

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.”

Bereaved Children's Awareness Week 23rd – 27th November

Every November, the Irish Childhood Bereavement Network organises a series of events across Ireland to highlight bereaved children's needs and provide a voice for them to be heard. The main reason we need to have a week like this is to help raise awareness of the fact that children express grief differently, they feel the impact but may not have words to express it so it often shows in their behaviour. For more information visit:
www.childhoodbereavement.ie



Lough Derg November Memorial Service for deceased pilgrims and benefactors will take place live via webcam from St. Mary's Church, Pettigo, Sunday 22nd November at 7.00pm at: www.churchservices.tv/pettigo
To enrol a departed loved one, please contact us by email: info@loughderg.org, Tel: 0(0353) 71 9861518 or write to Fr. Flynn, Prior, Lough Derg, Pettigo, Co Donegal F94 YC60.



Advent Triduum (07-11 Dec)

Choose from either of two weeks of Advent to spend some time with the seasonal themes. Come and share an Advent time of waiting and watching as we stand on the threshold of mystery about to be revealed.

This year, our first Triduum will begin on the evening of Monday, 30 November, finishing with Mass and breakfast on the morning of Friday, 4 December. The second Triduum will take place a week later: beginning on Monday 7 December and ending on the morning of Friday 11 December. Daily Mass, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available.

Early booking is recommended to ensure a place.



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.*

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

Parish News & Announcements

A Few Words from Fr Joe

As I write these words the Northern Ireland Executive hasn't been able to agree when to ease the Covid 19 restrictions and reopen pubs, hotels and hairdressers. They have been meeting for 3 days in a row to try and find a resolution. Clearly there is a real dilemma for all the health advisors and policy makers and their deliberations, decisions and time scales will fill the airwaves between now and Christmas. The news reports of a first effective vaccine gives us all hope, but the days of all gathering as we wish may still be a long way off. There have been very serious conversations about Advent and Christmas and we are looking at what we may or may not be able to offer at the Church. The expression 'in person celebrations' is being widely adopted to describe the gatherings when we can at least have a limited number in the congregations for our liturgies. Our discussions are hopeful and yet inconclusive because where we will be in a month's time is not yet clear. We had hoped to prepare a Christmas Card with a calendar of events, but in reality, it's too soon to do that. Still I think it is worth sharing what might happen! If we are not allowed to gather, with level 3 restrictions remaining in place, then we will have an option to view Mass services, which are offered via webcam from Mount Merrion at: <https://www.mountmerrionparish.ie/webcam/>

If we revert to level 2 we will have the permitted number of people at the Penance Service, Carols and all the Masses over the 8 days of Christmas, around 75-100 people. But we don't yet have a decision on whether to have a booking system or continue with the first comers being counted in and the doors closing when capacity is reached. If services are 'in person' we will need the co-operation of many people to steward and sanitise and the good will of everyone. Different people will have a variety of opinions on how best to approach this challenge, and opinions are welcome, please email the parish office at: parishofficeclonskeagh@eircom.net
Feel free to volunteer and offer your time and talent too. Whatever happens Christmas is not cancelled, or delayed until the end of January, it will be celebrated with conviction, beauty and commitment in whatever form is best.

Christ will bring his light, angels will sing and all God's people rejoice.

November – Month of the Holy Souls



Altar List of the Dead

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 1st Friday Masses throughout the year.

Recently Bereaved

We continue to prayerfully remember **all the families** in our Parish who have been bereaved during the past year. *We assure you of a continued remembrance in our prayers.*

Let us Pray...

O Lord, we praise and thank you for the gift of our loved ones who have died and whom we remember during this month of November. We are mindful particularly of those who have died this past year; those who died from COVID-19, those who died from other natural causes and those who died tragically. We thank you, compassionate God for walking with us in all the dark moments of our grief and loneliness. Even when we find it hard to see you, we know and trust that you walk beside us, and in the Resurrection of Christ, Your Son, the victory of love in Jesus Our Lord, you give us a reason for living; a reason for hoping. Lord, continue to be a light for us, giving us direction and courage in this difficult time.

May we live our lives treasuring the memories of those precious ones we have known and loved. We trust Lord that you are treasuring them with us. Help us, Lord, to bring light and hope to others. We make this our prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

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