

Sunday 1st March 2020
First Sunday of Lent

Dear Friends, This season of Lent challenges us to opt out of business as usual to discover new paths to walk, new ways of seeing, new perspectives to embrace. In this Lenten desert experience, Christ calls us to lay aside the material and ephemeral in our lives in order to realize the lasting treasures that are ours: love, mercy, forgiveness, justice, compassion. These 40 days of Lent are an invitation to us to spend time in the "wilderness," to confront the hard choices we must confront in our lives: choices between the values of God and the values of the world, choices between the values we believe in the depths of our hearts and the "marketplace" values of prestige, wealth and security. In making these choices honestly, sincerely and faithfully, we come to a new realization of God as the centre of our lives and hopes and a renewed focus on fulfilling the Easter promise in our own lives. Let these 40 days be a time for seeing our lives as a gift from God, approaching life's challenges with a sense of gratitude for what we have and are rather than anger and despair for what our lives are not; a season for rediscovering the hope and joy that leads us away from the temptations of "the world" and toward Easter resurrection.

Fr Kevin

Recently Deceased

Maureen Sheehan

Aidan Murphy

Anniversaries

Paul Murray

Tom & Joan Haugh

Saturday 29th February 6.00pm

Alec Granville Senior

Valeria Jordan

Sunday 1st March 10.00am

Sean Robinson

Sunday 1st March 11.30am

Michael Barry

Joe & Angela Kelly

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.
- Christian Meditation Group (Quite Prayer Group) next meeting will be on Wednesday **4th March** in the parochial house at 8.00pm. All welcome.
- Tea & Coffee morning Tuesday **3rd March** and Friday **6th March** 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:

- There will be tea & coffee after 10.00am mass this Sunday **1st March**. Everyone is welcome.
- St Benildus College, Stillorgan is holding an open day on Tuesday **3rd March**. Guided school tours from 8.25am – 11.45am and 1.15pm – 2.45pm. www.stbenilduscollege.com.
- First Friday **6th March** – 10.00am mass will be offered for all our deceased parishioners, relatives and friends especially those whose names are on the altar list of the dead.
- **Women's World Day of Prayer 2020** will take place next Friday **6th March** at 3pm in Monkstown Parish Church. This year the service is prepared by the women of Zimbabwe. There will be refreshments after. All welcome.
- Parish Confirmations take place at 11.00am next Saturday **7th March**. Please pray for the young people being confirmed and their families.
- Trocaire Lenten Appeal boxes are available at the back of the church.
- Parish Penance Service will be held on Saturday **4th April** at 11.00am and penance service in Kill O the Grange on Monday **6th April** at 7.45pm
- Building Refurbishment fund collection held last weekend totalled **€637**. Many thanks for your continued support.

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;

Parish Centre 6639663