



**NEWSLETTER** *FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR C*  
A PARISH OF THE MULLINGAR DEANERY

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10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2019

The Community of St. Camillus  
Tel: 044-9374115

**MASS INTENTIONS:**

**ST. JOSEPH'S, RATHWIRE.**

**Saturday 6pm** Ann & Mattie Moore

**Sunday 11.30am** Paddy & Thomas Beatty; William & Peter Pakenham

**Saturday 6pm** Missa pro populo

**St. Patrick's Day 11:30am** Missa pro populo

**ST. BRIGID'S, RAHARNEY.**

**Sunday 10am** Brendan Shiels

**St. Patrick's Day 10am** Missa pro populo

*For Mass during this week please join the Camillians*



**MASS OFFERTORY COLLECTION: ST. JOSEPH'S € 330.00 ST. BRIGID'S €115.00**  
**PARISH DEVELOPMENT FUND (weekly envelopes): €998.40**



**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** in St. Joseph's Tue. 1pm-9pm. & St. Brigid's Wed. 6pm-10pm:  
*Special Diocesan intention of prayer for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.*

**TO ASSIST NEXT WEEK**

*All kindly check in at the sacristy before Mass*

**ST. BRIGID'S Ministers of Holy Communion:** 10am. Peter Fagan, Edward Fox & Martina Mockler. *Minister of the Word:* 10am. Vincent Smyth.

**ST. JOSEPH'S Ministers of Holy Communion:** 6pm. Jennifer Flood & Mary Gilsean. 11:30am. Maura McAulliffe, Mary Briody & Sharon Fitzpatrick. *Ministers of the Word:* 6pm. Maureen O'Neill. 11:30am Amanda O'Neill.

**MEATH DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 9-14 SEPTEMBER 2019.** Bookings can be made with Pilgrimage Abroad Ltd, Lower Baggot St, Dublin 2. Tel 01-6359300. email: info@pilgrimagesabroad.ie



**PILGRIMAGE TO KRAKOW & CZESTOCHOWA 17<sup>TH</sup> – 22<sup>ND</sup> JUNE 2019.**

Join with Fr. Mark on pilgrimage to the City of Divine Mercy & Pope St. John Paul II. As pilgrims we will also journey to the national Marian Shrine of Poland, Our Lady the Black Madonna. Our days will include sightseeing tour of Krakow, the Wieliczka Saltmines, Wadowice, the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum with option to visit the concentration camps and the cell of St. Maximilian Kolbe. There will be daily Mass and plenty of opportunity for personal leisure time around Krakow and Czestochowa. Cost €930 per person sharing (single supplement €200) includes return flights Dublin/Krakow; 5 nights hotels with dinner, bed & breakfast; All coach tours & transfers; Admission charges to places on itinerary; Services of Marian Pilgrimages guide throughout; Airport & local taxes; Comprehensive pilgrim travel insurance up to 85 years. 10 kilo hand luggage. **For further information and booking contact Marian Pilgrimages tel: 01-8788159; email: info@marian.ie**

**LENT 2019** As we continue our Lent, our sacred time of 'operation transformation' try to set aside an extra bit of time for daily prayer. Maybe set up a sacred space/altar in your home with the Bible at the centre and use the Trocaire Box as a visible reminder of how fortunate we are and of what we can share with those whose needs are greater. And of course we are called to give up some favourite foods/sweets or even T.V., iPad or Facebook time as a way of fasting for Lent! With so much talk of going vegan remember that as Catholics we are asked to abstain from meat every Friday and if possible, every Wednesday so perhaps you might also consider keeping this practice for Lent!

*Lent a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.*

**Trocaire Boxes can be picked up in the porches of both churches.**

*During the Penitential Service for Lent 2018 in St. Peter's Basilica Pope Francis spoke these words of reflection on the Sacrament of Reconciliation – Confession.*

God so loves us that that he has made us his children, and, when we see him face-to-face, we shall discover all the more the greatness of his love (cf. 1 Jn 3:1-10.19-22). Not only that. The love of God is always greater than anything we can imagine; it even reaches beyond any sin with which our conscience may charge us. His is an infinite love, one that knows no bounds. It is free of all those obstacles that we, for our part, tend to set in front of others, out of fear that they may strip us of our freedom. We know that the state of sin distances us from God. But in fact, sin is the way that we distance ourselves from him. Yet that does not mean that God distances himself from us. The state of weakness and confusion that results from sin is one more reason for God to remain close to us. The certainty of this should accompany us throughout our lives. The words of the Apostle are a reassuring confirmation that our hearts should trust, always and unhesitatingly, in the Father's love: "No matter what our hearts may charge us with, God is greater than our hearts" (v. 20). His grace is constantly at work in us, to strengthen our hope that his love will never be lacking, in spite of any sin we may have committed by rejecting his presence in our lives. It is this hope that makes us realize at times that our life has lost its direction, as Peter did in the Gospel account that we heard. "And immediately the cock crowed. And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, 'Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times'. And he went out and wept bitterly" (Mt 26:74-75). The evangelist is extremely sober. The crowing of the cock startles a man who is bewildered; he then recalls the words of Jesus, and at last the curtain is lifted. Peter begins to glimpse through his tears that God is revealed in Christ, who is buffeted and insulted, whom he himself has denied, yet who now goes off to die for him. Peter, who wanted to die for Jesus, now realizes that he must let Jesus die for him. Peter wanted to teach the Master; he wanted to go before him. Instead, it is Jesus who goes off to die for Peter. Peter had not understood this; he didn't want to understand it. Peter is now confronted with the Lord's charity. Finally he understands that the Lord loves him and asks him to let himself be loved. Peter realizes that he had always refused to let himself be loved. He had always refused to let himself be saved by Jesus alone, and so he did not want Jesus to love him completely. How truly difficult it is to let ourselves be loved! We would always like a part of us to be freed of the debt of gratitude, while in reality we are completely indebted, because God loved us first and, with love, he saves us completely. Let us now ask the Lord for the grace to know the greatness of his love, which wipes away our every sin. Let us allow ourselves to be purified by love, in order to recognize true love!

*When was last time you went to Confession? Lent is a time set aside for us to do penance seeking forgiveness from God and from those around us. Be reconciled, make confession and experience a new the merciful love of God. Confessions available in the Cathedral every Saturday and in the Friary Multyfarnham throughout the week. Never hesitate to ask a priest if ever you wish to celebrate the Sacrament.*

**Forty Days And Forty Nights**

Forty days and forty nights  
Thou wast fasting in the wild;  
Forty days and forty nights  
Tempted still yet unbeguiled.

Let us thy endurance share  
And from earthly greed abstain,  
With thee watching unto prayer,  
With Thee strong to suffer pain?

