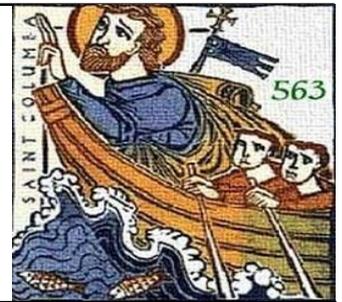


PARISH of TOGHER



Sunday 2nd May 2021

PRIESTS OF OUR PARISH

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St. COLMCILLE'S PASTORAL AREA CONTACTS:-

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A Thought from Monsignor Jim

"You're as welcome as the flowers in May" was a greeting often used in times past, you might even sing the song!

"Never cast a clout till May is out" was another saying - to remind us that we should wear more than a T-shirt even though summer is on its way! Wear a pullover this week-end. The hawthorn bush was synonymous with the month of May as well.

May was/is known also as "Mary's Month" with emphasis on the Rosary and May Devotions. Our seasonal hymn was "Bring flowers of the rarest..." and we'll sing it at Mass this month. Well, we'll try anyway!

May is also a time to celebrate nature and gardens and bluebells and blossoms—reminding us of our responsibility to care for the earth in all its beauty.

And to honour Our Lady during this month we will organize a May Altar in our homes, probably in the hallway (if there's room!). A statue or an icon with flowers from the garden as a sign of devotion to "Queen of the Angels and Queen of the May". She's as welcome as the flowers in May. Amen

Monsignor Jim Carroll PP



Anniversary Masses

Sunday 2nd May @ 10am - Vera Doyle (*Month's Mind*);

Owen Sheridan & Sean Conlon; Deceased in Dysart Cemetery

Friday 7th May - Togher @ 10am

Sunday 9th May @ 10am - John Dunne

Recently Deceased

We pray for Anna Sharkey (née Kiernan) formerly Mayne, Castlebellingham, Sinead Treacy, Briarhill, Grangebellew & Vera Doyle, Annagassan.

May they Rest in the Peace of Christ.

May, the month of Mary

Beloved Mother, help us realise that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To You, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves,

O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen

Pope Francis 2020

Mary, the Mother who cared for Jesus, now cares with maternal affection and pain for this wounded world. Just as her pierced heart mourned the death of Jesus, so now she grieves for the sufferings of the crucified poor and for the creatures of this world laid waste by human power. Completely transfigured, she now lives with Jesus, and all creatures sing of her fairness. She is the Woman, 'clothed in the sun, with the moon under her feet and on her head a crown of twelve stars' (*Rev 12:1*). Carried up into heaven, she is the Mother and Queen of all creation. In her glorified body, together with the Risen Christ, part of creation has reached the fullness of its beauty. She treasures the entire life of Jesus in her heart (cf. *Lk 2:19,51*), and now understands the meaning of all things. Hence, we can ask her to enable us to look at this world with eyes of wisdom.

Laudato Si' 241

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are always near me, present most particularly in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.

I love you above all things and desire to receive you 'under my roof'.

Come now spiritually into my welcoming heart. I embrace you already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Thank you for the gift of your presence. Accompany me on my journey.

Heal in me whatever needs healing. Fill me with your love and your peace.

Never permit me to be separated from you. 'My Lord and my God', for ever and ever. Amen.

Sunday Gospel - John 15: 1-8

I am the vine, you are the branches

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine,
and my Father is the vinedresser.
Every branch in me that bears no fruit
he cuts away,
and every branch that does bear fruit
he prunes to make it bear even more.

You are pruned already,
by means of the word that I have spoken to you.
Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.
As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself,
but must remain part of the vine,
neither can you unless you remain in me.

I am the vine,
you are the branches.

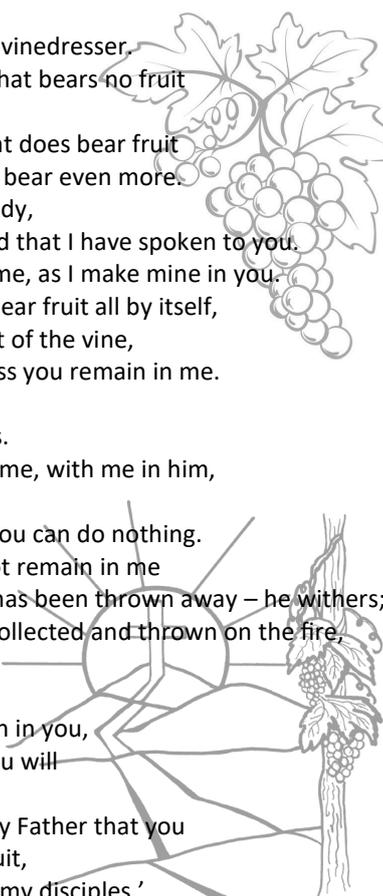
Whoever remains in me, with me in him,
bears fruit in plenty;
for cut off from me you can do nothing.

Anyone who does not remain in me
is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers;
these branches are collected and thrown on the fire,
and they are burnt.

If you remain in me
and my words remain in you,
you may ask what you will
and you shall get it.

It is to the glory of my Father that you
should bear much fruit,
and then you will be my disciples.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



Dysart Blessing of the Graves

This weekend we will remember in our Sunday Mass all the deceased in Dysart Cemetery, may they rest in peace. Because we cannot gather as in days of yore, Monsignor Jim will visit the Cemetery privately and bless the graves. Thank you to all who care for the Cemetery and have it looking so well. If visiting your family grave you may of course yourself sprinkle Holy Water as a sign of Blessing.

Pope's Intention for May *Universal—the world of finance:*
Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

Exam Prayer Dear Lord, as I take these exams, I thank you that my life is enfolded in the embrace on your great love for me. Help me with all the testing challenges of life that will come my way. Holy Spirit, guide me with the gifts of Wisdom, Knowledge, Understanding and right judgement. Holy Mary, pray for us and all our young people. May they know the touch of your loving caress. Amen.

'Pray more, complain less and have a more tranquil tongue'
(Pope Francis)
On the door of his apartment in the Vatican, Pope Francis has a sign in red lettering "complaining not allowed". With this phrase, he is following a long tradition. St. Benedict in the early 6th Century repeatedly warned his monks about complaining and grumbling. He stressed that it can destroy the life of the community.

Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel

Over the past year our usual relationships have been disrupted by coronavirus restrictions on social gatherings. How has this impacted on your family, parish, and other groups to which you belong? What creative ways have you, and others, devised to keep your social life alive?

In today's Gospel the parable also reminds us that we are not the source of our own life. It is a gift from God, from our parents, and from all who have nourished us. Give thanks for those who have been a source of life for you.

A Prayer in the face of the coronavirus.

Dear God, we turn to you in our need.

We pray for all whose lives are being affected by COVID 19.

*Look upon us in your compassion and love,
protect our families. Deliver us from the virus.*

Come Holy Spirit. Amen.

The month of May celebrates the great feasts of Ascension, Pentecost & The Holy Trinity. Here we can celebrate our new life in the risen Christ. We are called God's people. We are guided by the Holy Spirit who will teach us everything in a new era for our World & Church.

Blessed John Sullivan (1861-1933) - 8 May *'Any friend of the poor is a friend of God'*. John Sullivan is the only person to be beatified in Ireland. Like him, may we grow every day in loving God above all things.

Last Week a total of €484 was received in envelopes & €95 in Dues while €280 was received in donations directly to bank. **Thanks to all** who use the various different ways to donate to our Parish.

"Stop & Drop" continues on Sunday in the carpark of St. Colmcille's Church between 10.30am & 11.30am

Articles for our parish newsletter can be forwarded to the Parish office by email at **togherparishoffice@gmail.com** or by text to Ann on 087-6486809 before 2pm on Wednesdays. You can contact Ann in the Parish office on Wednesdays from 2.30pm-5.30pm

Charity Tax Relief Scheme—helping our Parish If you are a taxpayer and have given €250 or more to the Parish in 2020..... 'Thank You'. To help us benefit most from your donations for the last year we simply ask you to fill in a CHY 3 Cert (5 years) or a CHY 4 Cert (1 year) - both are available online @ www.revenue.ie or from Ann (please call 087-6486809). If you filled out the CHY 3 Cert last year, thank you it is still valid for this year. **This scheme helps our Parish a lot-thanks everyone!**

THANKING YOU ALL FOR MINDING EACH OTHER.

In the current emergency situation, all are dispensed from the obligation to physically attend Sunday Mass.

Sunday & Friday morning Masses will be celebrated privately from the Church of the St Colmcille, Togher @ 10am

All Masses will be broadcast live via the internet on <https://www.churchmedia.tv/camera/church-of-st-columcille>