



St Peter's Church, Phibsborough

Parish Newsletter

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time: 4th February 2024

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, 4 February

Special Intention

John Griffin (A)

Joan Gaffney (A)

Catherine McManus (A)

Niall & Paula Hannon (A)

Tom (100th BR) & Tess Scott (D)

Joe & Ellen Ward (WA remembrance)

Monday, 5 February (Bank Holiday)

St Agatha, virgin & martyr

Jean Barron (MM)

Catherine McMahon (A)

Rosaleen O'Brien (A)

Tuesday, 6 February

Ss Paul Miki & Companions, martyrs

Larry O'Sullivan (2nd A)

Nell Blaney (A)

Willie McArdle (A)

Kathleen Nolan (A)

Wednesday, 7 February

Bl. Rosalie Rendu, virgin

St Mel, bishop

Lily Byrne (GW)

Rennie Cowman (BR)

Ellen & Joe Ward (A)

Elizabeth (Lil) Moore (A)

Maura Garvey (A)

Thursday, 8 February

International Day of Prayer & Awareness against Human Trafficking

St Jerome Emiliani, patron saint of orphans

St Josephine Bakhita, virgin

Frank McMahon (A)

Friday, 9 February

Kathleen, John & David Cullen (D)

Saturday, 10 February

St Scholastica, virgin

Marion Grehan (SI)

POINTS TO PONDER

Even Jesus struggled to find his purpose at the beginning of his ministry, but he knew how to discover it. He prayed. The one who knew God's heart better than anyone still set aside time to be alone with his Father in the darkness, to seek God's will in extended times of prayer.

Called to service, called to community, we are also sometimes called into the darkness. It is here that we meet God, and sometimes our fears, face to face. It is in solitude and darkness that we find our purpose and learn to trust completely in God's will. Being alone in the dark wilderness was not the safest place to be in the first century. For Jesus, though, it was the only place where he could talk one-on-one with his Father, without interruption. Well, almost without interruption.

The disciples would probably have preferred for Jesus to stay in Capernaum, healing from his home base, and theirs. But Jesus leads them out into their own dark wilderness: the unknown territory of introducing others to the Kingdom of God and leading them to repentance. The disciples learned that you cannot be a true follower of Jesus by sitting in the comfort of your own living room. You have to get up, as Simon's mother-in-law did, and join with others in the work of the Kingdom of God. Because for some people, we are the only Jesus they will ever meet.

Jo Anne Taylor

www.pastorsings.com

(taken from 'Intercom')

NOVENA FOR VOCATIONS - TAKE THE RISK FOR CHRIST

Before we begin our Lenten journey towards deeper conversion to the Lord through prayer, repentance and good works, we turn our thoughts to the needs of the Church here in Dublin. We have recently conducted a survey of the schedule of Masses in our parish grouping - this will be compiled and assessed by members of the Parish Pastoral Council. This survey was prompted in part at least by the reality of a diminishing number of priests to serve the 199 parishes of the Diocese. Without priests the sacramental life of the Church will be greatly weakened. In particular the Mass and confession will be less available to us; the Mass is the highpoint of our Catholic life and faith, uniting us with Jesus in the way He himself chose to give Himself to us and be for us the food of life for our earthly journey.

It seems fitting that we might sharpen our Lenten awareness by praying the Lord to bless our parishes with priestly vocations. To this end we will make a novena at all Masses from today Sunday 4th February until Monday 12th February to ask the Lord to help some young men in our parish to find in Him the One they wish to serve through a vocation to the priesthood. Please join in this novena each day at Mass or at home or in your school, college, workplace or place of recreation.

Fr Eamon Devlin CM PP

LITURGICAL READINGS FOR: Sunday, 4 February 2024

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Job

Job began to speak:

*'Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service,
his time no better than hired drudgery?*

*Like the slave, sighing for the shade,
or the workman with no thought but his wages,
months of delusion I have assigned to me,
nothing for my own but nights of grief.*

Lying in bed I wonder, "When will it be day?"

Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!'

Restlessly I fret till twilight falls.

*Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed,
and vanished, leaving no hope behind.*

*Remember that my life is but a breath,
and that my eyes will never again see joy.*

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

1. Praise the Lord for he is good;
sing to our God for he is loving:
to him our praise is due.

2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem
and brings back Israel's exiles,
he heals the broken-hearted,
he binds up all their wounds.
He fixes the number of the stars;
he calls each one by its name.

3. Our Lord is great and almighty;
his wisdom can never be measured.
The Lord raises the lowly;
he humbles the wicked to the dust.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not

insist on the rights which the Gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessing.
The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord,
anyone who follows me will have the light of life.

Alleluia!

Or

Alleluia, alleluia!

He took our sicknesses away
and carried our diseases for us.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped, her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, *'Everybody is looking for you.'*

He answered, *'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.'*

And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

The Gospel of the Lord.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Please remember in your prayers all those who died recently especially Olive McConville, Patricia Moloney, John Murphy, Sheila Dunne, Kevin Breslin, Albert Muldoon & Teresa Doyle.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. **Amen.**

WEEKLY ENVELOPE BOXES

Could all those who donate to St Peter's using the weekly envelope system please put your surname on each envelope submitted. Thanking you in advance. If you have any queries please contact the administrator at marion.mccormack@stpetersphibsboro.ie or (01) 838 9708.

FOR THE TERMINALLY ILL

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS - FEBRUARY 2024

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

COLLECTIONS - Sunday 28 January

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| Parish (1st Collection, incl. Online) | = | € 1,570.00 |
| Envelopes (Online/Easy Payments) | = | € 460.70 |
| Share | = | € 293.52 |

Thank you for your continued support to the parish and to the diocese.