

Apparitions of St. Joseph (continued from newsletter of May 2021)

There are not many apparitions of Joseph. Two of them occur at Marian Shrines, one in Knock, the other in Fatima. St. Joseph does not speak in either of them. He appears with Mary in both of them.

St. Joseph and Knock.

The statue of Saint Joseph in the apparition chapel at Knock is very beautiful and captures him perfectly. It draws us to reflect on Saint Joseph's quiet dignity – his head is bowed, hands joined in the presence of Mary before an altar on which the Lamb of God is standing. It's a posture so typical of the Saint – a gentle, yet supportive and strong presence – just as he is described in the Gospels. Although there is no record of Saint Joseph speaking in any of the Gospels, the picture that emerges of him, in the scripture and in tradition of the Church, is that Joseph is a protector; he is generous, loving and courageous; a good husband to Mary and a caring guardian for Jesus; a man of great faith and trust, a person of wisdom.

Archbishop Eamon Martin's Homily at Holy Thursday's Chrism Mass 1st April 2021.

St. Joseph and Fatima.

" . . . Then opening her hands, she (Our Lady) made them reflect on the sun, and as she ascended, the reflection of her light continued to be projected on the sun itself . . . After Our Lady had disappeared into the immense distance of the firmament, we beheld St. Joseph with the Child Jesus and Our Lady robed in white with a blue mantle, beside the sun. St. Joseph and the Child Jesus appeared to bless the world, for they traced the Sign of the Cross with their hands. When a little later, this apparition disappeared I saw Our Lord and Our Lady . . . Our Lord appeared to bless the world in the same manner as St. Joseph had done."

Sr. Lucy's own words.

Sr Lucy (28/3/1907 – 13/2/2005) was one of the 3 children to whom Our Lady appeared at Fatima. On 13th February 2017 Sr. Lucy was declared a 'Servant of God' – the first step on the road to sainthood. With her cousins Jacinta and Francisco, Sr. Lucy witnessed Our Lady's apparitions at Fatima in 1917)

St. Joseph Prayer Cards.

The pictures on these two prayer cards to mark the Year of St. Joseph (8 Dec. 2020 – 8 Dec. 2021) are from a stained glass window in St. Mary's Parish Church, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford - the window between the 2nd and 3rd Stations of the Cross. The Prayer for a Happy Death is on card, and The Children's Prayer to St. Joseph is on the other card.

A donation of 25cent for each card is suggested to help cover the cost of printing the cards which were printed by the Carmelite Nuns, Tallow, Co. Waterford. (Tallow Carmel) A short explanation is given with each card.

St. Mary's Parish Dungarvan



June 2021

The Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Feastday: 11th June 2021



Novena Prayer: 3rd - 11th June.

Lord Jesus, you have said: 'Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you.' I come to you in faith and trust, in love and hope. Let me know your closeness to me, and your care of me and for all who are dear to me. My intention for this novena is dear to me and I know that what is important to me is important to you. Hear my prayer (mention your intention)...grant what I ask, and may I always trust that in all that happens in life, you will be close to me as my friend, guide and saviour. And so, Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

(John 19:31-37)

The traditional image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus shows Jesus with a pierced heart. Such an image is influenced by today's gospel reading, although the reference there is to the piercing of Jesus' side rather than his heart. It is only in the Gospel of John that we find this detail of a Roman soldier piercing the side of Jesus with a lance, resulting in a flow of blood and water. As the scripture has said, "Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water". St. John then comments on this saying of Jesus: 'Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive'. It is very likely that the fourth evangelist understood the flow of blood and water from the side of Jesus as a symbol of the life-giving Spirit, the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of God's love. When Jesus was lifted up on the cross, he poured out this Spirit of God's love on all humanity, and those who look up at the crucified Jesus with the eyes of faith receive this gift of God's love into their lives. The death of Jesus reveals the love of the good shepherd for his own and also the love of God for all humanity. Jesus' death not only reveals God's love for the world but makes that love tangible and personal for each one through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit into our hearts. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us'. Today's feast is a feast of love. It is the feast of God's love, revealed

in Christ, especially in his death, and given personally to each one of us through the Holy Spirit. This love is a given; it is ours to receive. In the second reading today, Paul calls on us to be planted in this love, and to allow ourselves to be built on this love, a love which, as he says in that reading is 'beyond all knowledge'. Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

(From Martin Hogan's: Weekday Reflections for the Liturgical Year 2020/2021, pages 134 &135)

Hymn to the Sacred Heart.

Heart of Jesus, heart of Jesus,
Burning with love for me;
Inflame my heart, inflame my heart,
With love, with love for Thee.

'Do not let the past disturb you, just leave everything in the Sacred Heart and begin again with joy.'

St. Teresa of Calcutta/Mother Teresa.



Exam Students' Prayer



Lord, as I prepare to study (sit my exam) Send your Holy Spirit to guide me.
Keep me calm.
Help me to do the best I can.
Give me peace, understanding and wisdom.

Prayer for Students at Exam Time

Everlasting God, pour out your Spirit of wisdom on students. **R/ Give them your blessing.**

Help them to remain calm and to attend carefully to the questions asked. **R/ Give them your blessing.**

Help them to think clearly, to remember accurately, and to express themselves well.

R/ Give them your blessing.

May they reflect the best of the work they have done, and the best of the teaching they have received. **R/ Give them your blessing**

May your love be upon them O Lord, as they place all their trust in you. **R/ Give them your blessing.**

Intercom, June 2018

6th June 2021: Feast of the Body and Blood of Jesus/Corpus Christi.

The Body of Christ/ Holy Communion/ The Bread of Life/The Eucharist.

'From the Eucharist comes strength to live the Christian life and zeal to share that life with others.' **Pope St. John Paul II**

'There is nothing so great as the Eucharist. If God had something more precious, He would have given it to us.' **St. John Vianney**: The Cure of Ars.

'Holy Communion is the shortest and safest way to heaven.' **Pope St. Pius X**

'When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loves you now. **St. Teresa of Calcutta/Mother Teresa.**

'Ask Jesus to make you a saint. After all, only He can do that. Go to confession regularly and to Communion as often as you can.' **Dominic Savio**

'Of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the sacraments, the one dearest to God and the one most helpful to us.' **Alphonsus Liguori**

'How many of you say: I should like to see His face, His garments, His shoes. You do see Him, you touch Him, you eat Him. He gives Himself to you, not only that you may see Him, but also to be your food and nourishment.' **Saint John Chrysostom**

'When we work hard, we must eat well. What a joy, that you can receive Holy Communion often! It's our life and support in this life - Receive Communion often, and Jesus will change you into himself.' **Peter Julian Eymard**

'If Christ did not want to dismiss the Jews without food in the desert for fear that they would collapse on the way, it was to teach us that it is dangerous to try to get to heaven without the Bread of Heaven.' **St. Jerome**

'There are people in the world so hungry, that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread.' **Mahatma Gandhi**

St. Columba/St. Colmcille. Feastday: 9th June.

St. Columba, also known as Colmcille, was born in Gartan, Co. Donegal, in 521 and was of royal lineage. He studied under St. Finnian of Moville and St. Finnian of Clonard. He founded monasteries in Derry, Durrow, Iona and possibly Kells. He left Ireland, either for penance or to be a pilgrim for Christ, but Iona became his principal foundation. From it missionaries undertook the conversion of Northumbria. Columba is noted for his great love for people and for all living creatures. He died 9th June, 597.

The Irish Martyrs: 20th June.

17 Irish martyrs, men and women, lay and cleric, chosen to represent about 300 who were put to death for the Catholic faith between 1579 and 1654. They refused to accept Henry VIII as head of the Church and gave their lives rather than deny their faith. They were declared Blessed by Pope John Paul II in 1992.

Religious Goods.

A selection of Mass Cards, Mass Bouquets and Get-Well Cards, produced at St. Mary's Abbey, Glencairn are on sale in the Parish Office. Statues, medals, prayer cards, and other small religious goods are also on sale in the Parish Office. St. Joseph Prayer Cards to mark this Year of St. Joseph are for sale @ 25 cent each. These were printed at St. Joseph's Carmelite Monastery, Tallow. A short explanation of the prayer cards is also available.