

Parish Newsletter

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
21st June 2020



No: 1749

Mt. 10:26-33

'Nothing can separate us from the Love of God' (Romans 8:39)

A message from Fr Liam

Dear Parishioner,

Since the 13th March, we have lived through the strangest of times. Phrases never heard before entered our daily lexicon; social distancing, cocooning, lockdown. It hasn't been easy and yet there was a new appreciation for the gift of family, of kind neighbours, of nature and of faith itself and the gift of a praying community joining together on webcam.

On Monday the 29th June we are allowed to return to Public Worship. Some look forward to that moment, the opportunity to restore our sense as a sacramental community: present in Christ, and present to each other. Some will be reluctant to return, with personal concerns around health and wellbeing.

It is important to state that **the dispensation from the Sunday and Holy Day obligation to attend Mass is extended for the time being**. So you may wish to continue the practice of joining via radio or webcam, until there is greater public confidence and assurance.

If you decide to return to Mass, we do extend a heartfelt '**Céad Míle Fáilte**' (a hundred thousand welcomes). You will find yourself returning to a very different Church in the physical sense.

What do I mean by this?

1. Access to the Church in terms of seating capacity will be severely restricted (adhering to social distance).
2. You will need to take guidance from stewards, this will require patience and understanding from all concerned.
3. You may not be able to sit in your familiar, favourite seat.
4. There will be entrance only and exit only through designated doors.
5. **The wearing of a mask is strongly recommended for all attending Mass.**
6. **Having a personal supply of hand gel in your pocket** is strongly advised for personal use prior to reception of Holy Communion.
7. When the Church has reached its designated capacity inside, parishioners may be asked to stand outside.
8. Dress for all weathers, bring an umbrella and perhaps a small seat or stool, for outside use.
9. Mass will be relayed to people outside by loud speaker and other technologies.
10. Reception of Holy Communion will follow a one way system inside the Church, taking guidance from the stewards.
11. If you are taking part in Mass outside the Church, Holy Communion will be brought to you.
12. Exiting the Church will be directed by the stewards.
13. As you leave the Church grounds, the development and offertory collection will be taken together. You may place your contribution in the 'collection buckets'.
14. As Sunday is temporarily not a day of obligation for Catholics. You are strongly encouraged to consider attending a weekday morning or evening Mass. This would suffice as your 'Sunday Mass'. Attending just one Mass in the week is encouraged, therefore enabling people to be equally spread out.

(Continued overleaf...)

15. If you decide to come to Mass every day, parishioners should attend just 'one Mass', so as to allow others the opportunity to attend Mass.
16. And at all times each of us must exercise 'personal care and responsibility'.

It is not my intention to burden people with guidelines and protocols, however in returning to Bishop's House a '**Declaration of Readiness**' we are duty bound to be compliant in every way. Thus ensuring the health, safety and wellbeing of all parishioners.

A return to Public Worship, however gradual, will be a source of great joy and hope for our three Parishes. Following guidelines should not in any way compromise the integrity of the liturgy. Indeed, every effort should be made to support active, prayerful and joyful participation.

To conclude, I want to thank all our Parish staff and all the many volunteers, including those who have faithfully cleaned and sanitised our Churches over these weeks and months. Thanks to the Covid-19 Support Team for their sterling work and dedication. Finally thank you, to each of you for your kindness, your support of us Priests and for your faithful support to the three Parishes by way of envelopes, online donations and bank transfer. It is deeply appreciated in sustaining the work and wellbeing of the Parish.

Important to remember, no matter what the present or the future brings, '**nothing can ever separate us from the love of God**'.

With every blessing

Fr Liam

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

Thomas Kenny, Dowdingstown, TMH

Margaret (Peg) McGrath, Walterstown, Kilcullen

Nancy Finn, Kilcullen Rd.

Catherine Curry, Sarto Park

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE



FEAST AND MEMORIAL DAYS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Wed. 24th June: The Nativity of St John the Baptist

The Annual Cemetery Masses will not take place this Summer in the three Parishes, due to health concerns amid the current COVID situation.

Confessions are available outside OLSD each Saturday between 11am-12pm, weather permitting only. We ask you to please bring your own suitable face covering.

Kildare and Leighlin Sings 'A Hymn of Hope': As we are unable to sing together during these times, Fr Liam Lawton is co-ordinating a Virtual Recording with an invitation to all Church Singers and Choirs, providing an opportunity for Singers and Choirs from all over the Diocese to sing together on a recording. If you would like to know more, full details can be found on www.kandle.ie.

Don't forget - we are open!

Both Naas and Ballycane Office and Shop are now re-open and we look forward to

welcoming you back. We thank you for your support, patience and co-operation at this time.

**WE ARE
— OPEN —
Welcome Back!**



**Families staying together and
praying together during these
Covid times.**

Join us on **Tuesday June 23rd** from 7pm –

7.45pm for a **Zoom** family prayer

meeting. This will be a child friendly

moment with games, songs, prayers, videos and

testimonies to pray together as a family, with other

families. **Grandparents** why not join the zoom meeting with your children/grandchildren?

If you are interested please email

hilda.campbell@naasparish.net to be sent a link.

Trocaire collection so far is €8,660. You can still drop your boxes into Parish Office, Sallins Rd. Thank you for your continued support at this time.

PARISH FINANCES

(received 11th June - 17th June)

Naas Envelopes: €1,800

Online: €949