

Clonskeagh Parish Newsletter

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



The churches are open for *private prayer* and those over 70 and those with underlying conditions are asked to limit their contacts, stay in place at home in so far as possible and to exercise a heightened sense of personal care.

The *Parish Office* is closed to the public and not available for in person visits to book masses or get Mass cards.

Please email parishofficeclonskeagh@eircom.net as the emails are checked remotely.

We all need to exercise caution in our interactions with the public and with each other. The norms of social distance, hand washing, and masks are to be strictly observed.

Everyone who visits our church is to wear a face covering, to practice hand sanitising and social distancing, in order to protect everyone's health.

Fr Joe Mullan Adm.

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



Few Words from Fr Joe –

Depending on how much radio you listen too, you may or may not have heard various commentators talking about Lent over the airways this year. Some suggested that there is no need to give up anything, this has been a tough year, we've sacrificed enough. Others have mentioned their preference for doing something extra, rather than giving something up. One group of children were heard talking about the things they'd do without and the familiar giving up of sweets, crisps, chocolate and ice cream will have the local shops in a sweat. So maybe it's worth mentioning that Lent happens in the secular world and within the Christian community at the same time, but in very different ways. For the world at large Lent can be a positive moment for self-reflection, for thinking more of others and being aware of people in need. In the faith community, it is all about God! Imagine. But yes, this is a season rooted in scripture and tradition. God has created us for perfection, we stumble and fall, lose sight of the one who loves us unconditionally and stray. Lent calls us back. Back into a loving relationship, into a deeper sense of ourselves and reawakens our intense need to be at one with our God. Lent renews our Christian hearts.

So, the three Lenten stepping stones in the scripture are, prayer, fasting and alms giving. The first means we are in communication with God, giving time and energy to the fundamental relationship with our creator. Fasting turns our hearts and minds inwards, we quench our cravings, get control of our choices and hunger for what is best and noble and right. The alms giving comes from the heart, with outstretched hand we find and feed, clothe and support the poor.

This year we had to set out on the Lenten journey without the support of gathering together, being marked with the blessed ashes and sharing in common prayer. Yet so much of Lent is deeply personal that we can make great progress. The wonderful thing about Lent is each of us makes choices that are right for this moment in our lives, and the grace and blessings are experienced by other in the community of our family and friends and by the poor. So, good luck with the days ahead, make a good effort, the rewards are wonderful.

Parish News & Announcements



‘Lent is a season of Fasting, Prayer, and Alms Giving in preparation for the joy of Easter’

• Fasting

Some ideas of fasting include: Fast from judging others, fast from harsh words, fast from discontent, fast from anger, fast from worry, fast from complaining & fast from idle gossip.

• Prayer

✚ Why not go online at <https://www.mountmerrionparish.ie/webcam/> to join 10am Mass

✚ Mount Merrion Parish Pastoral Council invites you to join our 2021 series of LENTEN “TALKS ON THURSDAYS” First Talk: Thursday 25th February @ 8pm (via zoom)
Speaker: Rev. Gary Chamberland C.S.C. Director of the Notre Dame-Newman Centre for Faith and Reason, University Church Parish, St Stephen's Green, Dublin. Fr. Gary was ordained a priest in the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1998 and has taught Canon Law and Theology at the University of Portland and the University of Notre Dame, USA. Topic: A Grievous Wound in the Body of Christ: The Scandal of Church Division and the Call to Ecumenism and Unity. Addressing the issue of division among the Churches, Fr. Chamberland's presentation addresses the glaring need to heal the rifts which divide us and the hope that Christians will soon come together to witness to our shared identity in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. TO REGISTER: Please contact the Mount Merrion Parish Office by email on parishoffice@mountmerrionparish.ie. You will then be sent a weblink to allow you to join the live talk on Thursday 25th Feb. The talk is free and all are welcome. SAVE THE DATE: Other speakers in our 2021 Lenten “Talks on Thursdays” series will include Dr Jessie Rogers, Lecturer in Sacred Scripture, St Patrick's College Maynooth (Thurs 18th March) and Columba McCann OSB, Monk of Glenstal Abbey (Thurs 25th March). Further details will be advised.

✚ Embark on a Celtic Lenten journey as Vox Hiberniae (harpist Mary O'Donnell, violinist Sarah Lane and vocalists Kerrie O'Connor and Teresa O'Donnell) lead us in song from Galilee to Gethsemane. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bu8GDvSUZ_Y
Kerrie O Connor www.kerrieoconnor.iacat.ie

• Alms Giving



Trocaire once again invite us to join in with their Lenten Campaign. The Trocaire packs are available at the back of the church. All families in the parish are encouraged to take the pack from the back of the church and join in the Lenten Campaign.