

5TH
SUNDAY
IN LENT
21.03.2021



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Confirmation and First Communion

The Irish Bishops issued a statement that the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion were to be deferred. At this present time we have no idea as to when we can celebrate these sacraments. There is no definite indication as to when churches will be open for public worship again. We need to be back in Church again for a number of weeks to prepare for the celebration of these Sacraments.

Our hope is that we will be back in Church again by the month of May so that we could plan to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation in the middle of June; and First Confessions and Communion before the end of this academic year. *At this stage we cannot make any definite plans or set any dates.*

Meantime it is good that the children are back at school and continuing with the catechetical programme for these Sacraments. At home the parents / family will continue to prepare the First Communicants / Confirmandi with daily family prayer and joining us for Sunday Mass via St. Patrick's Webcam. I recommend to parents & children to view the weekly message, based on the Sunday readings on "The Little Way Sunday School" on YouTube. These short videos are produced in the Diocese of Raphoe.

I also highly recommend to the First Communicants to view the three Videos in preparation for First Confession / Eucharist - "Come to the Table of the Lord", available on www.iCatholic.ie Worksheets accompany this programme and can be downloaded on the same site. (see www.raphoediocese.ie and put 'First Communion video' into search).

As soon as the Government gives us a clear indication as to when we can open our Churches again for public worship, we will set definite dates for the celebration of these sacraments.

Mary's Meals

Help feed 100 hungry children for a year
An online quiz to support Mary's Meals will be held on **Friday, March 26 at 8pm.**
Entry fee/donation is €10.

To enter: 1) log on to Mary's Meals website
2) go to start fundraising
3) click on search for friend's project
4) type in 'quiz'.

You can still donate without taking part in the quiz.
Contact person: Martin Colfer 087 2596159.
Your support would be very much appreciated

Defending the Faith

Defending the faith without raising your voice
An online talk by Editor of The Irish Catholic Michael Kelly, **Tuesday 23rd March at 6.30pm**
For details email council19.qub@gmail.com

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. AMEN

Communion Reflection

Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel (John 12:20-30)

The parable of the grain of wheat reminds us of a truth that any parent can testify to, namely that it is in dying to ourselves that we can give life to others. We will never be of benefit to others if we remain wrapped up in ourselves. In what ways has your dying to yourself brought life to another? How has the generous giving of another brought life to you?

Sometimes our emotions rebel at the thought of what lies ahead and we feel like praying *Father, save me from this hour.* Then a realisation may come for you as a parent, a teacher, a spouse, a friend: *No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour.* Recall times when you have accepted pain or hassle and been a source of life to others for doing so.

The story presents the death of Jesus as the moment of his glorification by God. We are also *glorified* when the grace of God enables us to give generously of ourselves. When have you experienced this in yourself or in another?

This voice has come for your sake and not for mine.
The angel spoke that we might recognise the love being shown us by Jesus. Sometimes it requires the voice of another to draw our attention to love that is being offered to us. When was this your experience?

Threshold of Hope

An invitation to cross the Threshold of Hope in this exciting & inspirational response to the challenges of this past year of Covid-19. A unique online musical gathering with gifted and creative singer, facilitator and spiritual director Deirdre Ni Chinnéide coming live from the Aran Islands into your own home.
Tuesday, March 30th at 8pm.
Join us for this free event via live streaming at:
www.churchservices.tv/deirdrenichinneide
For more info email: celticpassageinismor@gmail.com

**St. Patrick's Church,
Ballyshannon**

Saturday 20th

6.15 pm Jimmy O'Donnell, Creevy
Sr. Ursula Fox, St. Anne's Convent

Sunday 21st

11 am Sean & Tess Doherty, Cluain Barron

Monday 22nd

9.30 am Mary Rafferty, Tirconaill Street

Tuesday 23rd

9.30 am Thomas, Margaret & Kieran O'Kelly

Wednesday 24th

9.30 am Owen McCarthy, Legaltion

**Thursday 25th
The Annunciation of the Lord**

9.30 am Pat Cleary, Cashel and Felix & Mary
Caughlin, Tirconaill Street

Friday 26th

9.30 am Pat & Adrian McGowan, Cloghore

Saturday 27th

6.15 pm John Patton, Tonragee
Sean & Patricia Gavigan, Tonragee
Mary & Michael Patton, The Brae,
Creevy

Sunday 28th

11 am Eddie Daly, Cluain Barron
Rose & Vincent Whoriskey, Cashelard

**Adoration of BI Sacrament
Wednesday 10 am - 1 pm & 6 - 9 pm
Saturday 10am - 12 noon**

*Please note if there's a funeral on either
Wednesday or Saturday mornings there
will be no adoration*

"Do This in Memory of Me"

Online Family Mass for children preparing for
First Eucharist & their families in St. Patrick's
Next Sunday, 28th March, at 11am

We Pray for the Dead



Died Recently

Hugh John McGonigle,
Wardtown & Belleek Road

May Granaghan, (nee Lally)
Perth, Australia & formerly Cluain Barron

Month's Mind

Jimmy O'Donnell, Creevy

First Anniversary

Sr. Ursula Fox, St. Anne's Convent

Anniversary

Geraldine Kenny, Abbey Lane

Danny McIntyre, Whitehill

Eternal Rest Grant unto Them O Lord

Headings for Readings

First Reading (Jeremiah 31:31-34) The prophet Jeremiah tells a shattered people that God will not forsake them. The day is coming when he will make a new and more intimate covenant with his people

Second Reading (Hebrews 5:7-9) This speaks of the pain and anguish Christ endured during his life and especially during his passion. In this way he not only gave us an example but became for us the source of eternal life.

Gospel (John 12:20-30) Jesus talks about his imminent death - how he fears it, yet desires it, for the hour of his shame will also be the hour of his glory. He talks also about how his followers will have to die themselves.