

# Clonskeagh Parish Newsletter

Let us remember those who are sick  
and housebound in our Parish  
today!



We prayerfully remember all those who are  
**Recently Deceased** & all whose  
**Anniversaries** occur at this time.  
*“May they rest in peace. Amen.”*



JESUIT CENTRE OF SPIRITUALITY  
**8-day Directed Retreat (13-22 Nov)**

The directed retreat is intended to create an environment where you can meet God intimately and discover that you are uniquely loved and called by God. The retreatant is offered the opportunity to meet with the director every day, to be accompanied their review of the prayer and reflection. 'Directed' or 'individually guided' retreats have become part of the core ministry of Manresa. There are several key factors in the directed retreat which help you on its journey of discovery: personal prayer, reflection, silence, daily meeting with a director and participation in the Eucharist. The retreat's days of Individual guidance help you to recognise and attend to where God is in your life.

**“Be strong and take heart, all you who  
hope in the Lord”**  
Psalm 1:24



**October – Month of the Rosary**  
**Why not discover/rediscover the beauty of the  
Rosary this month?**

You are invited to **pray the Rosary** during the  
month of October.

**Home Prayer** – You are invited to pray the  
Rosary with your family at a special time.

**The power of prayer is very much needed in  
our Church and country at this time.**

- *Joyful Mysteries (Monday, Saturday)*
- *Luminous Mysteries (Thursday)*
- *Sorrowful Mysteries (Tuesday, Friday)*
- *Glorious Mysteries (Wednesday, Sunday)*

*The one who seeks grace, finds it in Mary's hands.*

**October Reflection –**

*You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.* (Matthew 22:37) Jesus says we must love God with everything we have, but how do we give all? How do we know we have done so? The "must" baffles us. We each know that love is necessary in our lives, and that to love God is the very first lesson of the Catechism. We will reflect on it; we will affirm it; we will proclaim it. Jesus interconnects this love of God with love of neighbor, thus showing that the testing of our heart comes in our outward attitudes about and our interactions with neighbor.

## Parish News & Announcements

### The Deep End – Love

The Pharisees continue their harassment of Jesus in today's Gospel by asking him which commandment is the greatest. What follows is the most famous verses of the New Testament: *‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul ... And ... You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’* We probably can't hear this enough. Love is the greatest commandment and this is a radical statement. Because this love is *agape* love, i.e. a love of those we don't even know or even like! It is a love that binds all of humanity.

We cannot separate love of God and neighbour; they are like two sides of a coin; they only work together. If we do not treat others with compassion, then how can we say we love God? Jesus often spoke about approaching the altar whilst holding a grudge against someone (Mt 5:24) and continuously challenged those who were hypocrites. Those critical of social justice movements in the church often say we should not be involved in doing 'social work'. But this is exactly what we must do because this is *how* we love God, by loving our neighbour who is suffering, who is oppressed, who is in pain. We can love God and love people, there does not have to be a dichotomy.

There is a beautiful practice in India of using the mystical phrase '*Namaste*' in greetings, which means: 'the Divine in me greets the Divine in you'. Usually this is accompanied by a deep bow towards the person. How wonderful it would be to really see God present in each other and, more importantly, in those that society would rather cast aside. In this way we are being true to the greatest commandment.

*‘May today there be peace within. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith. May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you.’*

St Therese of Lisieux

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### November – Month of the Holy Souls

The November Altar List of the Dead is one of the many ways in which we remember our deceased relatives and friends, and join our intentions in the Masses the priests offer for the repose of their souls. Please take a **November Altar List of the Dead (Available at the back of the Church)**. Place your completed List in one of the envelopes provided and return it to the basket or, you can pop them into the post box outside St. Joseph's or, if it is open, leave them in the Sacristy. The names of all those on the **Altar List of the Dead** are included in the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Masses throughout the year.

*“It is a holy and a wholesome thought to pray for the dead.”*

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People **ALONE** has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm, by calling 0818 222 024. Hours may be extended to meet the demand.