

PARISH OF TEMPLEMICHAEL & BALLYMACORMACK.

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PARISH NEWSLETTER

34th Week in Ordinary Time, Monday 23rd to Sunday 29th November 2020.

Monday, 23rd November. St. Columbanus

8.00am: Special Intention. 10.00am: Dearbhla Cox (A).
7.30pm: Michael and Maureen Walsh and their infant twin sons (A).

Tuesday, 24th November. Ss Andrew Dung - Lac and Companions, Martyrs

8.00am: Evelyn Michel – McKenna (1st A). 10.00am: People of the Parish.
7.30pm: Pat Stenson (Month's Mind).

Wednesday, 25th November. St. Clement 1, Pope, Martyr

8.00am: Frank and Peg McElwee (A).
10.00am: Deceased members of the Legion of Mary.
7.30pm: Deceased members of the Cathedral Choir.

Thursday, 26th November.

8.00am: Mass of Thanksgiving - Wedding Anniversary.
10.00am: Bryan Grant Roberts (Birthday remembrance).
7.30pm: Paddy King and deceased family members.

Friday, 27th November. St. Fergal, St. Catherine Labouré

8.00am: James Powell (A). 10.00am: Stephen Quigley (A).
7.30pm: Deceased members of the Legion of Mary.

Saturday, 28th November.

8.00am: Joe and Ross Carr (A).
10.00am: Barry, Chris and Christy Gaffney (A).

Sunday, 29th November. 1st Sunday in Advent

6.00pm: (Vigil) Leo Branigan, Maggie Kelly, Leo Branigan (Snr), Eithne,
Phyllis and Maeve Branigan.
7.30pm: (Vigil) Hubert Hand (A).
8.00am: Theresa Keenan (Birthday Remembrance).
10.00am: Bridget Mollaghan (A).
11.30am: Shared. Peter and Bridget Keenan (A). Michael Rodgers (A).
1.00pm: John Masterson (A).
6.00pm: Rosemary Kelly (A).

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: We thank you for your contribution to last Sunday's Offertory Collection that amounted to €2,075.00. Thanks to all parishioners who have opted to contribute to our collections electronically. Sincere thanks also to everyone who has contributed so generously to the November Dues collection, and that amounted to €11,761.00.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Your prayers are requested for the happy repose of the soul of Thomas Murtagh, Ottawa, Canada and formerly of Main Street, Longford, who died on 3rd October last. Funeral and burial have taken place in Ottawa. May his soul and the souls of all the faithfully departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

ANNIVERSARY MASS DIARY 2021: The Mass Diary for 2021 has now opened. Anniversaries may be booked at 33 46465.

BAPTISM: Unfortunately all Baptism Ceremonies have to be postponed until after these current restrictions.

NOVENA IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL: Continues until Friday 27th November. Rosary and novena prayers at 8.30am each morning.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL: Due to Covid 19 restrictions we currently cannot hold collections in person. You can still donate by using the St Vincent de Paul envelope which is available in the Cathedral. The funds raised will be spent in this community helping those who are in need of it for education, food, fuel and heating during the winter and beyond.

PARISH REGISTRATION: We are currently updating our census in the Parish office. We would like to have every household registered and to ensure that each home receives their box of envelopes. If you are not registered or unsure, please contact the Parish office at 043-3346465 or email: stmelscathedral@gmail.com

FREE FLU VACCINE FOR CHILDREN AGED 2 - 12 YEARS: The flu spreads easily from person to person and can cause serious illness in children. That's why children, aged 2 to 12 years, can now get a free flu vaccine. Book a free appointment with your GP or Pharmacist. Visit hse.ie/flu for more information.

SHOP LOCAL IN LONGFORD: Now more than ever, it's time to think local first by supporting your local businesses. Support your community, support your town, and support each other. *Keep Longford in Business.*

Gospel - Matthew 25:31-46

I was naked and you clothed me; sick, and you visited me

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left.

'Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me."

'Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." 'And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

PRAYER FOR REMEMBERING IN NOVEMBER - from Hope Prayer Book - Liam Lawton

Lord, the harvest now is gathered, the meadows golden-brown.
We rest before cold winter, the silent sheaves blow down.
Barren tree cry leaves into the river, yellow-red they fall,
floating on the water's edge. The lonely tree stands tall.
And old raven perches, high above the Church tower,
and cries a lonesome sound, to the bells of time.
Now we remember, when life is gathered
and November winds blow.
Memories to the fore of friends who sleep in death,
I remember more and more.

How short is times lest we forget, taking much for granted,
for life is brief, from tree to leaf,
a tiny seed once planted.

Lord may my memories always be happy
ones of love of joy that no time will destroy
for those who have died and gathered to you
walking in light in knowledge in truth.

May they tell stories.

May they sing songs in the Garden of Eden. All sadness gone.

But they are as close now, a breath on the wind

May God show His mercy
to souls who have sinned.

Where Yew trees are planted, that catch *autumn dew*
where heather is purple
and berries are few.

So sleep dear souls in silence
Beneath the blue moon's gaze
craved on weathered headstones
The Years of waiting days.

ADVENT: Next Sunday 29th November is the 1st Sunday of Advent, a time to reflect and prepare for the coming of Christ. The Advent Wreath is a reminder that we are preparing to celebrate the coming of Jesus - the light of the world in darkest winter. We encourage families to make a wreath, place it on their table at home and light one of the candles each week. A pack of five Advent candles is available in the presbytery free of charge.

Making a Wreath:

The Circle - oasis or with wire - Like the Wedding ring, the circle is a sign of god's love, which includes all of us.

The Evergreens - These point to God's unchanging love, constant in every time and season and mood.

The Three Purple Candles - Purple is the advent colour for repentance and change of heart in preparation for the coming of Christ into our hearts and lives.

The Pink or 'Rose' Candle - On the third Sunday of Advent (Rejoicing Sunday), the joy of the forthcoming Christmas event is celebrated.

The White Candle - The white candle in the centre is the Christmas candle. This is lit on Christmas Eve to herald the birth of Jesus.

We will have a prayer in the bulletin each week for the lighting of the new candle.