

Parish Newsletter



**Fifth Sunday of Lent
7th April 2019**

No: 1696

Jn: 8:1-11

Words Matter

You may have been told as a child that **"Sticks and stones may break your bones but words will never hurt you"**. However well known this old saying is it is also untrue. Words can hurt....Words do hurt and more important **Words Matter**. The Scribes and Pharisees in today's Gospel soon realised that Jesus words, though not spoken, were far more powerful than stones.

"The Scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery. And making her stand there in full view of everyone they said to Jesus "Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?... Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger.... If there is anyone among you who have not sinned let him be the first to throw a stone.... Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again..."

On the other hand, Christianity is based on the conviction that words are more than speech. They engage our humanity and healing words are inexhaustible. For the woman in the story words written on the ground but not recorded saved her from stoning and the judgement of others.

R.S Thomas, distinguished Welsh Poet, once asked about Jesus, the Word of God, *"What word is so explosive, as that one Palestinian word, with the endlessness of its fall out?"*

We must keep on exploring that endlessness because we know that Jesus matters and words matter. As we speak to and think about others, let us remember that every word we utter and thought we engage matters.

St. Frances de Sales, Bishop of Geneva from 1602 to 1622, used to remind people that there is good in everyone and the fun lies in finding it. Let us go on that search this week and when we find the good in another we will enjoy life more.

We also know now through Science that every thought, positive or negative, goes out beyond us to impact the world in some way. This week let us remember the Word of God and choose our words conscious that our words do matter.

Today, the 7th of April and the Fifth Sunday of Lent, Isaiah a prophet of long ages past assures us that there is *"no need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before. See I am making a road in the wilderness. See I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light. Can you not see it?"*

Can we trust that something new is forming in our World, our Country, our Parish that none of us can yet see? Do we trust that something new will come... could the Pharisees in the Gospel have seen what was coming? Would they ever have brought the woman "caught in the act of committing adultery" before Jesus if they had... they were so sure of the past and the teachings from the past that they could not imagine the future. They came with their stones to throw and Jesus, the Word of God, responded with words not spoken but written on the ground where they too could be washed away.

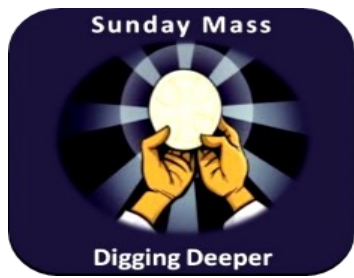
Easter Collection for Priests of the Parish will take place at all Masses on the weekend of Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st April. As always, we thank you for your continued kind support and generosity.



A thank you from the Kiltegan Fathers, St Patricks Missionary Society following their visit to us last weekend 30/31 March;

"Dear Liam,... On our behalf I would be very grateful if you would thank the people of the Parish for their generous donations to our Society and assure them that they will be remembered in our Masses and Prayers.

...At the end of the year, we will be forwarding our total returns for the diocese to the Bishop. As you know it's the great generosity of Parishioners who are "the salt of the earth" that enables us to keep going." - Fr Seán Deegan



Diocesan Initiative - 'Digging Deeper'

An exploration and teaching on the Sunday Mass

Part Four: The Concluding Rites, We Come Together to be Sent to Bring Christ to the World

(Contd. from Part Three)

Breaking and Sharing: The Communion Rite

This is the final part of the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Within the Communion Rite we take part in the final two actions of **BREAKING and SHARING**. At the beginning of the Rite, we **stand** with one another to pray the ***Our Father**. This is the prayer that unites all Christians. As children of God we can 'dare' to call on our God in an intimate term of relationship—Father. Within this prayer we ask for our daily bread. Jesus is the Bread of Life who feeds our real hungers in a way physical bread never can. And just as we ask God to forgive our sins, we declare in this prayer that we, too, will be people of forgiveness towards others. Our care for others brings us to the ***Rite of Peace**. Here we actively pray for unity and the peace of Christ in our hearts, families, Church, community and the whole human family. We demonstrate the authenticity of our prayer by physically sharing a Sign of Peace with one another. Our prayer is not just lip service; it must find expression in actions that mean what we pray. This is a powerful reminder to us of the call to be at peace with one another as we receive Holy Communion—the sacrament of unity. ***With whom do I need to make peace?***

The singing, or saying, of the ***Lamb of God** is accompanied by the action of **BREAKING** the consecrated Host so that it can be shared among us—just as Jesus did at the Last Supper. Jesus is our Lamb of God, the one who sacrificed himself for our salvation.

Before receiving Holy Communion, we **kneel** and ***Behold the Lamb of God**, acknowledging the greatness of the gift we are about to receive and our unworthiness to receive it.

In the ***Procession with reception of Holy Communion** we come forward, **walking** as people of faith. We underscore our unity with a shared **hymn**. We are a pilgrim people on our journey to God and this is a procession we do together. Here the ultimate nourishment for our journey is **SHARED** with us. The minister of Holy Communion makes a statement of faith to us: 'The Body of Christ/The Blood of Christ'. And we affirm this faith in our response of 'Amen'. We are called to receive so great a gift with **reverence** and respect, conscious of what it is we are saying 'Amen/yes' to and then spending time in quiet prayer. ***How do I receive the Body of Christ at Mass?***

We **stand** and conclude this part of the Mass with a ***Prayer after Communion**, praying that this Communion will bear fruit in our daily lives.

The Concluding Rites: The End is just the Beginning!

The purpose of the Concluding Rites is to send us out to put into effect what we have just celebrated! They are necessarily brief!! We have met Christ in one another; we have listened to God speaking to us today and we have received the *Body of Christ* into our very selves. Now we have to go from here and be the Body of Christ. Now we have to go and give witness in our lives to the faith we have expressed and deepened.

So, the end is truly the beginning – we are not just dismissed, we are sent! Each one of us is sent with a purpose, a mission.

Our mission is to be the face, heart and hands of Christ for others in the individual life we find ourselves.

What we have celebrated in the Mass now must find an echo in how we are in our homes, workplaces, schools & community.

Exploring the Concluding Rites

Brief Announcements: We begin to make our transition from this sacred place with brief notices, perhaps highlighting key events and opportunities in the parish in the week ahead.

Greeting and blessing: The greeting, 'The Lord be with you', is a timely reminder that, as we leave, we go with Christ – we are not alone in our endeavours. And we go with the blessing of God upon us. God continues to be our strength and source of life. Our last action is to mark ourselves with the **Sign of the Cross**, the sign of our faith. This is the faith we live not just for a few minutes on a Sunday but in every moment.

Dismissal: There is a choice of four alternative dismissals that can be used. Each of them is intended to express the missionary nature of what it is to be a member of the Church. *We go in order to do...*

People's Response: Our 'Thanks be to God' is a final statement of praise and thanks for meeting and being with Christ in this celebration of the Mass.

Closing Procession: The procession of priest and ministers serves to lead the assembly out of the worship space. While no music is prescribed, a hymn that speaks of mission and Christian action can help strengthen our sense of going out and living what we have celebrated.

NAAS, SALLINS AND TWO MILE HOUSE PARISHES

PENANCE SERVICES

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| Kill | 8pm Tuesday 16th April |
| Our Lady & St. David's Church | 8pm Wednesday 17th April |

HOLY THURSDAY 18TH APRIL

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| Morning Prayer | 10am | In the Church of the Irish Martyrs |
| Our Lady & St. David | 7.30pm | Mass of the Lord's Supper |
| Irish Martyrs | 7.30pm | Mass of the Lord's Supper |
| Sallins | 7.30pm | Mass of the Lord's Supper |
| Two-Mile-House | 7.30pm | Mass of the Lord's Supper |
| Adoration | Following the 7.30pm Mass in the Church of Our Lady and St David and in the Church of the Irish Martyrs, there will be quiet Prayer/Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, ending with night prayer at 10pm | |

GOOD FRIDAY 19TH APRIL

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| Morning Prayer | 10am | In the Church of the Irish Martyrs |
| Our Lady & St. David | 3pm | Liturgy of the Lord's Passion |
| | 7pm | Stations of the Cross |
| Irish Martyrs | 5pm | Liturgy of the Lord's Passion |
| | 9pm | Ecumenical Prayer around the Cross |
| Sallins | 3pm | Liturgy of the Lord's Passion |
| | 7.30pm | Stations of the Cross |
| Two-Mile-House | 3pm | Liturgy of the Lord's Passion |
| | 7.30pm | Stations of the Cross |
| Ecumenical Prayer | 8pm | Prayer in St David's Church of Ireland |
| | 9pm | Prayer around the Cross Service, Irish Martyrs |

HOLY SATURDAY 20TH APRIL

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|-------------------------|----------|---|
| Morning Prayer | 10am | In the Church of the Irish Martyrs |
| Confessions | 10am-1pm | Our Lady and St. David |
| Blessing of Easter Food | 4.30pm | In the Church of Our Lady & St David for the Polish Community |
| Our Lady & St. David | 9pm | Easter Vigil |
| Irish Martyrs | 9pm | Easter Vigil |
| Sallins | 9pm | Easter Vigil |
| Two-Mile-House | 9pm | Easter Vigil |

EASTER SUNDAY 21ST APRIL

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| Sunrise Liturgy | 6.45am | Sunrise in Punchestown |
| Our Lady & St. David: | 9am | 11am No 6pm evening Mass on Easter Sunday in Our Lady & St. David's Church |
| Irish Martyrs | 10.30am | 12noon |
| Sallins | 10am | 12noon |
| Two-Mile-House | 11am | |

Easter Weekday Masses

From Monday 22nd April to Saturday 27th April **10am Mass only** in Our Lady and St David's Church
No other weekday Mass in the Irish Martyrs, Sallins or Two Mile House

Trocaire Boxes may be left in the baskets provided in the sanctuary area of the Churches on Holy Thursday. Alternatively you can leave them into the Sacristan or the Parish Offices.

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."

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

Easter and Exam Mass Bouquet Cards are now available from the Parish Offices.

Bible Study with Fr Michael is now finished for Easter break. Recommencement date to be confirmed.

Naas Apostolic Work Society: Meeting on Tuesday 9th April, 2pm, meeting rooms, CIM, Ballycane. All welcome.

Padre Pio: Meeting on Wednesday 10th April after the 7.30pm Mass in CIM, Ballycane. Benediction & Prayers.

Little Blessings Children's Liturgy Group will take place during the 10.30am Mass at Ballycane Church next Sunday, 14th April. All children over four are 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: New Tag Event! Join us on Friday 19th April, all day in store. All stock, new tags!

TWO MILE HOUSE PARISH NEWS

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

Eucharistic Ministers Meeting: Wednesday 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.

Annual Pilgrimage to Medjugorje: 30th May-6th June, €709. Please see posters in Church porches for details or call John/Catherine at 086 8563773.

Devotion to the Holy Face: Devotion Prayers will take place on Good Friday, 19th April, from 12 noon to 1pm, in Poplar Square (at John Devoy Statue). All welcome.

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.

Online Holy Week Retreat with Priory Institute: *Reflect on the Gospels of Holy Week in a way that helps shine God's light on your life.* A series of recorded sessions which will guide you through a reflective Gospel reading in the format used by Lectio Divina. This is free of charge. Please register online by 12th April by emailing enquiries@prioryinstitute.com or phone 01 404 8124.

Parish Finances:

Sallins: Baskets: €725 Envelopes: €430

Naas: Offertory: €3225 Development Fund: €3350

Two Mile House: €580

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

Gala Concert: Joint Fundraiser for CBS & St Marys College with Celine Byrne, Patrick Hyland, The Baldonnell Singers, Army No.1 Band. **Friday 26th April, 8pm in OLSD, Naas. Tickets are now on sale in the Parish Office.**

Mercy Convent Primary School Naas Buy a Brick Campaign Thank you to all who have already supported our Campaign for our new school, we have raised €10,340 to date. This week, we will distribute leaflets in Naas and we would be very grateful of any support you can give with investing in the future of our young people.

Naas Parish Weekly Lotto Draw: 03/04 (10-8-14-17) Winner!!! of €3,950 Jackpot - Congratulations Linda Vigna. Jackpot on 10th April is €2,100.

Sports Lottery Results: Naas: 28/03 (1-9-19-28) No Winner, Jackpot €8,950. Sallins: 01/04 (4-8-13-24) No Winner, Jackpot €3,500.

RECENT BAPTISMS

Seán Gerard Murray, Racecourse Gate

Senan Paul Shiels, Aylmer Park

Samuel Conor McMahon, Chestnut Hill

Jake Callum Burke, Furze Hall



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

Rose McKiverigan, Clane Rd., Sallins

Noel Cunningham, Blacktrench



MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.