



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

Sacristan: Ciarán Ryan

Parish Priest: Fr Kevin
Mobile: 087 224 2230
E: revkevmonkstown1@gmail.com

Deacon: Rev. Eric Cooney
Mobile: 087 668 3499
E: eric.g.cooney@gmail.com

Safeguarding
Alice O’Connell & Denise
Beardmore
T: (01) 538 2542
E: 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
Parish Office Tel: (01) 284 5299
Email: admin@hollyfamily.ie

BLACKROCK
(St. John the Baptist)

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

NEWTOWNPARK
(Guardian Angels)

Mon – Sat @ 10 am
Sun 9:30 10:45 & 12 noon
www.newtownparkparish.com
Parish Office Tel: (01) 283 2988
E: 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
Parish Office Tel: (01) 289 3492
Email: secretary@foxrockparish.ie

NEWSLETTER
SECOND SUNDAY
OF EASTER

MASS INTENTIONS

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

- **Teresa Murphy (1st A)**
- **Florence McCoy (Month’s Mind)**
- **Bernie Gilsenan (RD)**
- **Joan Cassidy (A)**

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The parish Office will be closed on **Friday 17th April** and as a result there will be no coffee or tea available.

CEREMONY OF LIGHT
FOR CONFIRMATION

The Service of Light for those who are to be confirmed this year and their families will be celebrated here in St. Patrick’s Church on this Tuesday, 14th April at 7 pm.

The key part of the service is when parents hand the lighted Baptism candle to their child as an acknowledgement that the child is now ready to be a responsible Christian.

The Confirmation ceremony will take place on Sunday 26th April at 10 am.

ST. PATRICK’S PARISH
BREAKFAST TALK
Guest Speaker

Senator Aubrey McCarthy

Saturday 18th April – 10 AM
St. Patrick’s Parish Centre



Senator McCarthy will speak on his work with the homeless, Tiglin, faith and his journey to be a Senator.
No Charge – All donations to the Charity Tiglin.

To book a place contact:
Helena (087) 977 2160 or
Denise (087) 609 4823



Pope Leo XIV
April prayer intention:
‘For priests in crisis’



Lord Jesus, Good Shepherd and companion on the journey, today we place in your hands all priests, especially those going through moments of crisis, when loneliness weighs heavily, when doubt clouds their hearts, and when exhaustion seems stronger than hope.

You who know their struggles and wounds, renew in them the certainty of your unconditional love. Let them feel they are not mere functionaries or lonely heroes, but beloved sons, humble and cherished disciples, and pastors sustained by the prayer of their people.

Good Father, teach us as a community to care for our priests: to listen without judging, to give thanks without demanding perfection, to share with them the baptismal mission of Proclaiming the Kingdom in word and deed, and to accompany them with closeness and sincere prayer. May we support those who so often support us.

Holy Spirit, rekindle in our priests the joy of the Gospel. Grant them healthy friendships, networks of fraternal support, a sense of humour when things don’t go as expected, and the grace to always rediscover the beauty of their vocation.

May they never lose trust in You, nor the joy of serving your Church with a humble and generous heart. Amen.



Commentary on the readings for the Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47

Today's reading from the Acts of the Apostles gives us a glimpse of how the early Christian communities lived – everything was held in common for the good of all. It shows us that the message of Christ can be put into practice for the good of everyone in the community.

This Sunday has also been designated "Divine Mercy Sunday," a special day when we give thanks to God for all that we have received from him.

Psalms 117

This is brought out in the Psalm which is a hymn of praise and thanks to God.

1 Peter 1:3-9;

The second reading from St Peter continues this theme, the central point of which reminds us that in his great mercy God has given us a new birth as his sons and daughters through the death and resurrection of Christ.

John 20:19-31

The gospel for today sees Jesus appearing to his disciples and then coming back a second time when Thomas was present. In his doubt, Thomas represents each of us, he represents all those who have not physically seen the Lord. His great acclamation – "My Lord and my God" – is the confirmation which we all need that what we have been told did in fact take place. Jesus Christ is truly risen from the dead – he is our Lord and God.



Michael Smither (New Zealand, 1939–), *Doubting Thomas*, early 1970s. Mural, St. Joseph's Church, New Plymouth, New Zealand.

Fr Kevin's Reflection for the Second Sunday of Easter

A teacher gave her students an unusual assignment: They were to bring to class on Monday a clear plastic bag and a sack of potatoes.

In class on Monday, she asked each student to take one potato for every person they had refused to forgive or had treated badly. They were to write the name of that person and the date on the potato and put it in the plastic bag. Some of the bags were quite heavy.

The students were then told they had to carry their bag of potatoes with them everywhere for one week -lugging it to school, to the library, to church, to the mall, to the playground and ball fields; putting it beside their beds at night, next to their desk when they did their homework, by their chairs at dinner time.

As you can imagine, carrying around that sack of potatoes for a week became a pain -not to mention trying to explain the contents to people. And within a few days, the potatoes themselves deteriorated into a nasty slime.

The following Monday, the students were all too glad to throwaway their sacks of rotting potatoes. But it taught them a valuable lesson about the time and energy we waste on lugging around our anger and guilt, on carrying our pain and cynicism into every moment of our lives. Too often we think of forgiveness as a gift to the other person -but it is clearly a gift to ourselves, as well.

The students began to understand that there was so much more than a sack of potatoes weighing their lives down.

We know that oft time's life has left us disillusioned, disappointed, distrustful. The "song" of youth has been replaced by scepticism, doubt and scorn. We understand Thomas' reaction to the disciples' outrageous news about the Resurrection. But the empty tomb calls us to move beyond our fears, Sorrows, anger and doubts in order to awaken the possibilities for resurrection along our journey to the Easter promise as well as at the completion of that journey. As Thomas experiences, Easter transforms our crippling sense of scepticism and cynicism into a sense of trust and hope in the providence of God.

The first gift the Risen Christ gives to his new church is forgiveness -forgiveness that enables us to drop the hurt and pain and resentments that weigh our lives down. The Spirit of God that Jesus "breathes" into the small community on Easter night calls us to the peace and sense of freedom that can be ours through the hard work of reconciliation and building community. The Easter Christ pulls us out of the tombs we create for ourselves out of our anger and guilt, rips away the burial clothes of pain and distrust so that we may experience the freedom of living our lives in the real peace of Christ born out of selflessness and compassion.