



**MONKSTOWN  
(Church of St. Patrick)**

Mon – Fri @ 10 am  
Sat Vigil 6 pm Sun 10 & 11:3  
Web: monkstownparish.ie

Parish Secretary: Ann Acres  
T: (01) 538 2542  
E: [secretary@monkstownparish.ie](mailto:secretary@monkstownparish.ie)

Sacristan: Ciarán Ryan

Parish Priest: Fr Kevin  
Mobile: 087 224 2230  
E: [revkevmonkstown1@gmail.com](mailto:revkevmonkstown1@gmail.com)

Deacon: Rev. Eric Cooney  
Mobile: 087 668 3499  
E: [eric.g.cooney@gmail.com](mailto:eric.g.cooney@gmail.com)

Safeguarding  
Alice O’Connell & Denise  
Beardmore  
T: (01) 538 2542  
E: [CP@monkstownparish.ie](mailto:CP@monkstownparish.ie)

**PARTNERSHIP PARISHES**

**KILL O’ THE GRANGE  
(Holy Family)**

Mon – Sat @ 10 am  
Sat Vigil 5 pm Sun 10 & 12  
Web: [www.holyfamilyparish.ie](http://www.holyfamilyparish.ie)  
Parish Office Tel: (01) 284 5299  
Email: [admin@holyfamily.ie](mailto:admin@holyfamily.ie)

**BLACKROCK  
(St. John the Baptist)**

Mon – Fri @ 1:05 pm  
Sat Vigil 6:30 pm Sun 10 & 12  
Web: [www.sjb.ie](http://www.sjb.ie)  
Parish Office Tel: (01) 288 2104  
Email: [office@sjb.ie](mailto:office@sjb.ie)

**NEWTOWNPARK  
(Guardian Angels)**

Mon – Sat @ 10 am  
Sun 9:30 10:45 & 12 noon  
[www.newtownparkparish.com](http://www.newtownparkparish.com)  
Parish Office Tel: (01) 283 2988  
E: [parishoffice@newtownparkparish.com](mailto:parishoffice@newtownparkparish.com)

**FOXROCK  
(Our Lady of Perpetual Succor)**

Mon, Tue, Thurs & Fri @ 10 am  
Sat Vigil 6 pm Sun 10 & 11:30  
Web: [www.foxrockparish.ie](http://www.foxrockparish.ie)  
Parish Office Tel: (01) 289 3492  
Email: [secretary@foxrockparish.ie](mailto:secretary@foxrockparish.ie)

# LENT

prayer • fasting • almsgiving

## NEWSLETTER 21/22 MARCH

### Mass Intentions

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



- **Bill Herlihy (RD)**
- **Eugene Ryan (A)**
- **Sheila O’Connor (A)**
- **Rebecca O’Carroll**
- **Carmel & Ted Downey (A)**

Our local St. Vincent de Paul conference will take up their monthly church collection after all masses this weekend. Your generous support is greatly appreciated.



### RECONCILIATION

### Holy Week Reconciliation Services

Holy Family Parish (Kill Avenue)  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March @ 7 pm

Foxrock Parish  
Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March @ 7:30 pm

### Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock.

This year the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock is on **Sat 25<sup>th</sup> April.**

Foxrock Parish will hire a bus for the Partnership. **Contact Foxrock Parish Office (01) 289 3492 if interested.**

Details to follow soon, for now the are just taking expressions of interest.

### SAVE THE DATE BREAKFAST TALK Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April – 10 AM



**YOU ARE INVITED  
TO ST. PATRICK’S  
PARISH  
BREAKFAST  
ON SATURDAY  
APRIL 18TH 10AM**

Featuring  
Guest speaker

### Senator Aubrey McCarthy

PARISH CENTRE  
A94W584

NO CHARGE - ALL  
DONATIONS GO TO THE  
CHARITY TIGLIN.

CONTACT HELENA  
0879772160 OR  
DENISE 0876094823  
TO BOOK YOUR PLACE

### REMINDER – NEXT SATUDAY

**Sat 28<sup>th</sup> March 11am to 1 pm**

Blessed Sacrament Chapel  
Holy Family Parish, Kill Ave.

### TRIALS & TRIUMPH OF JESUS

Presented by Sean Goan

### GOOD FRIDAY WAY OF THE CROSS

Through the Phoenix Park

**April 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 12:00 pm**

Led by Archbishop Dermot Farrell the procession will proceed from the Wellington Monument to the Papal Cross





**Commentary on the readings for the Fifth Sunday of Lent**

*Psalm 129;*

*Ezekiel 37:12-14;*

The first reading from the Prophet Ezekiel recounts the Lord telling his people that he will give them his spirit and they will live.

*Romans 8:8-11;*

St Paul in our second reading, which comes from his letter to the Romans, continues this theme and says that the spirit of God has been given to the people and that it is life-giving for them. This is because their only interest is in spiritual things and not things of an unspiritual nature.

*John 11:1-45*

In the gospel, we have the story of the raising of Lazarus from the dead. This reminds us of the death of Jesus and of his resurrection but also provokes us to think about our own death in baptism and resurrection at the end of time. While Lazarus returned to life we know that he died again but that final death was so that he could live in life eternal.

*Psalm 129*

The response to the psalm is: **With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.**



# Lazarus, Come Out!

## Unbind him!

### Fr Kevin's Reflection for the Fifth Sunday of Lent

Richard Jones' life was a never-ending winter of depression. His heart had been broken too many times; his last few dreams finally died in defeat and disappointment. He would leave his house only to go teach his classes or see his doctor, but his real life was lived under a blanket in his dark bedroom.

Then, one day, he was drawn to his empty yard and felt the urge to dig. He turned over spade after spade of dirt until he had cleared a small plot. He planted a few seeds and managed to find the energy to water and fertilize and weed. Soon he picked his first small basket of tomatoes and beans. He now had reason to get out of bed. He was a gardener.

That was a few years ago. As he looks back, he wonders what he could have done if only he had gotten up out of bed and put on his shoes: He could have built a boat. He could have written a book. He could have planted a garden. Now, each winter, as the wind and the rain rage, he spends hours at his kitchen table planning the next year's garden. On a large piece of paper he marks the rows: carrots here, potatoes there, beans in that section and tomato plants on the edges. He eagerly looks forward to the new the seed catalogue each year; he devours gardening books and is constantly checking out horticultural websites looking for new ways to make next season's garden greener and more productive.

While the world around him is entombed in winter, he lives in the never-disappointing hope of spring, looking forward to digging in his garden and gathering the bounty of the harvest.

All of us have experienced some extended spiritual "winter" when we have felt trapped by the feeling that nothing matters much, when we are entombed by disappointment, hurt and grief - or we are so absorbed in work or others expectations that distract us from being the kind of spouse, parent, child or friend we want to be. The Christ who calls Lazarus from his tomb calls us out of the tombs we dig for ourselves in order to walk in the light of hope and possibility. He calls us to live life to the fullest, to bring the love of God into our cold, winter world. Jesus calls not only to Lazarus but to all of us: Come out! Go free! Unbind yourselves from the wrappings of death! Live life to the fullest - the life given to you by a loving God. Every one of us has been called in baptism to bring life out of devastation, to enable hope to take root in the most barren of places, to lift others out of the pits and rubble of fear and pain.

We have been entrusted with the work of resurrection: to bring the life and love of God into the most everyday of situations. The Easter Christ calls us - whether doctor or labourer, adult or child, teacher or student - to bring the transformative, healing power of his resurrection into our own lives and the lives of those around us. As Jesus called Lazarus to life, may we hear that same call to life, to drop the bindings of sin and death that prevent us from loving and being loved.

May we hear that same call to life in our darkest and coldest winters, enabling us to drop the bindings of disappointment and anger and embrace the never failing hope of the gardener.