



St Peter's Church, Phibsborough

Parish Newsletter

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time: 11th February 2024

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, 11 February

World Day of the Sick / Day of Prayer for Temperance

Our Lady of Lourdes & St Gonnat, virgin are not celebrated this year

John & Susan Mungovan (A)

Gabrielle Moore (A)

Michael & Larry O'Sullivan (D)

Monday, 12 February

Michael McMorro (RD)

Kyle Freeman (RD)

Shrove Tuesday, 13 February

John McDonagh (3rd A)

LENT BEGINS

Ash Wednesday, 14 February

Day of Fast & Abstinence

Ss Cyril, monk, & Methodius, bishop, patrons of Europe are not celebrated this year

Peace in Palestine

Thursday, 15 February

Kathleen & Richard Holbrook (A)

Joseph Hayes (A)

Marie Punch (A)

Friday, 16 February

Day of Prayer for Victims of Abuse

Andrew Kenny (A)

Kathleen, John & David Cullen (D)

Saturday, 17 February

Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order & St Fintan, abbot

Marion Grehan (SI)

Sean Sinclair (A)



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 1st March at 7.30pm in All Saints Church, Phibsborough Road (beside the Fire Station).

The Service is prepared by the Palestinian WDP Committee.

DISEASE; HEALING, BODILY & SPIRITUAL

The Hero of Molokai

In our early youth we learned about Saint - heroes from our teachers and Catholic journals at home. One of the most famous was Fr (now Saint) Damien de Veuster (1840-89), of Belgium. As a missionary he spent much of his life with lepers on Molokai island (off Hawaii). Through history many of our missionaries served in leper colonies, and medical personnel have made amazing contributions in this field.

Disease and response

Today's 1st Reading (Leviticus 13) presents the Old Testament protocol for leperous persons. To avoid contagion, they are effectively excluded from society, become outcasts. Jesus in the Gospel (Mark 1) brings love, compassion and healing to the leper; the latter, full of faith, begs Jesus for help. Jesus rises above all the customary fears and taboos, and cures him.

Spiritual traumas, hope, new health

In the ministry of Jesus there are always great spiritual cures, sins forgiven, sound life of the soul restored. In tradition, sin is often seen as leprosy of the spirit. As in physical ailments, it is important for the patient to recognise the condition, so also we recognise our spiritual needs. An example from sport: a management team or players may avoid the truth after losing a match, and say that there were many positives; it is better to admit the negatives and go on to correct them. A young poet once wrote, "I have sinned, and I sin" (M.G. Taggart). Let us, then, admit our real, objective faults, and go on to correct what's wrong - by prayer, good resolves, new, better habits, self-discipline, choosing God, Confession and perseverance. The leper admitted his condition and embarked on a healthy life. St Paul in the 2nd Reading (1 Cor 10) gives us a great vision for our life ahead: "Do all for the glory of God."

Fr Eamon Flanagan CM

LENT

Wednesday next, 14th February, is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. It is a time for us to go with Jesus into the wilderness - the wilderness within ourselves, to the parts of our lives that are barren and empty: a time to repent of all that is not of God, a time to reflect and renew our faith and hope in God who has come to search for us and save us from ourselves and anything that is damaging our friendship with God. Mass with blessing and distribution of ashes at 10.30am and 6.30pm.

Lenten Exercises

There will be two daily Masses Monday to Friday throughout Lent.

Monday: 10.30am & 7.00pm

Tuesday - Friday: 10.30am & 6.30pm

Friday - Stations of the Cross: 7.00pm after evening Mass.

Fr Eamon Devlin CM PP

LITURGICAL READINGS FOR: Sunday, 11 February 2024

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Leviticus

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron,
If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Response: You are my refuge, O Lord;
you fill me with the joy of salvation.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God.

Never do anything offensive to anyone – to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved.

Take me for your model, as I take Christ.
The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our mind,
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: *'If you want to,'* he said *'you can cure me.'* Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. *'Of course I want to!'* he said. *'Be cured!'*

And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, *'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.'*

The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

PATRICIAN ON 'ST JOSEPH'

There will be a brief paper, and then we gather to talk about what we have heard, followed by tea and light refreshments. Everyone is very welcome to come on Tuesday 20th Feb at 7.30pm in St Peter's Club (car park entrance, Cabra Road). The Patrician is organised by the Legion of Mary.

ACCORD

The Annual Collection for ACCORD, the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family will be made at all Masses next weekend 17/18 February. ACCORD, Dublin offers: 1. Marriage Preparation courses, 2. Counselling for couples and individuals experiencing difficulties in relationships, 3. Relationship and Sexuality Programme for schools.

'MEMORY NEAR AND FAR'

A new book by Fr Eamon Flanagan CM. poems which highlight the influence of faith in many aspects of life, described by Archbishop Dermot Farrell as 'a beautiful collection, with a nice nod to sport and the West of Ireland.' Fr Flanagan will be available in the Repository from 10.45am - 11.30am on Sunday next 18th February to sign copies of his book. Priced: €5.00 each.

COLLECTIONS - Sunday 4 February

Parish (1st Collection, incl. Online)	= € 1,359.80
Envelopes (Online/Easy Payments)	= € 498.20
Share	= € 310.50

Thank you for your continued support to the parish and to the diocese. The monthly collection for the local Conference of the SVP will take place at all Masses this weekend.

Lord,
we are sorry for what some of us did to your children:
treated them so cruelly,
especially in their hour of need.
We have left them with a lifelong suffering.
This was not your plan for them or us.
Please help us to help them.
Guide us, Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer inscribed on the healing stone unveiled at the 50th International Eucharistic Congress in 2012 in Dublin, which now has a permanent home at Lough Derg.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

A Photographic Exhibition will take place later this month in the Church of the Most Precious Blood, Cabra West. It tells the story of female religious congregations since the foundation of the State, *'Daring to Hope'*.

TRÓCAIRE'S LENTEN CAMPAIGN

On Friday 23rd February at 7.00pm, the Church of the Most Precious Blood will be launching Trócaire's Lenten Campaign. Please check Church noticeboards for more details about these events.