

## CONTACT DETAILS

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(Mon - Fri 9am – 12:30 pm)

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## SAFEGUARDING CONTACTS

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Society of St Vincent de Paul

Our local conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will take up their monthly church gate **collection after all masses this weekend.**

For a full list of parish notices visit [monkstownparish.ie](http://monkstownparish.ie)  
Or scan the QR Code



## PARISH NOTICES

### Day of Prayer & Reflection for Gaza Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August 4pm to 6 pm

Next Sunday, (24<sup>th</sup>) has been designated as a special day of prayer and reflection for Gaza within several Dioceses and Archdioceses around Ireland. All parishes in Dublin are being encouraged by Archbishop Dermot Farrell to participate by dedicating time in the day to prayer for Gaza and urging the international community to renew its commitment to peace in the region. A letter from Archbishop Dermot is available on our parish website.

Whether in the parish or in the quiet of your own home, please consider praying for peace:

- Spending time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament
- Praying the Rosary for peace and justice
- Lighting a candle at home or in your parish church
- Making a small personal sacrifice or act of penance

Deacon Eric will arrange a period of **Eucharistic Adoration** next Sunday **from 4 pm to 5pm** for quiet prayer and reflection and will conclude with a **guided Holy Hour** with scripture, sacred music and **Benediction from 5 pm to 6 pm**. This is a moment for our nation to radiate the light of Christ into the darkness, a light of peace, of justice and of hope for our world. Let us stand together, as one body in Christ, for the people of Gaza and for all who long for a just and lasting peace in the Holy Land.



### Mass Intentions This Weekend

- Mary Aileen O'Kelly (A)
- Marie English (née Delahunty) (A)
- Kieran Flynn (1<sup>st</sup> A)
- Tom Donohue (A)
- Bob Marah (A)
- Nicholas Treacy (A)
- Tommy McAteer (A)
- Murdeach Bradley (1<sup>st</sup> A)
- Ray Fitzgerald (A)
- Thomas Maher (A)



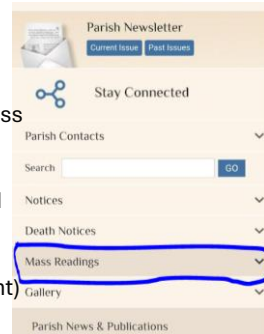
### CAFÉ CONVERSATIONS

Join **Tony Horgan MSC & Anna Byrne DC** in Newtownpark Parish for a series of three morning discussions on **"Our Place in God's Creation"**. It will be an opportunity to share in groups on our experience of everyday life, raising our consciousness for one another and our "Common Home".

**Monday September 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**from 10:30 am to 12 noon.**

### MASS READINGS

Did you know you can follow the readings for mass on your phone? Simply visit the parish website ([monkstownparish.ie](http://monkstownparish.ie)) and click on the menu **"Mass Readings"** (see screenshot to the right)



### MASS TIMES IN OUR PARISH PARTNERSHIP

Parish	Daily Mass Times							Weekend
	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Vigil	Sunday
<b>Foxrock</b>	10:00	10:00	X	10:00	10:00	X	18:00	10 & 11:30
<b>Newtownpark</b>	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	X	X	9, 10:45 & 12
<b>Kill o the Grange</b>	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	17:00	9, 10:30 & 12
<b>Monkstown</b>	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	X	18:00	10 & 11:30
<b>Blackrock</b>	13:05	13:05	13:05	13:05	13:05	X	18:30	10 & 12

# MONKSTOWN PARISH

## Commentary on the readings

[carmelites.ie](http://carmelites.ie)

### **Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10;**

In the first reading we read of the attempted murder of the prophet Jeremiah by some of the king's men. This was because the prophet had spoken the word of God to the people and they did not like what he said and were afraid that he would influence the king.

### **Luke 12:49-53**

In our gospel text for today we have an unusual lesson from Jesus in which he tells us that he did not come to bring peace but division. This seems to fly in the face of all that we have ever heard about Christ and yet when we look at places like the former Yugoslavia, like Rwanda, like Northern Ireland we see just how much belief in Christ has divided our world as people try to impose their understanding of the Good News on their neighbours.

Yet, this is not the division which Jesus is speaking of for. In reality he is talking about the division between good and evil, between those who opt for life over death. Only by following his ways can we walk the path of righteousness which leads to eternal life.

### **Hebrews 12:1-4;**

The author of today's second reading from the letter to the Hebrews urges us to keep our sights fixed firmly on Jesus in order to gain eternal life. He says this because of the number of opposing and competing views that were trying to win the allegiance of the people. In all of this we have the Lord as our advocate and the Holy Spirit as our guide



When you overthink,  
remember this quote:

"Worrying doesn't take  
away tomorrow's  
troubles, it takes away  
today's peace."

[monkstownparish.ie](http://monkstownparish.ie)

## 'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division'

### Fr Kevin's Reflection for the 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time

Yegor Firsov is a former member of the Ukrainian Parliament. When Russian forces invaded Ukraine in February 2022, Firsov left his home and family and joined a territorial defence unit made up mostly of civilian volunteers with some degree of combat training.

In an essay in Politico.eu, he writes about his work as a medic in his ravaged country:



"My job here is to fetch the wounded, give them some first aid and take them to the hospital. And, since there is nobody else to do it, we also collect the dead. "You might think that people are tougher in places where death is commonplace, but I've found that people are more sensitive and more open. When shells are exploding everywhere and you are lying in cover with strangers, you really feel like having frank conversations. You share intimate secrets, personal experiences and sacred memories. People want to fill death-ravaged space with as much life as possible.

"Here everyone shares everything with one another and helps one another. If they see that you have no food, they will feed you. If your clothes are torn or dirty, they will offer their own. If there are no cigarettes, they will give you half of theirs. In peacetime I have never seen people have such care for one another.

"I used to like to go to bed late and get up late. Now my favourite time of day is dawn. At 4 a.m. I come out of the shelter to smoke and hear the birds singing, see the light of the rising sun, and feel the May warmth. For a moment it seems as if there is no war and all these horrors were just a bad dream, as if I could go for a walk and the streets of my hometown would look like they used to.

"Then someone from the other side wakes up and the explosions and shelling begin again. Russia starts another day of 'liberating' my peaceful childhood town from childhood, from peace and from me. "After a while we get a call: There are wounded who urgently need first aid and transport to the hospital. And we go."

The vulnerability and fragile nature of our lives are at the heart of today's difficult passage from Luke's Gospel. In the divisions we suffer, in the contradictions that challenge us, in the disconnect between our faith and values and the demands and expectations of our world and culture, the love of God is the one constant that brings us back to one another, that heals the rifts, that bridges what divides us.

The compassion, the selflessness, the justice that Jesus demands of those who would be his disciples are the "fire" and "baptism" through which we transform our world in the sacredness of God. The challenge of discipleship, Jesus teaches, is not to let God's word of justice and mercy divide us but to realize how that word can bring all humanity together as God's holy people.

## Memorials This Week

### **Tuesday August 19 St. John Eudes**

**St John Eudes**, a 17th-century French priest known for his deep devotion to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. Through powerful preaching and pastoral care, he inspired spiritual renewal and founded religious communities, including the Congregation of Jesus and Mary, to form holy priests and promote Christian life.



### **August 20, St Bernard of Clairvaux**

**St Bernard of Clairvaux** a 12th-century Cistercian monk, abbot, and Doctor of the Church. Renowned for his eloquent preaching, spiritual writings, and leadership in monastic reform, he revitalized the Benedictine tradition and founded Clairvaux Abbey, inspiring hundreds to embrace a life of holiness and contemplation.



### **August 21, Pope St Pius X**

**Pope St Pius X**, a humble and devoted shepherd who sought to "restore all things in Christ." Renowned for promoting frequent Holy Communion, opposing doctrinal errors, and initiating liturgical reforms, he revitalized Catholic life and remains a patron of First Communicants and pilgrims

