

Parish Newsletter

Fourth Sunday of Lent
31st March 2019



No: 1695

Lk: 15:1-3, 11-32

ANNUNCIATION

Last Monday we celebrated the Feast of the Annunciation, one of the most joyous feasts of the Church's year as we remember the joy of the announcement of the Angel to Mary of the birth of the Christ and also the response of Mary, on behalf of all humanity, that God's Word is welcome into her world and into her heart.

That feast represents an important moment in the history of humanity. It has been represented in art in many different moments from manuscript illuminations to beautiful frescoes to stained glass windows and in many other places. It represents the best of our human journey, the ability of humans to listen, to hear and to bring something new into being - the ability of humanity to bring Christ into our world.

This week-end, we have the joy of welcoming Saint Patrick's Missionary Society (Kiltegan Fathers) to our Parish. The Twentieth Century Missionary Movement was a form of Annunciation for us and for the many people throughout the world - when people of faith and goodwill listened to God's Word and then offered it the hospitality of their hearts. With great courage, missionaries left these shores to go to Africa, Britain, Mainland Europe, Asia, Australia, North America and South America both to listen to God's Word there and to proclaim it to those who lived in those regions.

In listening to God's Word and then proclaiming it, we continue the Tradition that goes back to Mary's great moment of accepting the invitation to the adventure of Faith. Missionary movements are one manifestation of that adventure. This week-end we have the opportunity to listen to their story, to pray with them and to support them.

We welcome the Kiltegan Fathers this week-end with full hearts and we look forward to listening anew to their great story.



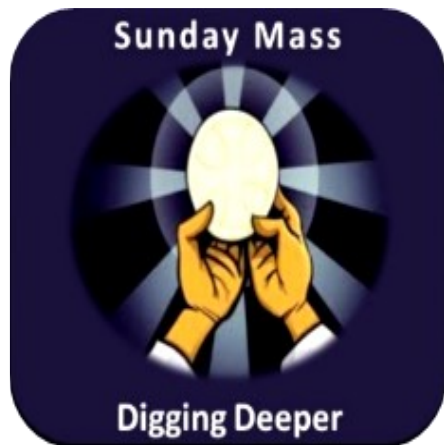
Congratulations to Conor Byrne, pictured here with his Mother Fran, who won Gold and silver at the Special Olympics.



A Reflection for Mother's Day

*"Your Mother is always with you
she's the whisper of the leaves
as you walk down the street.
She's the smell of bleach
in your freshly laundered socks.
She's the cool hand on your brow
when you're not well.
Your Mother lives inside your laughter.
She's crystallised in every teardrop.
She's the place you came from,
your first home.
She's the map you follow
with every step you take.
She's your first love
and your first heartbreak...
and nothing on earth can
separate you."*





Diocesan Initiative - 'Digging Deeper', an exploration and teaching on the Sunday Mass

Over the next four weeks, we will be dedicating half of our newsletter to the exploration of the Sunday Mass which will be broken into four parts.

Part Three: The Liturgy of the Eucharist, We Come Together to Share in Christ's Body & Blood

Please see the Kandle website, www.kandle.ie for times and venues of "Digging Deeper" sessions taking places in nearby Parishes or call into the Parish Office for more details.

IN MEMORY OF HIM...

In this part of the Mass we join with Christ in doing what he asked us to do in memory of him. We share in the **meal** that he had with his disciples, his followers, in the upper room on Holy Thursday: The Last Supper.

Jesus saw in this meal a foreshadowing of his own **sacrifice** of love on the Cross. He knew that he would give his very life, his body and his blood, for the salvation of God's people. And he promised that, whenever this meal is shared, his act of love, his sacrifice, will not only be remembered but it will be present to us and for us.

In the Liturgy of the Eucharist, Christ is with us; reaching out to us in love once more. His once and for all sacrifice on Calvary is being poured out into our lives in this moment, for the forgiveness of all our sins; making each of us holy and bringing us God's healing and salvation.

Christ is present to us in a real and substantial way under the signs of bread and wine. Through the great prayer of thanksgiving, the Eucharistic Prayer, the bread and wine that we bring to the altar is transformed by God. Through consecration they are made sacred and holy. They become, as Jesus said himself, his Body and Blood. This is what we say Amen to when we receive Christ – The Body of Christ; the Blood of Christ.

The Four Actions of the Liturgy of the Eucharist

The shape of the Liturgy of the Eucharist follows closely the shape of the meal that Jesus had with his disciples at the Last Supper. It is very similar, also, to other meals that Jesus shared in his ministry on earth. For example, the feeding of the five thousand and the meal he shared with the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. (See Matthew 14:13-21 and Luke 24:28ff)

In all these meals we see a four-fold pattern that we can still recognise in our modern-day celebration of the Mass. These are the actions of **Taking – Blessing – Breaking – Sharing**. They each correspond to an element of the Liturgy of the Eucharist:

- + Taking** The Preparation of the Altar and the Presentation of Gifts
- + Blessing** The Eucharistic Prayer
- + Breaking** The Lamb of God with its accompanying action (also known as the Fraction Rite)
- + Sharing** The procession of the people with reception of Holy Communion



The Eucharist, although it is the fullness of sacramental life, is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak. —Pope Francis—

THE SHAPE OF THE MASS

INTRODUCTORY RITES

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

CONCLUDING RITES

Along with our gifts we are invited to present our very selves for God's blessing and transformation. We are invited to do this every time we gather to celebrate the Eucharist!

Taking : The Preparation of the Altar and Presentation of the Gifts

We **sit** for this simple action of setting the table of the altar for the sacred meal we are about to share. The gifts of bread and wine are presented by members of the congregation on all our behalf. We are very much part of this action.

Ideally, enough bread is brought forward to facilitate as many people as possible to receive Hosts consecrated at this Mass. After prayers have been said over the gifts, they, as well as the Cross, ministers and people, may be incensed, underscoring the sacredness of this action.

As we present these gifts, we know in faith that God will make them holy (consecrate) and transform them into the Body and Blood of Christ.



Sunday as a day of Charity During this time in the Mass, we also present monetary gifts. This has its roots in the earliest times of Christianity. On one hand, the parish belongs to us and we are responsible for its upkeep. On the other hand, as Christians each of us is called to care for the needs of the poor; this is why our Trócaire and other charitable collections are so important.

Blessing: The Eucharistic Prayer

We come to the core and centre of our Sunday Mass. We **stand** for the opening of this prayer as 'we lift up our hearts to the Lord'. There are a number of Eucharistic Prayers (EP) that can be used at Mass; they all have common elements that are essential to any EP. All of them are addressed to God the Father.

Next time you are at Mass listen and see if you can recognise the following elements of the EP.

After an **Opening Dialogue** between priest and people, the priest leads us in the **Preface**. This text changes for each celebration. In it we remember the good things God has done for us and we give thanks and praise to God (the meaning of 'Eucharist' is to give thanks).

This is followed by a (sung) acclamation by the congregation and priest, the 'Holy, Holy' or **Sanctus**. Here we join our prayer with that of the saints and angels in heaven. Then we **kneel** as we enter deeper into the prayer.

In every sacrament, at some point, we **call upon** God to send down the **Holy Spirit**. In the EP we ask God to send the Holy Spirit upon the bread and wine so that they will become the Body and Blood of Christ.

The words and actions of Jesus himself at the Last Supper are now repeated in the **Institution Narrative**

and Consecration. These sacred words achieve what they promise and express. Jesus, and his sacrifice of love, is now present among us under the signs of bread and wine which are now his Body and Blood. This real and saving presence is what we are invited to receive in Holy Communion.

In response, we sing (or say) the **Memorial Acclamation** to Christ, recalling and confessing our belief in the central 'Mystery of our faith' – His death and resurrection.

We continue to **recall** Jesus' passion, resurrection and ascension into heaven and we **offer** to God this 'once and for all' sacrifice of Christ. In doing so we also join ourselves and our lives to this offering to God.

The prayer goes on to pray a series of **intercessions**, deepening our bond with the saints, Mary, the local and the wider Church, as well as those gone before us. The EP concludes where it began, with a prayer of praise and glory to God, called the **Doxology**.

We, the assembly, respond with our **Amen**, endorsing not just the Doxology but also all that we have prayed in the whole of the EP – our Great Prayer of Thanksgiving.

Breaking and Sharing: Continued in 'Sunday Mass - Digging Deeper' Part Four

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

PRIEST ON DUTY: 085 708 8407

PARISH WEBSITE: www.naasparish.ie

PARISH OFFICE Tel.: 045 879730

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm

e-mail: office@naasparish.net

SACRISTY OUR LADY AND ST DAVID: Tel 045 856925

BALLYCANE OFFICE AND SACRISTY: Tel 045 895629

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 10am to 1pm

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

Naas: Geraldine Faherty & Adrian King

Sallins: Keith Murphy, Emer McCarthy & Dermot McGilloway

Two Mile House: Paula Clancy & Suzanne Powell.

All of the above can be contacted through the Parish Office, Sallins Road, Naas. Phone 045 879730.

Diocesan Designated Liaison Person: Mick Daly

Deputy Diocesan Liaison Person: Michele Hughes

C/o Bishop's House, Dublin Rd, Carlow. 085 8021633

NAAS PARISH NEWS

Marion Movement Prayers for Priests after 10am Mass on Saturday 6th April, OLSD. All welcome.

SALLINS PARISH NEWS

Sallins 45th Pilgrimage to Lourdes, 14th June, 7 nights, please phone Rita Fanning on 087 6535112.

Vincent's Charity Shop Sallins: Volunteers urgently needed, please call 045 852928 or apply in shop.

Hand Made Craft Fair in aid of Sallins National School, Community Centre Sallins, Sunday 7th April, 10am-5pm. Raffle on the day! Please come along and support!

TWO MILE HOUSE PARISH NEWS

Weekday Morning Mass as usual this week, from Mon-Thurs at 9.15am. Friday evening Mass at 7pm.

You are invited! Friday 5th April, 7pm Mass, TMH where Bishop Denis Nulty will present six members of our Parish with a Benemerenti Medal for their service.

Eucharistic Ministers: Meeting Wed. 10th April 7-8pm in TMH Church to include reflection on the liturgy of the Eucharist, led by Deacon Fergal O'Neill.

GENERAL NOTICES

Safeguarding Information Session for all Eucharistic Ministers to the sick/housebound/those in hospital and also for those involved with young people on Wed. 10th April, 8pm, Room 4, Ballycane. Michele Hughes, the Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator, will be in attendance.

Applying for CAO 2019? Visit Carlow College, St Patrick's Open Evening on April 9th from 5-8pm.

IMPORTANT DATES:

An Invitation to you from Bishop Denis - Annual Diocesan Chrism Mass will take place on Monday 15th April at 7.30pm in Carlow Cathedral. *"The diocese is a family of parishes and on this night, we get to gather as a family, priests and people from our 56 parishes. This is a wonderful celebration of the Mass, rich in music and ritual."*

Penitential Service will take place on Wednesday 17th April in OLSD, Naas at 8pm.

Parish Finances:

Sallins: Baskets: €695 Envelopes: €460

Naas: Offertory: €3780 Development Fund: €3358

Two Mile House: €680

A few people asked about the book Fr Seán mentioned last week-end. It was written by Fr Erik Varden O.C.S.O., a monk of Mount Saint Bernard Abbey in England, *The Shattering of Loneliness: On Christian Remembrance*. Barker and Jones have informed us that they can order this for anyone interested at a cost of c. €14.

Minister of the Word Training Course for new and existing Parish readers: Three night course, May 2nd, 9th and 16th, Áras Bhríde, 7.30-9pm, tel. 045 879730.

SVP Urgent Appeal: Family seek 3 bed house/apartment to rent in Naas. Please phone 085 7320010.

Two Hearts Family Lenten Retreat with Fr Bing, Sat. 13th & Sun. 14th April. See poster in porches for details.

One Day Introductory Course in Natural Family Planning Medwise Clinic, Naas Town Centre, April 6th, 9am-5pm, tel. Jenny 085 7130103 for more info.

Naas Parish Weekly Lotto Draw: 27/03 (22-20-19-2) No Winner, Jackpot €3,950

Sports Lottery Results: Naas: 21/03 (16-11-17-26) No Winner, Jackpot €8,800. Sallins: 25/03 (2-7-8-15) No Winner, Jackpot €3,400.

RECENT BAPTISMS

Lucy May Mary Kathleen Daly, Roselawn

Skye Róisín O'Connor, Craddockstown Park

Tadhg Patrick Jones Conlan, Elsmore

Will Ryan Bough, Naas

Ella May Byrne, Radharc an Chaislean

Aaron Brian Dunne, Morell Green

Alex Christopher McGrath, Morell Close

**"THOSE WHO DIE IN GRACE GO BUT TO GOD
AND GOD IS VERY NEAR"**

Harry Lyons, Roseville

Peter Malone, Castlebar, late of Kilcullen Rd.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.

