

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2020  
**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Dear Friends, It's not that we "hate" others: it's our attitude of superiority over those who don't measure up to our "standards" of what is good and right and correct, it's that lack of respect and empathy for the poor that Jesus condemns in today's Gospel. The Kingdom of God is first realized when we can see "those people" as our brothers and sisters, worthy not only of our help and understanding but of our respect; that, in their perseverance and courage as they struggle to make lives for themselves and their families, the love of God dwells in their midst, as well as ours. The Kingdom of God begins when we realize that "those people" are us.

Instead of a slap on the cheek, it might be an angry exchange; instead of your coat, it might be your patience that is being tested by another's demands or expectations; instead of being pressed into service for a mile, you might be asked for your already-stretched time to help sort out someone else's mess. In every tense confrontation and unreasonable expectation and to every undeserved cry for help, Jesus asks us to respond with the compassion and mercy of God, to act with the conviction that we can break such cycles of irresponsibility and selfishness, that we can heal another's brokenness, that we can bring back the lost and marginalized by seeking to re-create such situations in the "perfect" love of God.

Fr Kevin

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

Ash Wednesday **26th February** a day of fast and abstinence for those who are able and marks the beginning of the Season of Lent.

***Recently Deceased***

***Anniversaries***

*Teresa Mooney (Month's Mind)*

*Mary-Anne & Pat Carley*

*Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 6.00pm*

*Nora, Daniel & Michael  
O'Shea*

*Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 10.00am*

*Jim McEvoy*

*Denis O'Driscoll*

*Joseph Lyons (Month's Mind)*

*Dympna McLaughlin*

*(Month's Mind)*

*Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 11.30am*

*Ellen Lacey*

*Vincent J. Coyle*

*Julia O'Sullivan*

For details of why work is needed on our church roof there is a YouTube presentation named *Church Roof Restoration 2020*.

### Regular Notices:

- Eucharistic Adoration – First Friday of the month from after 10.00am mass to 4.00pm.
- Confessions – Saturday at 5.30pm.
- Monkstown Ecumenical Prayer Group meets in the Parish Centre on Wednesday **26<sup>th</sup> February** at 8.00pm. All welcome.
- Tea & Coffee morning Tuesday **25<sup>th</sup> February** and Friday **28<sup>th</sup> February** after 10.00am mass.
- The *Legion of Mary* meets every Monday in the parish centre at 7.30pm. You are invited to 'come and see'.
- There are envelopes at the back of the church for anyone who wishes to make a donation to the church. They can be put in the collection baskets or left in the parish office.
- The Chalice on the table at the front of the altar rails is for people who are coeliac.
- *Society of St Vincent de Paul* – Anyone in need of assistance call 8550022.

### Special notices:

- Building Refurbishment fund collection will be held after all this weekend. Please support.
- Ashes will be distributed after 10.00am mass on Ash Wednesday **26<sup>th</sup> February**.
- One day conference on Mary (*Legion of Mary project*) in DCU all Hallow's Campus, Drumcondra Saturday **29<sup>th</sup> February** from 9.30am – 5.00pm. Full details in the church porch.
- Trocaire Lenten Appeal boxes are available at the back of the church.
- There will be teas & coffee after 10.00am mass next Sunday **1<sup>st</sup> March**. Everyone is welcome.
- St Benildus College, Stillorgan is holding an open day on Tuesday **3<sup>rd</sup> March**. Guided school tours from 8.25am – 11.45am and 1.15pm – 2.45pm. [www.stbenilduscollege.com](http://www.stbenilduscollege.com).
- **Women's World Day of Prayer 2020** will take place on Friday **6<sup>th</sup> March** at 3pm in Monkstown Parish Church. This year the service is prepared by the women of Zimbabwe.
- The Annual collection of ACCORD the Diocesan Agency for Marriage & the Family held last weekend totalled **€1009**. Many thanks for your very generous support.
- **Sacristan in Monkstown Parish** – We are looking to recruit a Sacristan for the parish. The role involves opening and closing the church, preparing the altar for daily mass and other liturgical services. Full details in church porch.

#### Contact details:

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#### The Parish Office

Located at the side of the Parochial House.  
Phone 01 5382542  
Opening hours: 9:15 – 1:00pm Monday to Friday  
e-mail: [secretary@monkstownparish.ie](mailto:secretary@monkstownparish.ie);

Parish Centre 6639663