



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 Rowan

Mobile: 087 224 2230

E: revkevm Monkstown1@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@holyfamily.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

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



MASS INTENTIONS

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

- Donal O’Kelly (A)
- Tony Bunbury (1st A)
- Rita Quigley (RD)
- Mick, Maureen & Don Marah (A)
- Jacqueline O’Mahony (A)
- Mary Banotti (A)
- Eva Briscoe (A)
- Josephine & Vincent Mullaney (A)
- Fred Treacy (A)
- Deceased members of Mullaney & Treacy Families

Society of St Vincent de Paul

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

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Reopens Tuesday 26th May

The parish Office will be closed from Monday 18th to Monday 25th May and will re-open on Tuesday 26th

TEMPORARY CLOSURE &

REVISED MASS TIMES

As announced over the two weeks, unfortunately our church will be closed from Monday 25th May to Friday 24th July due to essential electrical maintenance.

When the church reopens on Saturday 25 July, **there will be one Sunday morning Mass at 10.30am.** The Saturday Vigil Mass at 6.00pm will continue as usual.



Monkstown Park JUNIOR SCHOOL

End of Year Mass

The students of Monkstown Park Junior School (MPJS) will join us for 10 am mass next Wednesday (20th May) for their end of year mass.



PENTECOST TRIDUUM NOVENA

A Triduum Novena led by Fr Billy Cleary C.S.Sp. (Spiritán), will take place on the **21st, 22nd and 23rd of May** in Foxrock parish. (Our Lady of Perpetual Succor)

- Morning Mass 10am
- Evening Devotion 7:30 pm.
- Conclusion 6pm Vigil Mass on Saturday 23rd May – Solemnity of Pentecost



The Dream of Gerontius

Church of the Assumption Dalkey – Sunday May 24 @ 5 pm

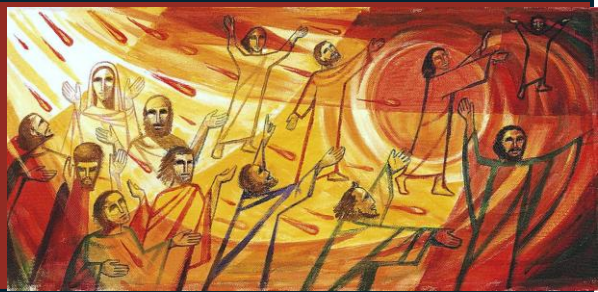
Experience **Edward Elgar’s** most profound music, a monumental work that draws listeners into a dramatic and emotional vision of faith, doubt, fear, and hope.

Dun Laoghaire Choral Society will perform this oratorio which sets **St John Henry Newman’s 1865 poem** that follows Gerontius, as he is dying, - meets his guardian angel and is brought to judgement before God. The oratorio is often praised as one of the greatest pieces of sacred music.

Tickets: Price for this concert is €30 with concession tickets available at €25. These are now available on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com). A limited number will be available on the day at the door



Fr Kevin's Reflection The Ascension of the Lord



Commentary on the readings for the The Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11

The first from the Acts of the Apostles tells us of the Ascension of Jesus when he was taken up into heaven in the sight of his followers. Those who were with him continued to look into heaven because they had not realised what had actually taken place. They had to be told by two strangers that the Lord had returned to heaven.

Ephesians 1:17-23

The reading from Ephesians tells us that Christ, now he has ascended into heaven is seated at the right hand of God and that everything is now subject to him. The reading is in the form of a prayer that the Holy Spirit will come to guide the people so that they can see the glory of God and his plan for his people.

Matthew 28:16-20

The gospel text sees Jesus meeting the disciples and giving them the great command to go out and to preach the good news to all nations and peoples. This is what we too are called to do in our day and to help make the kingdom truly visible here on earth knowing that the Lord and Holy Spirit are always with us.

Psalms 46

The response to the Psalm is:

God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

One day your little boy or girl is a bright, inquisitive child, interested in butterflies and stars, football and skateboards, letters and numbers. A day at the grandparents is nothing less than heaven; and there is nobody they would rather spend time with than you.



And then that beautiful child disappears under a set of headphones. He or she seldom emerges from a room filled with an alphabet of electronic devices. They are wired and connected to a world that is theirs and theirs alone. A mother asks if all of this is too much, if we are entertaining our children to death. She writes:

"Should we parents worry about the almost complete loss of the quiet or boring interval in a kid's life? Quiet moments can force kids to be creative. They might even find time to ponder some of life's deep questions like, 'Who is God?' or 'What's my purpose on this planet?' All good stuff to consider, even if you're only nine. ...I wonder if we are setting up a situation where kids will feel they have a right to be entertained at all times, which is pretty chilling. Perhaps they'll think that life ought to be as exciting and as winnable as a video game."

This Mom's prayer mirrors Christ's prayer for his Church: that all of us who follow him will come to know God and the things of God—love, compassion, mercy, justice, peace—and take on the work of God, the work of discipleship—to help one another know and embrace that life.

All of us -parents as well as children -need to "unplug" in order to connect with the things of God; we need to take life "off line" from the busyness of the world so that we may know the love of those who mean the most to us.

Christ is the centre of our Church in Word, in sacrament, in every moment of generosity and every act of compassion we perform and experience. In imitating his selflessness, in embracing his Gospel of reconciliation and justice, we are bound together into the body of the Risen One- even with people we don't like or disagree with or would rather have nothing to do with. The Ascension of the Lord is not the marking of a departure but the celebration of a presence: Matthew's Gospel begins with the promise of Emmanuel -God is with us; it concludes with the promise of the Risen Christ, I am with you always, even to the end of time.

"With a spirit of wisdom and insight to know him clearly," we can discover Christ's presence at every turn of our lives' journey to his final return at the end of time. May Jesus' prayer in today's Gospel become our prayer: that we find the grace and wisdom to put aside the distractions that steal away our time and energy from one another and embrace God's gift of this life not as a time for fleeting amusement but for experiencing the joy and wholeness of compassion and forgiveness.