

St Patrick's Parish Monkstown

Week Beginning Sunday 27th April

CONTACT DETAILS

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SAFEGUARDING CONTACTS

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Mass Times

Weekdays (Mon – Fri) @ 10 AM
Saturday Vigil Mass @ 6 PM
Sunday: 10 AM & 11:30 AM

Baptism

Normally on 2nd and 4th Sundays
of the month at 12.30pm.
Enquiries to the parish office.

For a full list of parish
notices visit
monkstownparish.ie
Or scan the QR Code



monkstownparish.ie



PARISH NOTICES

MASS INTENTIONS

We remember in our prayer at mass this weekend the following whose anniversaries and month's mind occur.

- **Mary Ryan (A)**
- **Michael Cronin (A)**
- **Irene Grumley (MM)**
- **Gerry (Robert) Doyle (MM)**
- **Frances Smyth (MM)**
- **Maurice White (Recently Deceased)**

MASS SCHEDULE WEEK COMMENCTING 28th APRIL

There will be no Mass on Monday 28th April. Deacon Eric will lead a Prayer Service @ 10am on Monday.

On Tuesday 29th there will be the funeral mass for Maurice White.

Friday 2nd May being a **"First Friday"** will be offered for all whose names are on the Altar List of the Dead.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We welcome
Nathaniel O'Donnell
and **Freddie Sutton** who
will be received into the
Christian community this
Sunday.



FEASTDAYS THIS WEEK

Tues 29th - St. Catherine of Siena
Wed 30th - St. Pius V
Thurs 1st - St. Joseph the Worker
Sat 3rd - Ss Philip & James, Apostles

BOOK OF CONDOLENCES

A book of
condolences for the
late Holy Father
Pope Francis is
located in the back
of the church.



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Our local conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will hold their monthly collection after all masses this weekend.

PARISH LOTTO

There was no winner of our parish lotto, which remains at €3,000. Each week that the prize is not won, there is a draw for €25. This week's winner of the weekly draw is **Richard Keevey**.

PRO TERRA SANCTA GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

The Pro Terra Sancta collection to support the Holy Places of Christianity and the Christian communities in the Holy Land on Good Friday **raised €995**. Many thanks for your generosity.



ALZHEIMER'S TEA DAY THURSDAY 1 MAY 10.30 – 12.30

Make the best part of your day count and support those affected by dementia with every cup of tea!

The annual Alzheimer's Tea Day will be held in the **Old Schoolhouse (Church of Ireland, Monkstown)** on Thursday 1st May from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.

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**Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy
Sunday**

*Acts 5:12-16; Psalm 117; Revelations
1:9-13, 17-19; John 20:19-31*

In our first reading today we see that the apostles have continued to preach about Christ and his resurrection. This teaching has had a great effect and many people have now come not just to listen to their teaching but to seek cures for their illnesses. All that the apostles do is done in the name of Jesus and it is Christ who grants healing through their actions and words.

The Psalm reminds us that the love of the Lord has no end.

Our second reading comes from the opening chapter of St John's Revelations in which John tells us that he has been imprisoned for having preached the word of God. During this imprisonment he had a vision from God in which he is visited by Christ who tells him that he has not died but lives for ever.

In our gospel we see Jesus appearing to the disciples where they have locked themselves away for fear of the Jews. He gives them his Spirit and sends them out to preach in his name. Of particular importance to us is the absence of St Thomas. When the others told him that Jesus had appeared he refused to believe and only believed when Jesus appeared eight days later. Thomas represents all of us who find the idea of resurrection difficult to grasp and the reading also reminds us that the first apostles were also slow to come to full belief. He also represents us when he makes his great declaration of faith –
'My Lord and my God!'

This is the declaration which we too must make if we are to inherit eternal life through the Lord's resurrection.

*The Introduction to the readings above are
from the Irish Province of the Carmelites.
www.Carmelites.ie*

Fr Kevin's Reflection for the Second Sunday of Easter



No Future Without Forgiveness is Archbishop Desmond Tutu's memoir of chairing South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The commission was established to help the new democracy move forward by exposing the atrocities committed during the horrific years of apartheid and in order to begin some kind of reconciliation.

Archbishop Tutu recounts the story of a woman from Soweto who was tortured while in detention. She was beaten and raped repeatedly by police. She said that she was only able to survive her ordeal by taking her spirit out of her body and putting it in the corner of her cell as she was being raped. She could then look on as they did all those awful things to her body. By "disembodying" her spirit from her suffering, she could then imagine that she was not herself but a stranger suffering this degradation.

With tears in her eyes, she told the commission that she had yet to go back to that room to fetch her soul. It was still sitting in the corner where she had left it.

We can become so consumed by our hurt, by our anger, by our inability to forgive and be forgiven, that we lose our souls; our spirits become dead to hurt, to sin. We become mired in the hate that we rail against; we become imprisoned by the walls of anger we have built. In John's Easter night Gospel, the Risen Jesus "breathes" his Spirit of peace and forgiveness upon his disciples, restoring the life and love of God to their disconnected souls. As God "breathed" life into Adam's body to give him life (in the Genesis account), Christ breathes anew the life of God into our souls in order that we might embrace and be embraced by the Father's love.

In today's Gospel, Jesus appears to his disciples and shows them his hands and his side; later he invites the doubting Thomas to touch the marks made by the nails and the gash from the soldier's lance. Easter does not deny the effects of Good Friday nor erases the wounds of crucifixion - Easter is God's compassion moving us beyond the scars of crucifixion to healing and wholeness. We all have "nail marks" from our own Good Fridays that remain despite our experiences of resurrection. We learn from our scars. Our "nail marks" remind us that all pain and grief, all ridicule and suffering, are transformed into healing and peace in the love of God we experience from others and that we extend to them. Compassion, forgiveness, justice - no matter how painful and dear the cost - can heal and mend, can transform and restore. In the light of unwavering hope, with the assurance of God's unlimited grace, even the simplest act of kindness and understanding is the realization of Easter in our midst.

The "peace" that the Risen Christ breathes into us at Easter shows us a way out of those tombs in which we bury ourselves; the forgiveness he extends enables us to get beyond the facades we create and the rationalizations we devise to justify them. Led by the Easter Christ, may we rise from our tombs of self-absorption and fear to the life of peace and compassion of God.