



PARISH OF TEMPLEMICHAEL & BALLYMACORMACK.

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PARISH NEWSLETTER

26th Week in Ordinary Time, Monday 28th to Sunday 04th October 2020.

Monday, 28th September. St. Wenceslaus, martyr.

8.00am: Nancy Finnegan. (A).

10.00am: Special Birthday remembrance.

Tuesday, 29th September. SS Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels.

8.00am: Angela Rea (A).

10.00am: The People of the Parish.

Wednesday, 30th September. St. Jerome, priest and doctor of the Church.

8.00am: Mass of thanksgiving.

10.00am: John Ward and deceased family members.

Thursday, 01st October. St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, virgin & doctor.

8.00am: Jimmy & Francie Dowd. (A).

10.00am: Jimmy Dowd. (A).

Friday, 02nd October. 1st Friday. The Guardian Angels.

8.00am: Michael Kane & deceased family members.

10.00am: Mary & James Mc Dermott.

7.30pm: Michael (Mick) & Maureen Brewster

Saturday, 03rd October. Br. Columba Marmion, priest.

8.00am: No intention.

10.00am: Jimmy Kane. (A).

Sunday, 04th October. 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

6.00pm: (Vigil) Joseph Al, Noelle & Joan Kelly (A).

7.30pm: (Vigil) Raymond Gill. (A).

8.00am: Pat Yorke. (A).

10.00am: John & Cecilia Nevin. (A).

11.30am: Shared. Pat & Peggy Kelly. (A)

Martin Lowry. (A)

1.00pm: Michael Lally (A).

6.00pm: No Intention.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Your prayers are requested for the happy repose of the soul of Alec Feeney, Lisduff and Charlie Yorke, Corteen, Longford who were laid to rest during the week. For Seamus Doyle, Dublin Road. His funeral mass will be celebrated on Monday morning, for family and friends, at 11am followed by burial in Ballymacormack Cemetery. May their souls and the souls of all the faithfully departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: We thank you for your contribution to last Sunday's Offertory Collection that amounted to €3,065.00. Thanks to all parishioners who have opted to contribute to our collections electronically.

HARVEST DUES: In support of the Bishop and the priests of the parish are now due and may be handed in at any time.

RECENTLY BAPTISED: We welcomed Anna Maria Zigova, Beau Dermie Nolan, John Martin Gerard Ward and Oluwademilade Antonia Amokomowo, into the Christian Community last weekend.

FIRST FRIDAY: Friday next is the first Friday of the month. The priest will call to those who are housebound or sick at home but if you would prefer if the priest did not call please let the Presbytery know. If you haven't had a house call before and would like to receive Holy Communion on the First Friday please contact the Presbytery before Thursday on 3346465.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE COUPLES: Shane Mulvey and Jacinta Reilly and to James Cawley and Allyson Kiernan who celebrated their wedding in St Mel's Cathedral last weekend. May every blessing for happiness and good health be theirs.

RESUMPTION OF CATHEDRAL CIRCLE: The first draw of the resumed Cathedral Circle will take place on Monday 5th October at 7pm. People have been extremely patient and many have continued to support the Cathedral Circle in anticipation of its resumption. The prize money of €650 per week and the promoters' prizes will remain the same. Under present guidelines, we cannot sell tickets door to door, on the street, or in the Shopping Centre, the only outlets will be our promoters in various businesses throughout the town of Longford and in Drumlish. Please do not buy from any other source apart from our regular shops. For those who purchased the yearly membership, that membership will run until 1st May 2021 and you will be automatically included in every draw. Thank you all very much for your continued loyalty and your generous support for the Cathedral Circle, now running for 58 years.

BLESSING OF ANIMALS: To celebrate the feast of St Francis of Assisi we will have a blessing of all animals on the plaza of the Cathedral on Sunday 4th Oct at 3pm. Please bring along your animal for this special blessing

NATIONAL LEARNING NETWORK: QQI Level 4 Horticulture. We now enrolling for our Horticulture course in Edgeworthstown. Suitable for people between the ages of 17 to 65 years. Call Alan 087 9065521.

AN AGE FRIENDLY DIGITAL SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAMME: will begin shortly in Longford Branch Library. This is a six week course and will be free of charge. Laptops and tablets will be provided or bring your own if you prefer. For more information or to book a place contact Longford Branch Library at 043 3340727.

Children's Coding Classes for Beginners (Ages 8+) will begin shortly in Longford Branch Library. For more information or to book a place please email siobhangrealy@gmail.com or phone 086 8536086.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2020: We want to congratulate the girls from St. Joseph's National School who received the Eucharist for the first time last Saturday. For the remaining schools who were hoping to receive their First Holy Communion from the Table of The Lord, the following are the dates and times:

Saturday 3rd October: 11am. St. Michael's B.N.S. - 1.

Saturday 3rd October: 2pm. St. Michael's B.N.S. - 2.

Saturday 10th October: 11am. Scoil Eimear.
St. Christopher's.

Saturday 17th October: 11am. Stonepark N.S.

Saturday 24th October: 11am. Melview N.S.

Saturday 24th October: 2pm. Gaelscoil Longfoirt

Because of Government regulations due to the corona virus the following guidelines will be in place for First Holy Communion:

- 1) The reduced capacity of the Cathedral will mean that each child can be accompanied by no more than 4 adults. One seat will be allocated for each child and there will be no additional seating available.
- 2) Ceremonies will be kept as simple as possible with just 7 children involved in readings and bringing forward of the gifts.
- 3) There will be no opportunity for photographs in the Church - this will help to reduce the risk of crowds gathering in close proximity. It will also afford us additional time to sanitise the cathedral before the next ceremony.



Gospel for the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Matthew 21:28-32.

Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you.



Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.

Season of Creation 2020

It is true to say the great mystery of our Faith is the Blessed Trinity, Three persons in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God is the great creator, He created all that there is. In recent times we have been called to safeguard all creation particularly since Pope Francis established 1st September as the annual World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. The Season of Creation is marked throughout the Christian world from 1st September to 4th October (*Feast of St. Francis of Assisi*) and celebrates the joy of creation as well as encouraging awareness-raising initiatives to protect the natural environment. So we are commencing the last week of the season of Creation.

The second encyclical by Pope Francis is entitled 'Laudato Si' ('Praise be to you'). In this document the Holy Father emphasises the need for care for the earth and he refers to the earth as our 'common home'. The task and a responsibility for every Christian is to do all that we can to protect our 'common home'. So as we draw the curtains on the season of creation next Sunday, let our prayer be that we will strive to continually enhance all of God's creation and never do anything to disfigure it. Amen.