

Year of St. Joseph (Part 5)

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 the stained glass windows here in St. Mary's Parish Church, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford.

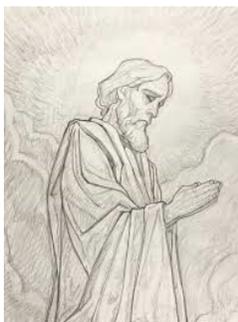
They are panels/medallions/roundels from the stained glass window between the Second Station (Jesus is Laden with His Cross/Jesus takes up His Cross) and the Third Station of the Cross (Jesus Falls the First Time) – a window dedicated to the Holy Family.

In a professional survey of the windows in October 2014, the window is numbered 18N – 18th of the 20 stained glass windows in the church, and one of the seven on that side of the church which faces North.

The panels pictured on the prayer cards are the two bottom panels from the window – on the left, the Death of St. Joseph and on the right, the Holy Family at Prayer. The Prayer for a Happy Death is a well known prayer.

The Children's Prayer to St. Joseph was written by Sr. Antoinette Dilworth rsj, a Josephite Sister and is used with her permission. Sr. Antoinette is the Catechetics Director for Primary Schools in the diocese. We thank Fr. Frank Lloyd for the excellent quality of the photographs. 17/4/2021.

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) The above explanation is given with each card.



Apparitions of St. Joseph – Knock and Fatima.

There are not many apparitions of Joseph. Two of them occur in Marian Shrines, one in Knock, the other in Fatima. The great protestant theologian Karl Barth, acknowledging his devotion to Saint Joseph, stated: "He took care of the child Jesus and he takes care of the Church today".

'Scripture does not recount a single word of his; silent and humble, he always stands aside letting Mary and Jesus go ahead of him ... In Joseph we see an ideal combination of inner strength and gentleness of character.' – Archbishop Neary, Tuam.

St. Mary's Parish Dungarvan

May 2021 - Mary's Month



Queen of the May

Bring flowers of the rarest, bring blossoms the fairest,
From garden and woodland and hillside and dale;
Our full hearts are swelling, our glad voices telling
The praise of the loveliest flower of the vale!

Chorus:

O Mary we crown thee with blossoms today!

Queen of the Angels and Queen of the May.

O Mary we crown thee with blossoms today,

Queen of the Angels and Queen of the May.

Their lady they name thee, their mistress proclaim thee,
Ah, grant that thy children on earth be as true.

As long as the bowers are radiant with flowers,
As long as the azure shall keep its bright hue. **Chorus:**

Sing gaily in chorus; the bright angels o'er us,
Re-echo the strains we begin upon earth;

Their harps are repeating, the notes of our greeting,
For Mary herself is the cause of our mirth. **Chorus:**

The Hail Mary is our first and most beautiful prayer to Mary



A May Altar.

Choose a room in the home where you can set up your altar. Perhaps a corner of the hallway or an area in a bedroom. Find a flat surface that will act as your altar; a small table or chest of drawers is ideal. You could cover the altar with a cloth, but this isn't essential.

An image of Mary will be your centrepiece. Use a small statue if you have one, or a picture of Mary from a prayer card or prayer book, or a set of rosary beads or a small crucifix placed on the altar can also help with devotions. Have a chair or stool nearby to encourage family members to stop by and perhaps pray to Mary during the day. If you have any prayer or Mass cards with images of Mary, these could also be placed on the altar. This year as we honour St. Joseph, a statue or prayer card to St. Joseph could be placed at the altar. May 1st is the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, Mary's husband. On May 13th we celebrate Our Lady of Fatima.

May 31st Feast of the Visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth.

10 Commandments for Simple Gospel Living.

Pope Francis Raises the National Sanctuary at Knock to an International Sanctuary of Special Eucharistic and Marian Devotion on March 19th, 2021.

‘Ever since the apparition of 21 August 1879, when the Blessed Virgin Mary, together with Saint Joseph and Saint John the Apostle, appeared to some villagers, the Irish people, wherever they have found themselves, have expressed their faith and devotion to Our Lady of Knock. You have been a missionary people. We cannot forget how many priests left their homeland in order to become missionaries of the Gospel. Nor can we forget the many lay people who emigrated to far-away lands but still kept their devotion to Our Lady.

How many families in the course of almost a century and a half have handed on the faith to their children and gathered their daily labours around the prayer of the *Rosary*, with the image of Our Lady of Knock at its centre. The arms of the Virgin, outstretched in prayer, continue to show us the importance of prayer as the message of hope which goes out from this Shrine. As you know, in her apparition at Knock, the Virgin says nothing. Yet her silence is a language; indeed, it is the most expressive language we have. The message which comes from Knock is that of the great value of silence for our faith. And... it is silence which Jesus asks of us when he teaches: “When you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you. In praying, do not babble like the pagans, who think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them. Your Father knows what you need before you ask him” (Matthew 6:6-8).....May the Eucharistic mystery which unites us in communion with the Risen Lord and with one another always be the rock on which to live out faithfully our vocation to be “missionary disciples”, like the Virgin Mary who made herself a pilgrim of the Gospel of her Son. May she protect us and console us with her merciful countenance.’

(From Pope Francis’ live video link during Mass at Knock Shrine on March 19th, 2021)

1. Buy things for their usefulness rather than their status and prestige.
2. Learn the difference between a real need and an addiction.
3. Develop a habit of giving things away.
4. Avoid unnecessary and short-lived technological gadgets that promise to ‘save time.’
5. Enjoy things without owning them; e.g. take advantage of public libraries and parks.
6. Nurture awe and appreciation of nature; spend more time outdoors.
7. Get out – and stay out – of debt.
8. Use plain honest speech; say what you mean and keep your commitments.
9. Reject anything that oppresses others: e.g. buy ‘Fair Trade’ products.
10. Seek God’s kingdom of mercy, love and justice; let go of whatever distracts you from that purpose.

Maybe these pandemic times will reinforce the wisdom of living more simply and suggest a way forward for a renewed Christianity. (From Carmelite Sisters of Ireland facebook page)

Weekly Envelopes, May 2021 – May 2022.

Most of the Boxes of Weekly Collection Envelopes for the next year, May 2021 – May 2022 have now been distributed. However, it is not too late to receive a box. We need more people to contribute as the number of weekly contributors is decreasing each year. If you are new to the area or haven’t received a box of weekly envelopes in recent years or if you could encourage a family member, a neighbour, friend or newcomer to the area to take a box of weekly envelopes and to support the parish and the priests of the parish. **You can help by contacting the Parish Office – 058 42374 or email parishofficedungarvan@gmail.com**
Your financial support for the parish is vital.

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 and an explanation of them @ 25 cent each. These were printed at St. Joseph’s Carmelite Monastery, Tallow.