

**PARISH OF TEMPLEMICHAEL & BALLYMACORMACK.**

**The Presbytery, Longford Tel: 043 3346465**

Website: [www.longfordparish.com](http://www.longfordparish.com)

Email: [stmelscathedral@gmail.com](mailto:stmelscathedral@gmail.com)

PARISH NEWSLETTER



**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2021 – 20<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time**

- Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> August. St Stephen of Hungary.**  
8.00am: Robert Joseph & Elizabeth Connolly & Darragh Delaney. (A)  
10.00am: Mass of thanksgiving
- Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> August. Our Lady of Knock.**  
8.00am: For the Holy Souls.  
10.00am: Raymond Vitkauskas (A)
- Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> August.**  
8.00am: Gerard Keenan (A)  
10.00am: Sebastian Pazhukaran Joseph
- Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> August. St John Eudes.**  
8.00am: Pat & Nora Divilly (A)  
10.00am: Philo Kelly.
- Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> August. St Bernard.**  
8.00am: No intention  
10.00am: Helen Murphy (A)
- Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> August St Pius X**  
8.00am: No intention  
10.00am: Thomas Campbell (1<sup>st</sup> A)
- Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> August Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
6.00pm (Vigil): Máire Molloy (A)  
7.30pm (Vigil): John McGrath (A)  
8.00am: John McGoey (Snr) (A)  
10.00am: Eddie Spillane (A)  
11.30am: Shared: 1. Aggie Quinn (1<sup>st</sup> A)  
2. Rose Murphy (A)  
1.00pm: Ciarán O'Boyle (A)  
6.00pm: Deceased members of the Balazova family.

**+ REST IN PEACE:** Your prayers are requested for the happy repose of the souls of: **Paddy Creevy**, Mac Eoin Park, **Sylvester Heslin**, Shroid, **Mary Mc Kenna**, Teffia Park and **Gerard Farrell**, Curry, Newtownforbes who died recently. May they rest in peace.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION:** We thank you for your contribution to the Offertory Collection for the last week that amounted to € 3,870.00.

**RECENTLY MARRIED:** we extend heartfelt congratulations to Andrea Crilly and Shane O'Neill who were married in St Mel's Cathedral during the week.

**BAPTISM:** With great joy, we recently welcomed Harmony McDonnell, Rian Hoskins, Anastazja Podlecka, Sadie Martin, Evie Morris, Reya Deely, Ellie-Grace Nolan into the Christian community.

**NEW PARISH BANK ACCOUNT:** The Parish has changed its bank account. Our new banking details are as follows:

**Bank:** Allied Irish Bank, 58 Main Street, Longford

**Account Name:** St Mel's Cathedral

**National Sort Code:** 93-21-40      **Account No:** 02724370

**IBAN:** IE49AIBK93214002724370      **BIC:** AIBKIE2D

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS:** Problems with Alcohol? Alcoholics Anonymous can help. We meet in the Family Centre (*Back of Cathedral*) on Tuesdays at 1pm; Wednesdays at 8pm; Thursdays at 1pm; Sundays at 11.30am.

**SAMARITANS** are available on free call 116123, 24 hours if you would like to talk about something that is bothering you.

**ACCORD CATHOLIC MARRIAGE CARE SERVICE** CLG is currently recruiting volunteers to train as marriage preparation programme facilitators.

Accord is seeking registration of interest from those who have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church and the enthusiasm to be part of a team supporting couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. Additional information is available on [www.accord.ie](http://www.accord.ie).

Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation programmes locally in accordance with best practice. Contact by email to [info@accord.ie](mailto:info@accord.ie).

The closing date for receipt of registration of interest forms to be included in selections for this year is Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August.

## Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Luke 1:39-56

*The Almighty has done great things for me and He has exalted the lowly.*



Mary set out at that time and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are

the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

And Mary said:

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord  
and my spirit exults in God my saviour;

because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid.

Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed,  
for the Almighty has done great things for me.

Holy is his name,

and his mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear him.

He has shown the power of his arm,  
he has routed the proud of heart.

He has pulled down princes from their thrones  
and exalted the lowly.

The hungry he has filled with good things,  
the rich sent empty away.

He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy  
according to the promise he made to our ancestors-

of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home.

*Diocesan Assembly & Synodal journey.*

The word "synod" evokes the image of "walking together on the way". For the Church it is a time-honoured way of working out together the "navigation map" for the Church at particular times. Synodality is about the whole People of God helping each other listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church. Pope Francis emphasises that this is not simply a matter of discussion as in a parliamentary debate. Rather it is primarily a prayerful spiritual time of communitarian discernment. It is about finding the best ways for every baptised person to fulfil the Church's mission of proclaiming to the world, God's love and salvation in Jesus Christ.

Pope Francis has emphasised that "it is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium". Synodality is at the heart of the pastoral conversion that Pope Francis emphasises in the *Joy of the Gospel (Evangelii Gaudium)*.

In October 2020, Pope Francis opened a three-year synodal journey with three phases of consultations and discernment, culminating with the assembly in October 2023 in Rome.

The event will not only be celebrated in the Vatican but in each particular Church of the five continents, following a three-year itinerary divided into three phases: diocesan, continental and universal.

Our diocesan assembly, which was scheduled to take place in May 2020 had to be postponed due to covid, but work and the journey towards the Assembly continues and it is hoped that the Diocesan assembly will take place in 2022. It is envisaged that the findings from our diocesan assembly will feed into the Synod of 2023

*The Assumption of Our Blessed Lady.*

Today's feast celebrates Mary's Assumption into heaven. It is one of great feasts of Mary, the other one being the feast of the Immaculate Conception. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven was defined as dogma, in 1950 by Pope Pius XII.