

Parish Newsletter



Fourth Sunday of Lent 26th March 2017

No 1593

John: 9: 1-41



LAETERE SUNDAY

Today is the 4th Sunday of Lent, and as the Liturgical tradition holds - it is rather unique, as evidenced by the rose-colored vestment. Like the 3rd Sunday of Advent ('Gaudete Sunday'), the 4th Sunday of Lent is a break in an otherwise penitential season and it marks the halfway in our Lenten preparation for Easter. The 4th Sunday of Lent customarily is called "Laetare Sunday," meaning 'Rejoice.' Today the Church rejoices in joyful anticipation of the Easter mystery.

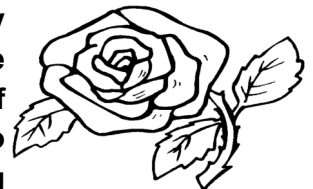
Just as last week there was a dominant image of 'water' that tied the Scripture Readings together, this week we have the image of 'light and sight' that does the same, 'giving us joy in our heart.' The central theme of today's readings is that God makes everything new, in and through Jesus Christ. We are children of the light, Baptised into the glory that is Christ. We are initiated into the life of Christ who is the light of the world.

The Gospel Reading from St. John presents to us 'Jesus as the light of the world.' We have today the marvelous story about the cure of a man born blind. Once the blind man is cured, he is able to see Jesus as his Lord, something the religious leaders were unable to do. Light and darkness, sight and blindness are the contrasting images in the Scripture Readings of this Sunday. The central message is that Christ

heals our spiritual blindness in our Baptism and makes us witnesses of the truth. The verse before the Gospel introduces the central point of our celebration, "I am the light of the world, anyone who follows me will have the light of life."

The entire liturgy today therefore, celebrates the mystery of Christ - the light of the world; the light that dispels the darkness of our minds and our hearts; the light that draws us to walk out of the shadow of our sins. So, as we consider the Scripture readings of to-day, let us look at what in our lives is darkness, the places where we are blind and try to shed light on them. Even though we have become light, we still must choose to put forth that light, to help others, to be a light for others. We must make sure that our community of believers is supported and that we show our love to each other.

To-day is Mother's Day
and we give thanks for the
many blessings of
motherhood paying tribute to
all mothers who by loving
their children enable their
children to love themselves
and others.



Happy
Mother's Day!

MOTHERS DAY PRAYER

God, our loving Father,
Look with kindness on all Mothers today;
Bless and reward them for their care;
Give them comfort in moments of sorrow
and joy in their work for their families.
Help them always to appreciate the importance
of being a mother. *Amen*

Easter Sunday, 16th April 2017

There will be No 6pm Evening Mass in the Church of Our Lady and St David, Sallins Road on Easter Sunday.

Coffee Morning each Wednesday after the 10am Mass in the Parochial House.



Arthritis Ireland Kildare Branch will hold a talk on Osteoarthritis and Osteoporosis. What is the difference? in Aras Bhríde Parish Centre, Kildare Town on Wednesday coming 29th March 8pm. All welcome. Free Admission, no need to book a place.

