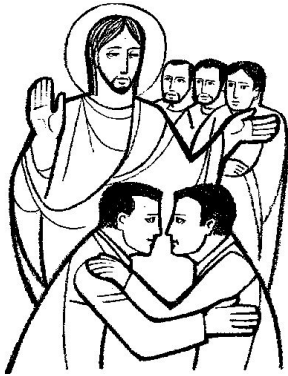


Today's Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'



LONGFORD ACTIVE RETIREMENT AGM will take place next Wed 23rd Feb at 3pm in the Family Centre, all members are welcome.

VOLUNTEERS PLEASE! We are seeking Eucharist Ministers to assist at the 6pm Mass on Sunday evenings.

ALTAR SERVERS! We are inviting boys and girls from 3rd class upwards to join the Ministry of Servers in the Cathedral. Full training will be given, please contact the Parish office.

HOLY FACE OF JESUS NOVENA commences on this Sunday, 20th February in St Mel's Cathedral at 3pm and weekdays at 5pm. Feast day is Shrove Tuesday, Mass will be celebrated at 10am.

VIRTUAL ALZHEIMER CAFÉ: The Longford branch of The Alzheimer Society Of Ireland, will hold their Monthly Virtual Alzheimer Café next Wed 23rd Feb at 7.30pm. For Further info contact Eileen on 085 8724475.

LONGFORD SCOUTS ARE BACK! Our registration night for existing and new Scouts aged 6+ will take place on Mon 28th Feb in The Scouts Den in The Mall at 7pm. We are also looking for new leaders. All training will be provided.

COMPASSION

Compassion asks us to go where it hurts, to enter into the places of pain, to share in brokenness, fear, confusion, and anguish.

Compassion challenges us to cry out with those in misery, to mourn with those who are lonely, to weep with those in tears.

Compassion requires us to be weak with the weak, vulnerable with the vulnerable, and powerless with the powerless.

Compassion means full immersion in the condition of being human.

Henri Nouwen

Monday, 21st February. St. Peter Damian.
8.00am: Eugene Mooney (A)
10.00am: Olga Makulova, Ladislav Raja & Michael Makula (Intensions)

Tuesday, 22nd February. The Chair of St. Peter.
8.00am: Marian Casserly (Intention)
10.00am: James and Helen Fitzgerald and Mary Croghan (A)

Wednesday, 23rd February. St Polycarp.
8.00am: Special Intention
10.00am: Fergal McGuinness (A)

Thursday 24th February.
8.00am: Maura Power (A)
10.00am: Lenka and Vlado (Intention)
7.30pm Curry: Margaret Higgins (A)

Friday, 25th February. Prayer for Survivors & victims of Sexual Abuse
8.00am: No Intention
10.00am: Paddy Drumm (Month's Mind)

Saturday, 26th February.
8.00am: John Mannion (90th Birthday)
10.00am: Deceased members of the Murray family

Sunday, 27th February. 8th Sunday in OT. Temperance Sunday
7.30pm (Vigil): John Harvey and his son Thomas and Nora Horan (A)
8.00am: No Intention
10.00am: William and Elizabeth Scott (A)
11.30am: *Shared:* Vincent Sheridan (A)
Tom and May Stokes and deceased family members.
John Mannion (Get Well)

1.00pm: Peter McGinnity (A)
6.00pm: Eugene Murphy (A)

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: We thank each one of you most sincerely for your continued generous contributions to our weekly collections. The amount received in the Offertory Collection for last weekend was €3,915.00.

SHROVE DUES COLLECTION for the support of the priests of the Parish is due at this time.

REST IN PEACE: Your prayers are requested for the happy repose of the soul of Martin Ward, Mayo and formerly Templemichael Terrace whose funeral took place during the week.

WEDDING: Congratulations to Megan Lynch and Christopher Stokes who were married in the Cathedral last Monday.

PALM: Traditionally, Palm from the previous Palm Sunday is burned and the ashes are used to mark the foreheads of Parishioners on Ash Wednesday. Please return palm from last year to the Cathedral and place it in the basket in sanctuary. Ashes from these palms will then be used at Masses here in the Cathedral on Ash Wednesday.

THINKING ABOUT LENTEN PENANCE? The following are suggested as ways of fulfilling Friday penance during Lent. Abstaining from meat or some other food. Visiting the Blessed Sacrament. Helping the poor, sick, old or lonely. Making the Stations of the Cross. Making a special effort at involvement in family prayer. Making a special effort to participate in Mass on Fridays. Fasting from all food for a longer period than usual.

FRIDAY 25TH FEBRUARY is International Day of Prayer for Survivors and Victims of Sexual Abuse.

PARISH PREPARATION FOR BAPTISM, EUCHARIST & CONFIRMATION

Children who are not baptised in 2nd and 6th Class and young people in Secondary School who wish to celebrate First Holy Communion and Confirmation this year will need to join the Parish Preparation Programme that will take place in the Family Centre on the Thursdays of Lent at 4pm. The Programme begins 3rd March.

THOSE TAKING PART NEED TO BE REGISTERED IN ADVANCE. PLEASE REGISTER AT THE PRESBYTERY IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES DURING THE SEASON OF LENT

Monday to Thursday - 7.30am, 10am and 1.05pm
Friday - 7.30am, 10am, 1.05pm and 7.30pm.
Saturday - 8am and 10am.