

## Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Limerick

### Newsletter for 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021

#### Fifth Sunday of Lent

##### Church News

The Church remains closed during Mass times and is private for funeral services. All Masses are streamed live because of restrictions on attendance. We have Stations of the Cross after 10:00 am Mass on Fridays during Lent. Otherwise, the Church is open for individual visits and private prayer from 10:30 am to 4:00 pm, Monday to Saturday. Please use the side door by the Sacristy and observe Covid precautions.

Intentions are remembered at Masses, which are celebrated in Church, streamed online, and broadcast by parish radio. The letter box on the inner door of the Sacristy may be used to arrange Mass for an anniversary, a month's mind or other remembrance.

Collection Envelopes may also be returned through the letter box, which is protected by the Church security system and emptied every day.

Pope Francis has declared the Year of "Amoris Laetitia Family" starting on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021, the Feast of St. Joseph. Speaking of it last Sunday as "a special year to grow in family love", he has asked for a renewed pastoral drive to place the family at the centre of attention for Church and for society.

##### Bishop St. Oscar Romero

On Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021, we remember Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador, who was shot dead on 24<sup>th</sup> March 1980 while celebrating Mass. An outspoken critic of violence from all sides of the conflict in El Salvador, he was an advocate for social justice. He defended the rights of the poor and the oppressed. In 2015, Bishop Romero was declared a martyr and beatified. In 2018, he was canonised.



##### Feast of the Annunciation

On Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021, we celebrate The Annunciation of the Lord, when the Angel Gabriel announced to the Virgin Mary that she was chosen to be the Mother of the Son of God. Celebrated at this time for hundreds of years, it reminds us to be open to the Will of God in our lives, as Mary was in her life.

##### Easter Dues & Clerk's Collection

Once again, it is going to be difficult to distribute the collection envelopes to parishioners. They are now available in the Church, organised by area, some with the name of the usual distributor attached, some without. If you are able to deliver a batch in your home area, your help is much appreciated. We are acutely aware that collections are down significantly for a full year now but expenses must still be met.

##### Daffodil Day on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March

This is the biggest fundraising event of the year for the Irish Cancer Society, which provides important support for cancer patients and their families as well as funding for cancer research.

This year, when volunteers cannot sell daffodils and pins or host coffee mornings and other fundraising

events, the appeal is that you might get involved in a virtual way and make your donations online. See the Society's website at [www.cancer.ie](http://www.cancer.ie) for further details.

##### Mass Intentions

|                          |                |   |
|--------------------------|----------------|---|
| Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> Mar | 18:00          | Anne Keane (A)<br>Deirdre Higgins O'Donnell                                   |
| Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> Mar | 10:00<br>11:30 | Josephine McNamara (A)<br>Donal, Norrie & Joe Gilligan<br>Gerard Clery M.Mind |
| Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar | 10:00          | Pro Popolo  |
| Tue 23 <sup>rd</sup> Mar | 10:00          | Ita Fitzpatrick (A)   |
| Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> Mar | 10:00          | Kay Reynolds (A)  |
| Thu 25 <sup>th</sup> Mar | 10:00          |   |
| Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> Mar | 10:00          | Geraldine Corbett (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniv)<br>her parents, Tom & Carmel        |
| Sat 27 <sup>th</sup> Mar | 18:00          | Michael Geary (A)   |
| Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar | 10:00<br>11:30 | Michael Leonard (A)<br>Ann O'Connor (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniv)                   |

##### Recently Deceased

We remember Marie Dillon and Liam Marnell, who died recently. May they rest in peace.

##### Bereavement Support

The Bereavement Group is conscious of the fact that it has been unable to offer the usual supports to bereaved parishioners during the Covid-19 pandemic. Necessary restrictions have prevented us from hosting gatherings for Remembrance Masses in September and Lent as well as monthly group meetings. The informal coffee mornings have also been suspended.

At this time, with the extra sadness of having funeral services confined to such small numbers, we know that it is very difficult for bereaved families. In your time of grief, you cannot have the usual supportive interaction with relatives and friends. Please be assured that you are in our thoughts and prayers.