

nowadays blind us and encourage sentiments and approaches that block hope from stimulating our creativity, our ingenuity and our ability to respond effectively. Rather than seeking to acknowledge frankly the gravity of the situation, we can attempt to respond merely with new and reassuring activities as we wait for everything to “return to normal”. But in this way we would ignore the deep wounds that have opened and the number of people who have fallen in the meantime. We can also sink into in a kind of numbing nostalgia for the recent past that leads us to keep repeating that “nothing will ever be the same again” and thus show ourselves incapable of inviting others to dream and to develop new paths and new styles of life.

Fr. Michael Carey

Mass Intentions this Sunday

Sun 8.30am Denis O’Toole
Sun 11.15am Cornelious Donovan
 Bridie & Tom Ruane
 Philip Rooney (MM)



Mass intentions for Next Week

Mon 10.00am Thomas McGrane (MM) Agnes Robinson (MM)	Sun 8.30am
Tues 10.00am Deceased members of Elmore Family Mass in Honour of Precious Blood	Sun 11.15am Christy Dignam & deceased family members Charlie Clarke
Fri 10.00am Kathleen White	

Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM

Sunday Mass resumes at 10:00AM on 5th July. We are following HSE guidelines with limited numbers.



The Blessing of the Graves

On Wednesday 24th June, the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, I said a prayer of blessing for all buried in our Parish graveyard. After that blessing I sprinkled the Cemetery with Holy Water. I repeated the prayer of Blessing at the 7pm webcam Mass on Saturday 27th June.

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Lord understands us and knows us better than we know ourselves. *O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways* (Ps 139:1-3). He knows of what we are made and so we can come confidently before him with our brokenness and need of his grace. It might be good during Mass today to become aware of whatever is a burden to us now in our life and ask the Lord for his love and healing touch.

Prayer - Lord, you bore the weight of our humanity to come as near to us as possible. Help us to realise that you stand beside us and walk with us the journey of life. *(Source: St. Paul’s Missal)*

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14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

It is not easy to find the right way forward

“Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches to the ends of the earth”



Newsletter Sunday 5th July 2017

Continuing extracts from the Pope’s letter to priests. As I said last week I will quote sections of the letter which I feel will appeal to everyone and not just priests. In place of the priest you can place yourself or someone who you know and love or indeed the stranger doing his/her ‘bit’ during the pandemic

We know that, in situations like these, it is not easy to find the right way forward, and any number of voices will make themselves heard telling us about all that could have been done in the face of this unknown reality. Our usual ways of relating, planning, celebrating, praying, meeting and even dealing with conflict were changed and challenged by an invisible presence that turned our everyday existence upside down. Nor did it simply affect individuals, families, specific social groups or countries. The nature of the virus caused our former ways of dividing and classifying reality to disappear. The pandemic knows no descriptors, no boundaries, and none of us can think of getting by alone. We are all affected and involved.

The notion of a “safe” society, carefree and poised for infinite consumption has been called into question, revealing its lack of cultural and spiritual immunity to conflict. A series of old and new questions and problems (in many places long since considered resolved) came to dominate the horizon and our attention. Those questions will not be answered simply by resuming various activities. They necessarily challenge us to develop a capacity for listening in a way attentive yet filled with hope, serene yet tenacious, persevering yet not fearful. This can prepare and open up the path that the Lord is now calling us to take (cf. Mk 1:2-3). We know that in the wake of tribulation and painful experiences we are never again the same. So all of us need to be vigilant and attentive. The Lord himself, in the hour of his own suffering, prayed for exactly this: “I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one” (Jn 17:15).

Having experienced, as individuals and in our communities, our vulnerability, frailty and limitations, we now run the grave risk of withdrawing and “brooding” over the desolation caused by the pandemic, or else that of seeking refuge in a boundless optimism incapable of grasping the deeper meaning of what is happening all around us (cf. Evangelium Gaudium, 226-228).

Times of tribulation challenge us to discern the temptations that threaten to mire us in bewilderment and confusion, in a mind-set that would prevent our communities from nurturing the new life that the Risen Lord wishes to give us. A variety of temptations can

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

*How much better our family life would be if we used the words...
Please. Thank you...and I'm sorry. Pope Francis*



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That's all!

The Re-Opening

It is midweek as I write this newsletter. So far everything has gone exceedingly well with the return to the Public Celebration of the Mass. I thank the volunteers who have been excellent.

For both myself and Canon Pat it is wonderful to look out and see faces again and to hear the responses of the Mass, the dialogue of celebration. When this goes to print we won't have celebrated our first Sunday. We'll do what we can and rely on God's providence.

Seating

The Church has been marked out to observe social distancing. With the 2 metre rule the Church can only accommodate 42 people.

More than 42

What happens when we reach the 42 limit? When that happens the volunteer stewards will inform you that the Church is full, that it has reached the limit demanded by Government regulations.

It will be awful to be informed that you cannot come in to participate and celebrate in the Mass. It will also be awful for the volunteer who informs you of this!

Mass Schedule for July and August

The Mass Schedule for July and August in St. Colmcille's will be as follows:

Monday to Friday – 10.00am only

Sunday – 8.30am and 11.15am

1st and 2nd Collections

At every Mass, weekday and weekend there will be collection boxes situated around the Church. If you cannot make the Sunday Mass, but are able to go to the weekday Mass, you can make your weekly contribution during the weekday Mass. **Thank You**

Mass Intentions

Mass times have changed for July and August.

If you have booked a Mass for 8.00am Monday - Friday for July and August, this intention will be moved to the 10.00am on the day.

If you have booked the 6.30 Saturday Vigil Mass for July and August, this intention will be moved to 11.15am on Sunday

All Masses can be viewed on the Webcam

The Sunday Obligation

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

You may fulfil your obligation by attending Mass on any day of the week.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things and I desire to receive You in my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You

Amen.



Bethany Bereavement Support Group

The Parish Bethany Bereavement Support Group is available to parishioners providing telephone support during the COVID-19 pandemic. We offer our sympathy to anyone bereaved during these very difficult months. If you would like to talk to a Bethany member please phone **Denise, 086 0610463 after 7.00pm from 5th July . - 11th July** If there is no reply please leave your first name and phone number. Or you can email the parish office stcolmcilleschurch@gmail.com and your message will be forwarded to Bethany Group. This is a free and confidential service.

Community connect

Are you struggling with an unplanned pregnancy? Are you finding it tough to access support? Do you need some practical assistance?

Community Connect is here to offer you some help.

If you are someone you know is pregnant or a new parent and in need, please get in touch with us at:

info@communityconnect.ie or telephone **085-8758366**