others calculate 390. Similarly, the place where St Patrick was born cannot be confirmed.

It is known that he was raised near a village called Banna Vemta Burniae but its location cannot be identified. It may have been lowland Scotland but

is equally likely to have been Wales, which was under Roman control at the time.

Patrick's real name was probably Maewyn Succat. His father, Calpornius, was a Roman-British army officer and a deacon. Despite this family involvement in the church, the young Patrick was not a believer. His life was ordinary, and completely unexceptional, until the age of 16. But dramatic events then occurred which set the history of St Patrick, and the history of Ireland, on a new course.

The young lad was kidnapped, along with many others, by Irish pirates and sold into slavery in Ireland. According to his autobiographical *Confessio*, which survives, the next six years were spent imprisoned in the north of the island and he worked as a herdsman of sheep and pigs on Mount Slemish in Co. Antrim.

During this period, he became increasingly religious. He considered his kidnapping and imprisonment as a punishment for his lack of faith and spent a lot of time in prayer.

After a vision led him to stow away on a boat bound for Britain, Patrick escaped back to his family. There he had a dream that the Irish were calling him back to Ireland to tell them about God. This inspired him to return to Ireland as a priest, but not immediately. At this point he didn't feel adequately prepared for a life as a missionary. His studies took him to France where he was trained in a monastery, and he dedicated this period of his life to learning. It was some 12 years before he returned to Irish shores as a bishop sent with the Pope's blessing.

The next chapter of the history of St Patrick is better known than his earlier life. He landed at Strangford Loch, Co. Down. Although he is often credited with having brought Christianity to Ireland, he was not the first to have done so. An earlier mission had seen Palladius preach to the Irish. Of course, it wasn't all plain sailing. The history of St Patrick is littered with periods of imprisonment when his teachings had upset local chieftains or Celtic Druids, but he always escaped or gained freedom by presenting his captors with gifts.

For twenty years he travelled the length and breadth of the island, baptising people and establishing monasteries, schools and churches as he went. By the time he died, on 17 March 461, he left behind an organised church, the see of Armagh, and an island of Christians. This date – 17 March – has been commemorated as St Patrick's Day ever since. He was buried either in Downpatrick, Co Down, or in Armagh.