

## The Cross in my Pocket.

I carry a cross in my pocket  
A simple reminder to me  
Of the fact that I am a Christian  
No matter where I may be.

This little cross is not magic,  
Nor is it a good luck charm  
It isn't meant to protect me  
From every physical harm.

It's not for identification  
For all the world to see  
It's simply an understanding  
Between my Savior and me.

When I put my hand in my pocket  
To bring out a coin or a key  
The cross is there to remind me  
Of the price He paid for me.

It reminds me, too, to be thankful  
For my blessings day by day  
And to strive to serve Him better  
In all that I do and say.

It's also a daily reminder  
Of the peace and comfort I share  
With all who know my Master  
And give themselves to His care.

So, I carry a cross in my pocket  
Reminding no one but me  
That Jesus Christ is the Lord of my life  
If only I'll let Him be.

**St. Mary's Parish Dungarvan**

**September 2021**



### **Back to School/College.**

Schools/Colleges reopen after the summer holidays. Since March 2020, student life has been particularly difficult. We wish all students well as they begin another academic year. We pray for them.

### **Prayer for those returning to Schools and Colleges.**

Lord, bless all students who are returning to schools and colleges. Keep them safe each day. May they grow, as you did, in wisdom and stature and in favour with God and his people. Keep them in your loving care and help them to show the same loving care to others. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Prayer for Those Waiting for Exam Results.**

Lord, give me peace of mind as I wait for the exam results. Take away any fear, worry or anxiety I may have. I put my faith and trust in you. Amen.

### **The Catholic Faith Explained**

The Diocese of Waterford and Lismore is offering a course on 'The Catholic Faith Explained' on Wednesday nights beginning on Wednesday, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> from 8pm to 9.15pm. The faith will be presented with the Creed as guide. Anyone 18 or over is welcome and the course is free of charge. **To register please email: [events@waterfordlismore.ie](mailto:events@waterfordlismore.ie) or contact 085 8623705**

### **Autumn Collection: 18/19 September.**

The Autumn Collection for the support of the priests of the parish will be taken up on the weekend of 18/19 September. The weekly collection envelope and the special autumn collection envelope (brown) in your box of envelopes will go to the Diocesan Clergy Common Fund from which the priests of the diocese receive their allowances. These can be placed in the safes in the church or handed in to the parish office. This is one of the 4 collections each year for the support of the priests. We rely totally on the generosity of the people of the parishes of the diocese. Thank you.

**The Birthday of Mary:  
Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.**

Each church year we celebrate only three birthdays: Jesus, Mary and John the Baptist. Jesus is first. Mary and John the Baptist are celebrated because of their relationship to Jesus. Mary, in the words of today's gospel, 'will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' John the Baptist is celebrated as the person who prepared the way for Jesus to begin his preaching.

**The Holy Name of Mary:  
Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.**

Mary or Miriam means wished -for-child- a child wished for, not only by her parents, Joachim and Anne, but by the whole world. Mary, as the Litany of Loreto reminds us is the 'Cause of our Joy', in bringing the Son Of God into the world. And all generations call her blessed, because of what God did for Mary and for us in giving us Jesus our Saviour.

**Our Lady of Sorrows:  
Wednesday, September 15**

Jesus is lost in the Temple; Mary meets Jesus on the way to Calvary; Jesus dies on the Cross; Jesus is taken down from the Cross and is buried in the Tomb. In her sorrows we see Mary suffering with Jesus.

These sorrows were foretold by Simeon when Mary and Joseph presented the baby Jesus in the temple when he said: 'A sword will pierce your own souls too.' (Luke 2:35) We can turn to Mary in our troubles and sorrows.

**Our Lady of Mercy:  
Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>.**

St. Bernard of Clairvaux (1090 – 1153) tells us to call on Mary with devotion and she will not leave our needs unattended, since she is merciful, indeed she is the Mother of Mercy.'

These feasts and every feast of Mary throughout the year, celebrate Mary, the Mother of Jesus and our Mother too.

They bring her closer to us in celebrating her life with its joys and sorrows while giving an insight into Mary's life and her life with God forever.

**Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup>: Saint Teresa of Calcutta/  
Mother Teresa of Calcutta. 1910 – 1997.**

Mother Teresa said: 'By blood, I am Albanian. By citizenship, an Indian. By faith, I am a Catholic nun. As to my calling, I belong to the world. As to my heart, I belong entirely to the Heart of Jesus.'

'Mother Teresa liked to define herself as 'a pencil in the hand of the Lord'. But how many poems of charity, compassion, comfort and joy this little pencil was able to write! Poems of love and tenderness for the poorest of the poor, to whom she consecrated her existence.'

(Pope Francis, September 4, 2016, when Mother Teresa was declared a saint of the church.)



**The Triumph of the Cross:  
Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>.**

'The words 'triumph' and 'cross' don't normally belong together. 'Triumph' suggests celebration, achievement, recognition. 'Cross' indicates suffering, humiliation, defeat. How could anyone who ended up crucified ever be said to have

Triumphed?...The triumph of the cross is the triumph of love over hatred, of life over death.

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**St. Pio of Pietrelcina/Padre Pio (1887 – 1968):**

**Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

Padre Pio, a Capuchin Friar bore the wounds of Jesus (stigmata) from 1911 until his death. His daily work was hearing confessions, sometimes for 11 or 12 hours a day. Pope Paul VI said that to assist at Padre Pio's Mass was 'as effective as a preached retreat.' On June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2002, Pope John Paul II declared Padre Pio a saint of the church. He had often said: 'After my death I will do more. My real mission will begin after my death.'