

# Parish Newsletter

21st March 2021

*Fifth Sunday of Lent*



No: 1787

Jn. 12:20-30

**Pray,  
Protect and  
Grow...  
by Renu  
Thomas**

As we battle uncertainty and a pandemic, pray for healing from all sickness and negativity. Do your bit to protect yourself and your loved ones. May He bless us and our healthcare workers who do his work amongst God's people. The tree of life signifies strength, individual development and our unique beauty. Nurture and appreciate yourself and blossom into the person you want to be.

Symbolisms used include the Serpent entwined on the staff to represent healthcare, the tree of life and the peacock feathers of the angels are inspired from the Book of Kells.



The above painting completed in recent weeks by Renu Thomas, a parishioner. We are delighted to reproduce it here.



# Staying connected with our Parish during Lent

## PARISH LENTEN PROGRAMME 2021

**8am** Morning Prayer, Monday to Friday

**9.30am** Rosary, Monday to Saturday

**10am** Holy Mass

*The Church opens after Mass each day, Monday to Friday, from 11am for quiet, personal prayer.*

**Confessions** available outdoors (weather permitting) after 10am Mass on Saturdays.

**5pm** Evening Prayer & Rosary, Monday to Thursday

**Fridays of Lent** Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 5pm

**Saturdays and Sundays** in Our Lady and St David's Church, Naas, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held from 12noon to 5pm (Saturdays) and to 6pm (Sundays), experience stillness, peace and prayer.

**Our Parish Youth Ministry Team** have arranged for the Stations of the Cross to be prayed for teenagers, via Zoom, during Lent. This will be led by some of the Pope John Paul Awardees from the parish, and will take place on Monday evenings. Please contact Trish in the parish office for further information. *Parental Consent Forms Required.*

*Lenten Talks - Join us! The Final evening of our Lenten Talks series, with prayer, reflection and guest speaker, takes place this Friday coming, 26th March, at 7.30pm with guest speaker Lloyd Bracken. All are welcome to join us on Naas Parish webcam (at [naasparish.ie](http://naasparish.ie) or on 'Naas Parish' App) or radio at 107.3FM. We hope you have all enjoyed these evenings.*

## The Tree of Life

We are inviting parishioners who experienced the loss of a loved one since March 2020, in either of our three parishes or elsewhere, to write the name of a loved one on a piece of paper (at home) and place it in a specially designated basket/box in one of our four churches.

Our Funeral Ministers will then write these names on ribbon and they will in turn be placed on the **Tree of Life** by the young people of our parish (John Paul II Students). The tree will be located close to Calvary at the Parish Church.

Again, what to do? Simply place the **name only** (no need for the address) of your loved one on a piece of paper and leave into one of the churches.

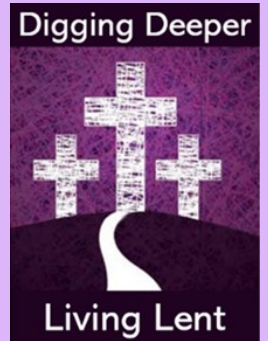


**“Those who die in grace go no further from us than God  
and God is very near”**

**Mini-Lenten Retreat in preparation for Holy Week:** In preparation for the Easter Triduum, 'The Hook of Faith' is offering a Mini-Lenten Retreat taking place on Tuesday 23rd, Wednesday 24th & Thursday 25th March. This will be held on Zoom each evening at 8pm and will be led by Fr Billy Swan. The three conferences will anticipate the Triduum and will therefore focus on the Eucharist (Tues.); the Cross and the Mystery of Suffering (Wed.); the Resurrection, Joy and Hope (Thurs.). All are welcome. To take part, please email [thehookoffaith@gmail.com](mailto:thehookoffaith@gmail.com).

## Fifth Sunday of Lent: Some Suggestions for the Week

- + Pray for adults across the world preparing for baptism at Easter
- + Plant new life in a container or garden bed! Pollinator friendly herbs include chives, lavender, rosemary, oregano and thyme
- + Remember to 'Share with the hungry' and set aside some of your weekly shop for a food bank or donate the cost
- + Be a happy presence in your home
- + Give up television for an evening
- + Take some quiet time to reflect on your life, to see where change may be needed and to ask for God's forgiveness



**Easter Mass Bouquets and Mass Cards** are all available to order, for delivery/post only, from the Parish Offices and Shop. Anniversary Masses can also be booked at this time.

*Please phone 045 879 730 (Naas) or 045 895 629 (Ballycane) for all enquiries.*



### Turning to God for Forgiveness this Lent

As we move closer to Holy Week, many people's thoughts turn to the sacrament of reconciliation as part of the journey of Lent. Unfortunately, at this time of restrictions not everyone is in a position to take part in this sacrament. But, of course, the forgiveness of God is always available to us and there are many ways in which we can experience God's mercy, love and forgiveness as we anticipate a future celebration of the sacrament.

**You are very welcome to join us for an online Penitential Service on Tuesday 30th March at 7.30pm.** This is a time of prayer, readings, reflection with an examination of conscience that often concludes with the praying of an Act of Contrition. This is a non-sacramental celebration of God's mercy and a rich preparation for a future celebration of the sacrament with individual confession and absolution. Already, before confession, a person on that journey enjoys the forgiveness of God

Alternatively, in your own time, you can spend some time in prayer to God and make what is known as an **act of perfect contrition**. This involves two things on the part of the person: firstly, to pray an act of contrition out of love of God and secondly, to make a firm commitment to go to confession when that becomes possible.

### An Act of Contrition

O my God, I thank you for loving me. I am sorry for all my sins, for not loving others and not loving you.  
Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again. Amen.

### Reminder of the words of Pope Francis in Lent 2020

The Catechism is very clear:  
if you do not find a priest to hear your confession, speak to God, he is your Father, and tell him the truth... Promise him: 'Later I will confess, but forgive me now.' And immediately you will return to the grace of God.

Pope Francis

## PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

**PRIEST ON DUTY: 085 708 8407**

**PARISH WEBSITE:** [www.naasparish.ie](http://www.naasparish.ie)

**PARISH OFFICE Tel.:** 045 879 730

**Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm**

**e-mail: [office@naasparish.net](mailto:office@naasparish.net)**

**SACRISTY OUR LADY AND ST DAVID:** Tel 045 856 925

**BALLYCANE OFFICE AND SACRISTY :** Tel 045 895 629

**Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 10am to 1pm**

**'NAAS PARISH' APP: DOWNLOAD FOR FREE VIA APP STORE OR PLAYSTORE/GOOGLEPLAY**

### **SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARISH REPRESENTATIVES**

**Naas:** Geraldine Faherty & Adrian King

**Sallins:** Dermot McGilloway, Emer McCarthy

**Two Mile House:** Paula Clancy & Suzanne Powell

**Diocesan Designated Liaison Person:** Mr Mick Daly

**Deputy Diocesan Liaison Person:** Ms Michele Hughes, c/o Bishop's House, Dublin Rd, Carlow **Phone:** 085 802 1633

*Safeguarding Policy displayed in all Church Porches.*

### **PARISH FINANCES**

**Naas:** Offertory: €865 Development Fund: €865

**Online donations** (11th - 17th March): €878

**Sallins:** €235

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

James Tracey, McAuley Place

*MAY HE REST IN PEACE*



## MASS TIMES & CHURCH OPENINGS

### MARCH 2021

All public masses are suspended in line with current measures from the Government. Places of worship will remain open for private prayer only. You may join us for Mass via webcam through the Naas Parish App or via [naasparish.ie](http://naasparish.ie), from the Parish Church or from Two Mile House Church. You can also join by radio, from OLSD only, at 107.3FM.

The following Mass schedule currently applies in the *Church of Our Lady and St. David*, on the webcam:

### Monday - Friday

**Morning Prayer:** 8am

**Holy Mass:** 10am

*The Church opens after Mass each day, Monday to Friday, from 11am for quiet, personal prayer.*

**Evening Prayer:** 5pm, followed by the Rosary

### Weekends:

**Saturday:** Holy Mass 10am

Vigil Mass 6pm

**Sunday:** Holy Mass 11am

The following Mass schedule applies in the *Church of St. Peter*, on the webcam:

**Monday - Saturday:** 9.30am

**Sunday:** 11am

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Mon - Fri, 10am - 6pm Ballycane Church

Sat, 12noon - 5pm Parish Church

Sun, 12noon - 6pm Parish Church

**Masks must be worn in the Church at all times.**

**Chrism Mass:** You are invited to join Bishop Denis virtually for this year's Chrism Mass on Monday evening, March 22nd, at 7.30pm via Carlow Cathedral webcam.

## **A PALM ON YOUR DOOR**

**Palm Sunday, March 28, 2021**

You are invited to place a piece of palm or any green branch on your front door to let people know it is Palm Sunday.

Together, let us begin the greatest week of the Church year.

Photos can be sent to:  
Cathriona by Whatsapp to 085 1450321 or  
[Cathriona.Kelly@Kandle.ie](mailto:Cathriona.Kelly@Kandle.ie)

#holyweekathome

Kandle.ie



**Young Adult Catholic Conference.**

**Hope Springs Eternal -  
A Legion of Mary Project**

The Young Adult Catholic Conference on March 27th, 5:30pm - 7:30pm is a chance for young adults wherever they are to come together online. The theme **"Hope Springs Eternal"** will be discussed in a great line up of short talks and testimonies mixed together with music and prayer. The Conference is free to attend - just log in to Zoom: ID 847 1984 5205 Passcode: 771328. Newcomers especially welcome.