

MONKSTOWN PARISH

NEWSLETTER
Week Beginning Sunday 1st June
The Ascension of the Lord

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



PARISH NOTICES

MASS INTENTIONS

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

- **Brid Clifford (A)**
& deceased members of the Clifford Family
- **Brian Hayden (A)**
- **Paddy Fagan (A)**
- **Dr John White (RD)**

Friday 6th June is the First Friday. Mass will be offered for all whose names are on the altar list of the dead.



PARISH CHOIR SUMMER BREAK

Our choir have taken a well-deserved break for the summer. We would like to acknowledge and thank them for their commitment and work through the year.

HOSPITALITY AFTER MASS

There will be a cup of tea or coffee after the **10 am and 11:30 am** masses this Sunday (1st June) in the parish centre. All are welcome.

PARTNERSHIP PRAYER SERVICE

JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE & THE HOLY SPIRIT

Thurs 5th June @ 7:30 – Foxrock Parish

There will be a short service of prayer and music for our parish partnership in Foxrock Parish Church @ 7:30 pm.

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED
AFTERWARDS

MATT TALBOT CENTENARY

To celebrate the Centenary of Venerable Matt Talbot, there will be a series of talks, worships and masses on the weekend of June 6th 7th & 8th in Sean McDermott St and the Pro-Cathedral. For further information – see notice on our Parish website.

NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

1st – 9th June 2025

for the renewal of the Church in the
Archdiocese of Dublin

You are warmly invited to join once again with every parish in the diocese in a **Novena to the Holy Spirit – our dedicated period of prayer, reflection and planning for the renewal of the Church in the Archdiocese of Dublin.** The Novena will take place in the nine days from 1st – 9th June beginning on the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord, through Pentecost and continuing to the Feast of Saint Columba (St Colmcille), one of the three patron saints of Ireland. All resources are available at www.dublindiocese.ie under the Building Hope tab



PRAYER FOR STUDENTS SITTING EXAMS

Loving and Wise God,
I come before You with a heart full of hope,
yet weighed down with worry.
As exams approach,
I ask for Your guidance,
Your peace, and Your strength.
Grant me clarity of thought
and a calm mind.

Help me to recall all that I have learned
and to express it with confidence.
Keep my spirit steady amidst the pressures,
and remind me that my worth
is not measured by grades,
but by the love and kindness I share.

Bless all students who are preparing,
especially those feeling overwhelmed
May they find support, encouragement,
and moments of rest.
May Your wisdom be my guide,
Your grace be my strength,
and Your presence be my peace,
now and always.
Amen.

**Commentary on the readings
for the Ascension of the Lord**

*Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 46; Hebrews
9:24-28, 10:19-23; Luke 24:46-53*

Our first reading today recounts the Ascension of Jesus into heaven. It was now forty days after his resurrection and he had appeared to his disciples on numerous occasions but now they see him face to face for the last time. As they are speaking he is taken up into heaven.

In the second reading the Hebrews are reminded that when Christ ascended he went straight to heaven and not to anything human. He went to heaven to be in the presence of God where he would intercede on behalf of his followers. The author also tells them that because Christ had sacrificed himself there would be no need for any other sacrifice for sin and wrong-doing – Christ's sacrifice wipes away all sin and is eternal.

Our gospel reading gives St Luke's second account of the ascension in which Christ promises the disciples the Holy Spirit who will lead and strengthen them. As soon as he has blessed them he is taken from them for ever.

It is our Christian hope that as Christ has ascended into heaven, we too will follow him and will join him in the kingdom. But we can only do this if we remain faithful to his teaching handed on through the apostles and if we are open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

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

MEMORIALS THIS WEEK

Mon 2 nd	Ss Marcellinus & Peter, Martyrs
Tue 3 rd	St. Kevin, Abbot
Wed 4 th	Ss Charles Lwanga and his Companions, Martyrs.
Thur 5 th	St. Boniface, Bishop
Sat 7 th	St. Colman of Dromore, Bishop

**Fr Kevin's Reflection
for
The Ascension of the Lord**

The genocide in Sudan is arguably the most under-reported news story of our time. Since the current conflict erupted in February 2013, more than 400,000 Sudanese have died and almost two million have been driven from their homes -but this vicious war has been all but ignored in the wake of the headlines from Iraq, Syria and Ukraine and the political and military fire storm that conflict has ignited.

One of the few journalists to cover the Sudanese civil war with any depth is Ann Curry. Ann has made three trips to Sudan in the past twelve months alone. In March she travelled to Darfur, one of the most dangerous places on earth, to report on the genocide for NBC Nightly News and Reuters.

Ann's reporting from Sudan has put her at considerable risk, but, she says, "I am more afraid of not having done enough to help others than I am of dying." She has confronted the president of Sudan -on the air -for his tacit approval of the genocide. She has shown the horror and suffering endured by the Sudanese people with an aggressiveness and relentlessness seldom seen on television. She and her crew have spent nights in refugee camps and ramshackle hotels to cover a story she is passionate about telling to the world.

Ann Curry says that this story has touched in her a fierce ambition to bear witness to such massive human suffering.

"The real reason," she says, "is that as a child when I learned that there were people who risked their own lives and even the lives of their children, their families, to save Jews during the Holocaust, it was a profound moment for me. It made me question whether I am the kind of human being who would take such risks."

The question Ann Curry asks herself is the same question Christ poses to us as he takes his leave of his fledgling Church on the Mount of the Ascension. He entrusts to us the work -including the risks and doubts -of carrying on the work of his Gospel of compassion, reconciliation and justice.

Are we up to it?

Do we dare take it on in the Ukraine's, Gaza's and Darfur's of our own lives? In baptism, every Christian of every time and place takes on the role of witness to all that Jesus did and taught: Today, on the mount of the Ascension, Jesus entrusts to us, his Church, the work of his Gospel — with all its risks and struggles.

We are witnesses not only in our articulating the powerful words of the Gospel but in the quiet, simple, but no less powerful expressions of compassion and love that echo the same compassion and love of God — God who is Father and Son and Brother and Sister to us all.

