

THE DEEP END – St Patrick

Happy St Patrick's Day! A day when we remember the roots of the Christian faith in Ireland. There is no doubt that to be a Christian in Ireland today is difficult. Often it is easier to hide our faith, to avoid ridicule, arguments and debates which can wear us down. However, today we should take example and energy from St Patrick. His story was not a walk in the park either. We celebrate the Gospel message the courageous Patrick brought to us, a message that was preserved and passed on; a message that is very relevant to today's world and which continues to nourish and sustain us.

Take heart from the parable of the Mustard Seed in the Gospel today. The mustard seed plant is sometimes wild and out of control. Author and activist, Shane Claiborne, compares it to *kidzu*, a wild vine that could blanket entire mountain areas, smother trees, even crack stone buildings and footpaths. The shrub was banned in certain areas of Palestine because of how it could completely take over gardens. When we are struggling with being a Christian in modern Ireland, feeling excluded in a world that wants to forget God, we can take courage from the parable of the mustard seed. It grew in places where it was not wanted. You might recall the people in our own life who nourished your faith and who guided you along your spiritual path.

'I arose today. Through God's strength to pilot me, God's might to uphold me, God's wisdom to guide me, God's eye to look before me, God's ear to hear me, God's word to speak for me, God's hand to guard me, God's shield to protect me' (*St Patrick's Breastplate*)

FAMILY MASS: Our monthly Family Mass is next Sunday 23rd March at 11.30 am.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS on Tuesdays and Thursdays during Lent after 10.00 am. Mass

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT on Fridays during Lent after 10.00 am Mass until 12.30 pm.

LENTEN SCRIPTURE REFLECTION will take place in the Salesian Convent, Fernbank on [April 1st](#), from 10.45 am - 12.30 pm.
Venue: Salesian Convent, Fernbank. Facilitator: Sr. Mary Downey
Please phone Elizabeth at [0872546492](tel:0872546492) if you wish to attend.

LECTIO DIVINA Scripture Reflection will be held in the Salesian Don Bosco Centre Caherdavin on Thursdays during Lent at 8.00pm.

DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2019

The Limerick Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place from 20th to 25th June 2019. All information re the Pilgrimage is detailed on the posters which are on the Church noticeboard. If you are aware of any parishioner who is invalided and who might like to travel, Invalid Applications for Assisted Pilgrims are to be submitted to the Lourdes Office before the end of April.

Telephone: 061 314111

LENT AT GLENSTAL ABBEY

'Journeying with God's People in Exodus' - Join us over 5 of the Sundays in Lent and explore this journey, theirs and ours, through Exodus @4.30pm, in the Library followed by Refreshments & Vespers.

Contact: events@glenstal.com / 061 621005 / www.glenstal.org

MILFORD HOSPICE SHOP stocks great bargains and ideal gifts for all the family, including clothes, shoes, household items and giftware to suit everyone's pocket. If you are in the midst of a spring clean and de-clutter, the Milford Hospice Shop would be delighted to accept your once loved items such as clean clothes, saleable household items or indeed bric a brac. We cannot accept electrical goods, safety equipment and certain children's items such as buggies. Our Shop relies on the generosity of our supporters who donate their second-hand and brand new goods for re-sale. You can contribute by donating your goods directly to Milford Hospice Shop, 22 Thomas Street, Limerick between the hours of 9 – 5 Monday to Saturday. We regret that we are unable to collect individual items or donations. Thank you for your support.

BOOKLETS: 'This is what God wants of us – our Holiness' - A Lenten Pastoral Letter from Bishop Leahy

'Ten Points for Families – Pope Francis to Families in Ireland' - Compiled by Bishop Brendan Leahy

Both of these booklets are available in the Church.

FAITH & LIFE

Pray for the protection of life:

- Pilgrimage to Knock, Wednesday 20th March
- Rosary Procession Our Lady of the Rosary Friday 29th March

THANK YOU FROM MILFORD CARE CENTRE

Milford Care Centre would like to thank the Parishioners of Our Lady of the Rosary Parish for contributing to their recent Church Gate Collection. The amount raised was €1,253.69 and an official receipt has been issued in respect of the monies received

'POSITIVE AGEING' Seminar at the Woodlands Hotel Adare on Wednesday 20th March 7.00 pm – 9.00 pm organised by Limerick GAA Health and Well Being Committee in conjunction with TILDA who have conducted extensive research in this

area. Admission is free and open to GAA/ non GAA people.

Cupán Tae, Music and Liam McCarthy Cup.

REFLECTION: 'Intergenerational solidarity is not optional, but rather a basic question of justice, since the world we have received also belongs to those who follow us.'

Pope Francis (Laudato Si 159)

PARISH WEBSITE

www.ourladyoftherosaryparishlimerick.ie

Fr. Des McAuliffe P.P. Tel: 061 324825

Fr. Tom. Ryan C.C. Tel: 087 2997733

Parish Clerk: Margaret Clifford at Church Sacristy Tel: 061 325288

**Office Hours: 09:00 - 09:45 Weekdays
09:00 - 12.30 Sunday**

MASS TIMES: Weekends and Holy Days

Saturday Vigil 18:00

Sunday 10:00; 11:30

Weekdays:

Mon. to Fri. 10:00

Saturday 09:45 : Prayer Service

BAPTISMS: Saturday 17:00

Sunday 12:15

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 16 th	18:00	Catherine Phelan (A)
Sun 17 th	10:00	Dec. Mem. of the Mulvin Family
	11:30	Ann Feeney (Rec. Dec.)
Mon 18 th	10:00	Pro Popolo
Tues 19 th	10:00	Jim Glynn (Rec. Dec.)
Wed 20 th	10:00	Deirdre Higgins O'Donnell (A)
Thurs 21 st	10:00	Jim Berkery (A)
Fri 22 nd	10:00	Teresa Cleary (A)
Sat 23 rd	09:45	Prayer Service
	18:00	
Sun 24 th	10:00	Sheila Bruen (A)
	11:30	Anne Keane (A)

Published by the Parish Pastoral Council

