



NEWSLETTER PENTECOST



MONKSTOWN (Church of St. Patrick)

Mon – Fri @ 10 am
Sat Vigil 6 pm Sun 10 & 11:30
Web: monkstownparish.ie

Parish Secretary: Ann Acres
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E: secretary@monkstownparish.ie

Sacristan: Ciarán Ryan

Parish Priest: Fr Kevin Rowan
Mobile: 087 224 2230
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Safeguarding
Alice O’Connell
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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



MASS INTENTIONS

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

- Patrick Lowe Senior (A)
- Jim Rowan (A)
- Kay Walsh (A)
- Martin & Eva Ronan (A)
- Feen Willis (A)
- Deceased members of Ronan & Flynn Families
- Deceased members of Gilsenan & O’Reilly 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 this weekend. Your generous support is greatly appreciated.

MONKSTOWN FAMILY MASS GROUP IN FOXROCK PARISH FOR JUNE

As our church will be closed from the 25th May, our Family Mass Group will sing at the Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass in Foxrock Parish for the month of June from next Sat 30th May

Monkstown Village Tidy District Wednesday Weeders of Monkstown

Wednesday Weeders are recommencing operations on Wednesday 27th of May from 7.00pm until 8.30pm. Our first challenge will be Carrickbrennan Road and Pakenham Road along by the Quakers Meeting House. Even an hour of help makes a real difference. If you can spare some time, please come along — all help is very welcome!

ELGAR’S DREAM OF GERONTIUS Church of the Assumption Dalkey – Sunday May 24 @ 5 pm

Dun Laoghaire Choral Society will perform this oratorio by Elgar in Dalkey Parish at 5 pm on Sunday 24th May. **Tickets:** Price for this concert is €30 with concession tickets available at €25. A limited number will be available on the day at the door

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.

PARISH OFFICE REOPENS Tuesday 26th May

DIOCESAN APPOINTMENTS

Archbishop Dermot Farrell has published the appointments for 2026.

Fr. Kevin Rowan, has been appointed to Kilbride –Barndarrig in Wicklow.



Deacon Eric Cooney has been appointed Co-ordinator of Parish Administration in Monkstown.



The new appointments will take effect on the weekend of 4/5 July.

New Priest: The Archbishop plans to appoint a new priest to Monkstown in July to provide for the sacramental care of the parish, (Mass, Confession, Sacrament of the Sick etc.



Fr Kevin's reflection for PENTECOST



A Phone Call

Auburn Sandstrom is in a dire situation and makes a call for help



A true story told by writer Auburn Sandstrom at The Moth, the acclaimed organization dedicated to the art and craft of storytelling:

In 1992, Auburn was 29, the mother of a three-year-old son, trapped in an abusive marriage - and an addict. One night she hit rock bottom. She was curled up on a filthy carpet in a cluttered apartment, in horrible withdrawal from a drug she had been addicted to for several years. In her hand was a little piece of paper. For hours, she kept folding and crumbling it. It was the phone number for a Christian counsellor her mother had given her in one of their rare moments of contact. Finally, the desperate young mother punched the numbers on her phone. It rang. A man answered.

"Hi, I got this number from my mother. Uh, do you think you could talk to me?"

Auburn heard some shuffling at the other end of the line. A little radio in the background was snapped off and the man who answered became very present. "Yes, yes, yes. What's going on?"

For the first time, Auburn poured out her story. She told him that she wasn't feeling good, that things had gotten pretty bad in her marriage, that she had a drug problem, that she was scared.

The man at the other end of the line didn't judge. He just sat with her and listened. Auburn was encouraged by his kindness and gentleness. It was two in the morning. The man stayed up the whole night with Auburn, just talking, listening and being there until the sun rose. By daybreak, she had calmed down. The raw panic had passed. She was feeling okay.

She was grateful to him. "Hey, you know, I really appreciate you and what you've done for me tonight. Aren't you supposed to be telling me to read some Bible verses or something? Because that'd be cool, I'll do it, you know. It's all right."

He laughed and said, "Well, I'm glad this was helpful to you."
"No, really. You're very good at this. I mean, you've seriously done a big thing for me. How long have you been a Christian counsellor?"

There was a long pause at the other end of the line. "Auburn, please don't hang up. I've been trying not to bring this up."
"What?"
"You won't hang up?"
"No, I won't."
"I'm so afraid to tell you this. But the number you called . . ." He paused again.
"You got the wrong number."

Auburn didn't hang up. They talked a little longer. Auburn never got his name or called him back.

Auburn Sandstrom survived that night. She's now a successful writer and teacher; she raised her little boy, alone, to become a magnificent young athlete and scholar who graduated from Princeton.

She concludes her story of that night:
". . . the next day I felt this kind of joy, like I was shining. I think I've heard them call it 'the peace that passes understanding.' I had gotten to see that there was this completely random love in the universe. That it could be unconditional. And that some of it was for me . . . In the deepest, blackest night of despair, if you can get just one pinhole of light . . . all of grace rushes in."

A stranger called in the middle of the night by mistake becomes the means of transformation and grace for a desperate young mother. Such compassion, such selfless caring, is the Spirit of God in our midst.

This solemnity of Pentecost **celebrates the love that IS God and OF God:** the love that binds the Father to the Son and now binds us to God and to one another. It is the love that transcends words to embrace the heart and soul of each one of us; it is the love that gives voice to the things we believe but are unable to speak; it is the love that enables us to be for others "pinholes of light" through which the grace of God rushes in.