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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 occur at this time:

- John McDermott (A)
- James (Jimmy) McCormack (A)
& Ann McCormack (A)



Day of Prayer and Reflection
for Gaza
Sunday 24th August

Archbishop Farrell has invited all parishes in the Archdiocese to dedicate Sunday 24th August as a special day of prayer and reflection for Gaza and for a renewed commitment by the international community for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Deacon Eric will arrange a period of Eucharistic Adoration concluding with a Holy Hour. Further details will be provided next week.

Heritage Week Activities in
Monkstown August 16 – 24

Monkstown Village Tidy District is again participating in Heritage Week and have organised a number of events.

Tue 19th Tree Trail Walk and Talk In Monkstown (Eastern part) A guided walk around the eastern section of Monkstown's Tree Trail with Katherine Duff

Wed 20th - Exploring our Foundation The Art of Architecture with Joe Lawrence of Lawrence & Long Architects at 7.30pm in Monkstown Meeting House

Fri 22nd - "Twice Built" Talk on the Construction of St. Patrick's Church, Monkstown Dublin by Tom Conlon. at 1pm in St Patrick's Church

Sunday 24th August - Tree Trail Walk and Talk In Monkstown (Western part) A guided walk around Monkstown's Tree Trail with Charles Shier

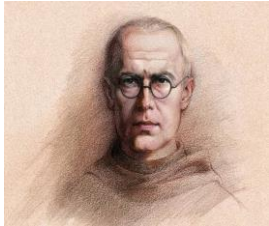
Booking details and links to the Eventbrite.com website to book for these events can be found on monkstownparish.ie

Feasts and Memorials This Week

Monday 11th St. Clare of Assisi (1194–1253) was a devoted follower of St. Francis and founder of the Poor Clares, a monastic order embracing radical poverty and prayer. Rejecting wealth and marriage, she chose a life of simplicity and spiritual strength. Clare wrote the first monastic rule by a woman and was canonized in 1255. Her feast day is August 11, and she's the patron saint of television and eye disorders



Thursday 14th St. Maximilian Kolbe (1894–1941) was a Polish Franciscan friar known for his deep devotion to the Virgin Mary and his heroic sacrifice during World War II. In Auschwitz, he volunteered to die in place of another prisoner, enduring two weeks of starvation before being executed. Canonized in 1982, he is remembered as a "martyr of charity." His feast day is August 14, and he's the patron saint of prisoners and families.



FRIDAY 15TH THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, celebrated on August 15, honors Mary being taken body and soul into heavenly glory at the end of her earthly life. Defined as dogma in 1950 by Pope Pius XII, it reflects her purity and unique role as Mother of God. This feast is a Holy Day of Obligation and a sign of hope for believers, pointing to the promise of eternal life



Commentary on the readings

Wisdom 18:6-9

In our first reading today from the book of Wisdom we see that the virtuous will have the Lord on their side. When they turn to the Lord in sincerity and seek his help and protection he will be there to guard them.

Luke 12:32-48

In our gospel, Jesus tells us to always stand ready and uses different examples to re-enforce his point. He tells us that if our treasure is to be found in worldly possession then our heart will be there rather than focused on the things of heaven where it belongs.

We are also told that we are responsible for the things and people that are placed in our care and by this he includes the Good News of the kingdom. As baptised Christians we each have a duty to spread the news of the kingdom throughout the world in whatever way we can.

One important point which the Lord brings out is that we do not know when we will be called to give an account of our stewardship and so we must always be ready whether we are called tomorrow or next year.

Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19

We now turn to the Letter to the Hebrews for our second reading for the coming weeks and in today's passage we are reminded of the faith of Abraham who went where the Lord asked him to go though he did not know what he would find there.

If we have faith and live a life of faith then we will have nothing to worry about for the Lord will always be with us and our sights will always be firmly fixed on the kingdom. In this way, when the Lord comes, he will find us ready and waiting to enter our eternal inheritance.

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



'See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks.'

Fr Kevin's Reflection for the 19th Sunday Ordinary Time

Vivien Thomas' life story is told in the movie entitled **Something the Lord Made** and it is an incredible story: It starts with showing the entrance hall to the Johns Hopkins Medical School, there hang the portraits of many of the great doctors who are responsible for the great advances made in medical science. One of the portraits is that of Dr. Vivien Thomas. The title "doctor" is honorary. He was actually a carpenter. Yet he was one of the pioneers in coronary surgery. Vivien Thomas was born to a struggling black family in Nashville. Under the guidance of his father, Vivien became a skilled carpenter. Although his dream of going to college and becoming a doctor was dashed by the Depression, he possessed the intuition and dexterity of a great surgeon. After being laid off from his construction job, Vivien went to work cleaning the laboratory of Dr. Alfred Blalock. Dr. Blalock realized the extraordinary gifts his janitor possessed and made him his lab assistant. It was the beginning of an extraordinary partnership that led to the first successful heart surgery ever performed.

While Dr. Blalock developed the concept for the procedure, it was his "surgical technician" who practiced all the suturing that made it possible. Vivien even made all the instruments for the operation, instruments that did not yet exist. During the operation itself, Vivien stood on a stool over Dr. Blalock's shoulder talking the surgeon through each step of the procedure.

Although he never went to college or medical school, Vivien's precise mind and focused intellect unlocked many of the mysteries of the human heart. Despite the humiliation and degradation he suffered as a black man in a segregated society, Vivien possessed a humility and gentleness that made him a trusted and respected tutor to Johns Hopkins students who went on to become great physicians. Though easy-going and soft-spoken, he was passionate about the work he was doing and what it meant to humanity.

Despite the disappointments he encountered, Vivien Thomas used his God-given skills and intellect to accomplish great and lasting things. Our faithfulness is not measured by our accomplishments but in our generosity and dedication in using whatever we have for the benefit of others, without counting the cost or measuring the return. The faithful disciple will lovingly use whatever he or she possesses to bring God's reign of hope, justice and compassion to reality in their own time and place. Jesus promises that those who lead by example, who honour and respect those in their charge, who adopt the attitude of the Servant Christ in their responsibilities will be seated and served by the "Master" himself at the banquet of heaven.

Jesus reminds us today that we all have time, talents and treasure. And he tells us that one day we'll have to account for what we're doing with them because they're only on loan. It's called stewardship.

Like Vivien Thomas we can all make a difference if we choose to, if we are willing to take the trouble of going out of our way to help other people. The opportunities are there if we look for them – it is a question of willingness, are we willing to do it. The question I have to ask myself, the one that Christ will one day ask me – is "what have I done, how have I made a difference, have I been willing to do what I can do." Will he find me ready, will I be able to honestly say – "I have done what I could do to make this world a better place.