



Our Lady of the
Rosary Parish
Limerick

Newsletter
25th October 2020

Parish Newsletter

We have resumed the production of our Weekly Newsletter but only for online publication.

Please spread the word that it may be accessed in the 'News & Publications' section from the panel at the right of the Homepage or from the link at the bottom of the Homepage on our Parish Website.

www.ourladyoftherosaryparishlimerick.ie

Coronavirus Situation

With the precautions and restrictions of the National Framework for Living with Covid-19, it is not possible to have a congregation in Church for regular Mass, daily or weekend, at this time.

As the situation develops, we are posting relevant information on the Parish Website. From the Homepage Menu Bar, it may be found under the 'Our Parish' drop-down menu, with the heading 'Coronavirus Situation'.

Recently Deceased

Let us pray for the repose of the souls of Mildrid Windrim, Brendan Hourigan and Rita O'Donovan, who died recently.

November Lists

This year, All Saints Day falls on a Sunday, that is, next Sunday 1st November 2020 and All Souls Day follows on Monday 2nd November.

During the month of November, we remember in a special way those who have gone before us. We honour and we pray to the Saints in Heaven. We honour the memory of our deceased loved ones and we pray that they too may have Eternal Rest.

Holy Souls Envelopes with lists for the Names of the Dead may be collected from inside the porch at the side entrance to the Church, between 10:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on weekdays.

Mass Intentions
for Masses celebrated online
at Our Lady of the Rosary Church

Sat 24 th Oct	18:00	James & Patricia Irwin (A) Mai, Seán & Fr. Brian Kelly (A) John Tobin (A)
Sun 25 th Oct	10:00	Hugh Maye (A) Teresa Ryan (A)
	11:30	Eugene Feely (A) Síle Quilligan (A)
Mon 26 th Oct	10:00	Purgatorial
Tue 27 th Oct	10:00	Maureen Meehan Rec. Dec.
Wed 28 th Oct	10:00	
Thu 29 th Oct	10:00	Joe Mc Auliffe (A)
Fri 30 th Oct	10:00	Eileen O'Connor Rec. Dec.
Sat 31 st Oct	18:00	Max Norden (A) Seamus Mc Grath (A)
Sun 1 st Nov	10:00	Roger Hickey (A)
	11:30	Esther & Joe O'Connor (A) Fr. Jim O'Connor (A)

Private Visits to Church

The Church is open for personal visits and private prayer from 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each day, Monday to Saturday.

You may enter by the door near the Sacristy. Please use the hand sanitiser. In Church, use the top seats only and adhere to social distancing guidelines.

Salesian Sisters

Last weekend, the Salesian Sisters, who will soon be closing the Fernbank Community, conducted a 'Farewell & Thank You' Liturgy with Fr. Mc Auliffe and Fr. Ryan at the three Masses. On behalf of the parish, our priests also thanked the Sisters for their wonderful witness and ministry over the years.

The Masses were streamed online and here is the full text of the address given by Sr. Betty Baker:

"In 1874 a young Limerick man, Denis Hallinan met St John Bosco in Italy and expressed his desire to join the Salesians and work with young people. But Don Bosco said to him "Go home to your own diocese and you will do more for the Salesians there than by joining us here". Denis did return to Limerick and in due course as Bishop of Limerick he welcomed the Salesian Fathers to Pallaskenry in 1919 and on 23rd October 1920 he welcomed the Sisters - 100 years ago next Friday. We took up residence in what is currently Halla Ide. The story of the very early years "Against the Odds", compiled by Sr Noelle Costello and Sr Sarah O'Rourke was launched on 28th February last in Hall Ide - our first home. You may have heard Sinead McCoolle of this parish being interviewed about the book on the "History Show" last Sunday evening. It was a wonderful interview and we thank Sinead. [continued on page 2]

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In 1924 Fernbank House was purchased. While continuing the night school in the city the sisters opened a private school in Fernbank and eventually in 1947 the Department of Education approved it as a National school. The story of both the private and the primary school is well known to many of you and to the people of this area. And so 96 years have passed and at the end of this month the existing community of Fernbank will move to other existing locations in the Limerick/Dublin areas. However, Dun Ide and Bracken will continue to remain strong links in this parish.

The theme of thanksgiving runs through today's second reading and we come to say "thank you" to the people of this parish and community, and to the many who have gone before us. Down through the years the connection with you and your families has been very strong - some of you are past pupils of our schools. Your children, grandchildren and great grandchildren have been and are part of the fabric of our lives. We have celebrated so many Communion, Confirmations, Religious and Liturgical events in this church. You have been involved with and participated in school activities, clubs, BOM's, PA's, Bazaar days, fundraising events and initiatives of every kind. You are part of what we have become. We say thanks for participation, involvement, commitment and support. We have formed links which will last in memory.

This parish has been our home. We belonged here and were accepted not only for our services but for who we were and are. It's a pity this farewell is happening during Covid 19 and at a time when churches cannot welcome the community to

celebrate together. In other circumstances we would gather, tell stories, reminisce, recount events, remember and enjoy some time together. It is interesting, however, to remember that our pioneering sisters founded our first house in Limerick during the War of Independence and they also lived through the Spanish Flu. So we draw courage from their strength.

Thanks too to the priests and sacristans who served in this parish over the years and in a special way today we say thanks to Fr Des and Fr Tom and Margaret. Thanks to our teachers and staffs who work with us today and to those who have worked with us over the years. Thanks also to the staffs of the other schools in the area with whom we had strong links and thanks to Colette Davis, our musical support and organist for many years; to Rachel Ormston, organist, singers Catherine O'Carroll, Kate Hurley and Caitriona Stack for providing music this weekend. Thanks to everyone who has been part of our 96 years.

Fernbank was opened on 8th December 1924. Already from that base in the 1930's there were sisters ministering in China, Siam and India. Later the main thrust of our mission became Lesotho and South Africa and also Australia, United States, Brazil, Korea, Thailand and Hong Kong. Today as we celebrate Mission Sunday it is good to remind ourselves of generous people - men and women who act in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in all kinds of situations all over the world. Because of the current pandemic our world has changed. We have been brought closer together. We are aware of global pain, fear, deaths and loss. We can no longer ignore the fact that we are totally dependent on one another and have a responsibility of care to all this

world's inhabitants. All of us are calling out for a world united in peace, equality, fairness and compassion - these qualities will guarantee our own health and the health of our planet. And on today's Mission Sunday we are called to support especially the poor of the earth and those who work with them and on their behalf.

In today's Gospel (John 17), Jesus offers us new heart and fresh perspectives on the task before us. The gospel is a bit like a farewell speech. He prays that we will be faithful and assures us that his mission will continue through us, his disciples. He asks us to continue to

- Offer Him to the world, not merely by what we say but by how we act
- Continue his mission of compassion, forgiveness, openness and acceptance
- Live in oneness of mind and heart - the litmus test of true disciples

Jesus predicts suffering but also gives us a guarantee of God's closeness. He reassures us that we are not alone - the Holy Spirit is alive and active and is calling us.

As we gather in prayer today, wherever we are, we give thanks for everything that has been. We pray for each other. We pray for missionary disciples. And we pray that together we will meet the challenge of living with love and compassion through these times.

And we give thanks for the hundreds of people of the parish, past and present who have been part of our lives for 96 years. Thank you!"