

# 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](mailto: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 –

We don't hear much from the Council of Bishops' Conferences of Europe, perhaps most of us were unaware that such a body even exists! But this week they organised a prayer chain of Masses across Europe from North to South, East to West in one huge collective expression in prayer of our need for God in the midst of the pandemic. Many times we have heard that the virus doesn't know which country it is in, or which borders it crosses, that it doesn't have any desire to accommodate Christmas or any other celebrations where we so want to gather and be with our loved ones. The virus exists to spread and thrives in any and every time and place where we gather and has an especially high level of transmission at times that we are happy! The bishops reminded us of the moment a year or so ago when Pope Francis prayed alone, in St Peter's Square for the suffering in the whole world. He said then that the whole of humanity found itself in the one and same boat, battling together against the storm of the effects of the pandemic. In their invitation for us all to join in this prayer chain one bishop said, "We know that many of these deaths have taken place in enforced isolation, adding a stark depth to the pain of dying and the grief of the bereaved."

This terrible sense of isolation was also highlighted on a Prime Time segment on Tuesday evening when a number of Funeral Directors were asked about their experience during these recent months. All of them touched on the broken hearted families who at the end of their journey accompanying their sick, had to arrange a funeral and burial with only a handful of the family present. It is so hard not being able to hug, hold and whisper words of comfort into the ear of the bereaved.

In our parish that same struggle is experienced by all families preparing for a funeral and celebrating to part from a dearly loved one. So our prayers are vitally important at this time, whether said alone and in private, or alongside family members at a TV, screen or phone. Lent asks us to create extra space for our God time and into that precious moment do try and remember the sick and dying, those who care for them, those who are on the road to recovery and those who have been restored to health. We all continue to hope for better times ahead and the current signs of improvement are encouraging.

## 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" @ 8pm (via ZOOM)

- Thurs 11th March – Rev. Canon Gillian Wharton Rector of Booterstown and Carysfort with Mount Merrion "Lent 2021 - More Self-Care and Love of Others, and Less Sin"
- Thurs 18th March - Dr Jessie Rogers Lecturer in Sacred Scripture, St Patrick's College Maynooth "Always the same, always new: becoming ourselves in the presence of an untamed God"
- Thurs 25th March – Fr Columba McCann OSB Monk of Glenstal Abbey "What is God doing for Lent? Wisdom about Christian Transformation from St Thérèse of Lisieux and St Benedict of Nursia"

*TO REGISTER: Please contact the Mount Merrion Parish Office by email on [parishoffice@mountmerrionparish.ie](mailto:parishoffice@mountmerrionparish.ie).*

*You will be sent a ZOOM weblink to allow you to join the live talk each Thursday.*

*The talks are free and all are welcome.*

- ✚ 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](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bu8GDvSUZ_Y)  
Kerrie O Connor [www.kerrieoconnor.iacat.ie](http://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.