

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Limerick

Newsletter for 24th January 2021

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



Sunday of the Word of God

This Sunday, 24th January, is called Sunday of the Word of God. It was established by Pope Francis, starting last year, as a day to be devoted to the celebration, study, and spreading of the Word of God.

This year's theme is: *"Your word is a lamp for my steps and a light for my path"*. In a world where we are surrounded by words and noise, the Pope reminds us that the Word of God must also be heard by us.

It is interesting to note that the earliest writings in the Irish language are all extracts from the Bible, so the Word of God is very much part of our heritage. On a local note, the current theme has been used for many years by Mary Immaculate College. It is on the college crest in the form: *"Briathar Dé mo Lóchrann"*.

This designation of the Third Sunday as a special day for the Word of God at the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity serves to emphasise the ecumenical value of the shared scriptures. Last week, we mentioned the theme of unity in diversity from the Monastic Community of Grandchamp, Switzerland: *"Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit"*.

Living our Faith in a Time of Covid-19 Tips from Bishop Brendan Leahy

TIP 4. Slow Down and Look Deeper. Everything is connected, everyone is connected! COVID-19 invites us to slow down, contemplate nature and care for the planet. But it also invites us to open our eyes to those suffering in other parts of the world, to live for universal fraternity and social friendship.

TIP 6. Mark Sunday in a special way. Gathering for Mass is at the heart of who we are. But if for some serious reason, we cannot get to Mass we should mark Sunday – participating in a liturgy online, reading the Mass Readings, spending time in quiet prayer, doing acts of love for people who are sick or alone.

TIP 9. Discover the Word of God. Perhaps this might be a very good time to reopen a Bible. There is plenty of material online to help us read the Bible. To begin, why not read chapter two of Pope Francis' encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*, on the parable of the Good Samaritan.

[Extract from summary card of the Ten Tips. The full text of the Pastoral Letter is on the Diocesan website.]

Staying at Home Protect yourself & Protect each other

Public health advice to curb the spread of coronavirus is that we should all stay at home and limit our interactions with others as much as possible.

For the latest and official information, see the Government website at www.gov.ie. Also, remember the Limerick Covid Community Response helpline number 1800 832005, which is available from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm 7 days each week.

If you need assistance, call a neighbour, a friend or a relative rather than venturing out yourself. If you need attention for a medical condition or injury, do not neglect yourself. Call a doctor for best advice.

For more on the pandemic and vaccine information, see the HSE website at www.hse.ie. The helpline

number 1850 24 1850 is available Mon. to Fri. 8:00 am to 8:00 pm; Sat. & Sun. 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

The Church is open on weekdays from 10:30 am to 3:00 pm for personal visits and private prayer. Enter by the side door. Please use the hand sanitiser and observe social distancing from other visitors.

Mass Intentions

Sat 23 rd Jan	18:00	Ethna & Fachtna McCarthy Barry O'Sullivan (1 st Anniv.)
Sun 24 th Jan	10:00	Joe Woods Rec.Dec.
	11:30	Joe & Catherine Sweeney (A) Sheila & Joe Kirby (A)
Mon 25 th Jan	10:00	Pro Popolo Diana (Gleeson) Walshe (A) Michael Gleeson (A)
Tue 26 th Jan	10:00	Liam Aherne (A) Paddy Hartmann Rec.Dec. & Purgatorial
Wed 27 th Jan	10:00	
Thu 28 th Jan	10:00	Robert Holmes (A) Emilie O'Sullivan (A)
Fri 29 th Jan	10:00	Seamus & Kitty Bacher
Sat 30 th Jan	18:00	
Sun 31 st Jan	10:00	
	11:30	Bill & Ena Leonard (A)

Requests for anniversary Masses and other intentions may be placed through the letter box at the Sacristy.

Recently Deceased

Let us pray for the repose of the souls of Phyllis Flanagan, Joe Woods, Noreen Gilligan, Noel Hickey and Marie Costelloe, who died recently.

Parish Envelopes for 2021

Some Boxes of Envelopes for the Weekly Collection remain to be picked up and you may do that whenever you feel safe to visit the Church. Any outstanding contributions to the Christmas Dues and for the Parish Clerk would be greatly appreciated.