

# Clonskeagh Parish Newsletter

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



## A Few Words from Fr Joe.....

There has been a lot of commentary in recent days to suggest that our response to the pandemic restrictions are fraying at the edges. People have endured a whole year of isolation, separation, staying at home, measuring the number of kilometres to see the options for a walk, cherishing time in the open air. It has undoubtedly been the hardest year in our lives. Each one of us faces the fraying in our own particular circumstances depending on our age, our work, our opportunities for education and our mental and physical well-being. To differing degrees, we have encountered the virus itself, whether by being a close contact and having to isolate at home, or by actually contracting the virus and living with its effects for days, weeks or months, or by losing someone, often an older member of the family, who picked it up in a home, hospital or unknown environment.

With what we have all lived through I'm surprised we are only fraying! It would be totally understandable if darkness and despair enveloped us. So, what's helping us to hold it together? Yes, the vaccine rollout is a source of hope, a great joy for those who have already received it, and a light at the end of the tunnel for the rest of us. Seeing the kindness of people towards their loved ones, their neighbours and the high level of compassion in the community certainly helps too. This alongside the remarkable social media that connects us across families, across the world and bringing those we love in sight and sound to our tables, that helps too. I would also like to think that we have a spiritual strength within us. Church practice may have frayed in recent decades but a deep inner sense of God, of being loved unconditionally, of being accompanied during the darkest moments, this really sustains us in the struggle. The story of St Patrick, so well addressed in this past week, is full of strength in adversity, of trust in the power of God and the closeness of Christ, above, below, at the right hand and left, in every eye and ear and heart that hold me. So, let's try and bring our Lent to its close with a faith deepened, a trust renewed and love refreshed.

## Archbishop Farrell

The Archbishop made a strong case for the faith community to be prioritised when Level 5 restrictions are being eased in his homily on St Patrick's Day. His words are available on [dublindiocese.ie](http://dublindiocese.ie) and are well worth reading.

## Easter Ceremonies

Our Easter Ceremonies will be online this year. For the Easter Vigil we are recommending following the Mass from Knock. For the other ceremonies, we will stream simple celebrations. Next Sunday Palms will be blessed at Mass and available in baskets at the church doors afterwards.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

## 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 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.*



✚ The 2 part reflection "*A Celtic Lenten Journey - Harp, Voice and Violin*" prepared by Kerrie O'Connor, together with harpists Mary Louise and Teresa O'Donnell and violinist Sarah Lane, is now fully online and can be viewed on the following links.

Journey from Galilee to Gethsemane onto Calvary in Word and song.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bu8GDvSUZ\\_Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bu8GDvSUZ_Y)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cGiFqCswp90>

### • 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.

## Covid-19 Level 5

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.*

## Legion of Mary

Annunciata Curia of the Legion of Mary will hold its annual Acies ceremony at which active and auxiliary members renew their consecration to Our Lady on Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> March.

It will take place in a private ceremony on Sunday, 28th March at 3p.m.

It will be live streamed on the following link:

[www.rathgarparish.ie/web-cam/](http://www.rathgarparish.ie/web-cam/)