

PARISH OF TEMPLEMICHAEL & BALLYMACORMACK.

The Presbytery, Longford Tel: 043 3346465

Website: www.longfordparish.com

Email: stmelscathedral@gmail.com 

PARISH NEWSLETTER



Monday 28th June - Sunday 04th July 2021: 13th Week in Ordinary Time.

Monday,	28th June.	St Irenaeus.
8.00am:	Mass of Thanksgiving.	
10.00am:	Jerome, Philomena & Oliver Fallon. (A)	
Tuesday,	29th June.	Ss Peter and Paul.
8.00am:	Mass for Louis intentions.	
10.00am:	Lena & John Mulhern. (A)	
Wednesday,	30th June.	The First Martyrs of Rome.
8.00am:	Kathleen White & Mary Connolly.	
10.00am:	Peter Keenan (100 th Birthday Mass)	
Thursday,	01st July	St. Oliver Plunkett
8.00am:	Frank Devine.	(A).
10.00am:	Thomas Sheahan	(A)
Friday,	02nd July.	First Friday.
8.00am:	Bernard Taaffe & son Bernard. (A).	
10.00am:	James Baxter	(1 st A).
7.30pm:	Mai Sheahan	(A).
Saturday,	03rd July.	St. Thomas.
8.00am:	Jerja Osmani	
10.00am:	Special Intention (Sick)	
Sunday,	04th July.	14th Sunday of the Year.
6.00pm (Vigil):	Ross and Joe Carr.	(A)
7.30pm (Vigil):	Christy & Molly Shiels.	(A)
8.00am:	Patricia Malone and son John. (A).	
10.00am:	Thomas Flynn (A).	
11.30am: Shared:	Cathal O Rourke. (A)	
1.00pm:	Deceased members of the Hanrahan family.	
6.00pm:	Ned Stokes	(Months Mind).

RECENTLY BAPTISED: With great joy we welcomed Martha Balinda, Prospect Woods and Chelsea Rose Nevin, Annaly Gardens into the Christian community last weekend.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: We thank you for your contribution to the Offertory Collection for the last week that amounted to €4,250.00.

FIRST FRIDAY: Friday is the first Friday of the month. We will bring Holy Communion to the sick and the housebound and if you would like for a priest to call, please contact the Presbytery on 043-3346465.

+ **REST IN PEACE:** Your prayers are requested for the happy repose of the soul of Jadvyga Tomasevskoja, Ardnacassa Avenue, whose funerals took place during the week.

CEMETERY SUNDAY: Due to continued restrictions on gatherings, we will not be able to celebrate Mass in Ballymacormack Cemetery this year but all the graves have been blessed by the priests of the Parish. At the 1pm Mass today (Sunday), we will pray for all who rest in Ballymacormack cemetery and especially all who have been laid to rest this last year.

Gospel for 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Mark 5:21-43.

Two cures of Jesus are blended into a single story: the haemorrhaging woman and the daughter of Jairus.



When Jesus had crossed in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him; and he was by the sea. Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet and begged him repeatedly, “My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live.” So Jesus went with him; and a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him.

Now there was a woman who had been suffering from haemorrhages for twelve years. She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, for she said, "If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well." Immediately her haemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my clothes?" And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, 'Who touched me?'" He looked all around to see who had done it. But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader's house to say, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?" But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. When he had entered, he said to them, "Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. He took her by the hand and said to her, "Talitha kum," which means, "Little girl, get up!" And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

Reflection to end The Month of The Sacred Heart.

On Friday 11th June we celebrated the feast of the sacred Heart. This great feast is usually celebrated in June so the month is devoted to the Sacred Heart. The Sacred Heart of Jesus is the mystical-physical heart of Jesus as an object of devotion. In addition to a feast, now celebrated on the Friday of the third week after Pentecost, devotion includes acts of consecration and honour given to the image of the Sacred Heart. Such images are often depicted with a wounded heart, encircled by a crown of thorns and radiating light.

The use of the heart of Jesus to symbolize his love for humanity is not found in the Bible but in the writings of some medieval mystics. The devotion was fostered by Carthusian and Jesuit priests and promoted by St. Francis de Sales. The devotion became especially popular following the disclosure of private revelations to a French Visitation nun, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, in the late 17th century. She called for the establishment of a feast in honour of the Sacred Heart and for prayers for the promotion of the Eucharist. In 1856, Pope Pius IX introduced the feast into the general calendar of the Roman Catholic Church.

The Catechism, of the Catholic Church recalls Pope Pius XII's beautiful encyclical called, *Haurietis Aquas* on devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which was written in 1956. At that time, the Holy Father wrote, "Jesus has loved us all with a human heart. For this reason, the Sacred Heart of Jesus, pierced by our sins and for our salvation, 'is quite rightly considered the chief sign and symbol of that ... love with which the Saviour of the world continually loves the eternal Father and all human beings' without exception'.

In order to gain a deeper understanding of this concept it is worth noting the place of the 'Heart' in Judaism. The Jews believed that the heart was the core of the person. As well as it being essential for life, it was thought that the Heart was the centre of Spiritual activity and the seat of all emotion especially love. In the book of Deuteronomy the heart, takes centre stage when we read the words "Therefore, you shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength". Generations later Jesus refers to this quote from the Old Testament as one of the great commandments of the law.

It is true to say that, the early church fathers had great devotion to the Sacred Heart. St. Justin Martyr said, "We Christians are the true Israel which springs from Christ, for we are carved out of His heart as from a rock." Likewise, St. Irenaeus of Lyons said, "The Church is the fountain of the living water that flows to us from the Heart of Christ". The devotion continued to grow during the Middle Ages, and in 1353 Pope Innocent VI instituted a Mass which honoured the mystery of the Sacred Heart. During the age of the Protestant movement, devotion to the Sacred Heart was practiced in hope of restoring peace to a world and in 1899, Pope Leo XIII consecrated the world to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

On this the last Sunday of June as we ponder the mystery of the Sacred Heart, we recall the words of the preface of the mass on that great solemnity "Lifted high on the Cross, Christ gave His life for us, so much did He love us. From His wounded side flowed blood and water, the fountain of sacramental life in the Church. To His open heart the Saviour invites all people to draw water in joy from the springs of salvation."