

40 Hours: Adoration for Vocations.

Please join us during this Year for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood.

<p>Saint Mary's Abbey Glencairn, Lismore 1st-3rd March <i>10am—8pm; 6am—9pm; 6am—9pm</i> Contact the Sisters to join: 058 56168</p>		<p>Stations of the Cross for Lent The stations of the Cross will be prayed each Friday during Lent after the 9.30am Mass.</p>
<p>Sisters of Mary, Morning Star Franciscan Friary—Lady Ln, Waterford City 23rd—25th February <i>Noon—10pm, 6am—9pm, 6am—9pm</i> Contact: 087 6077123</p>	<p>Foyer of Charity Dunmore East, Co. Waterford, X91 FC65 9th—10th March <i>Starts 6am Saturday with Mass. Sunday Mass at 10 am— Adoration ends 10pm</i> Contact: 086 1678027</p>	<p>Holy Family Mission Glencomeragh House, Kilsheelan, E91H584 19th-21st March <i>9am Tuesday until 1am Thursday</i> Contact: 0526133181</p>

Lenten Formation Series: Revisiting the Eucharist.

Beginning this Lent, there will be **two** separate events held in **St Mary's Church Dungarvan**, focusing on the teachings of the Eucharist. These will be facilitated by Sherman Luk, our parishioner, who has studied and promoted Eucharistic devotions around the world. All are welcome.

1. Talk on the Eucharist: '**How to understand the Eucharistic Presence**' Thursday, 7 March 2024, 7:00-8:30 pm in St. Mary's Parish Church (includes Adoration & Benediction)

2. 8-Week Study Group: "**7 Secrets of the Eucharist**" Every Thursday, 7.30-8.30 pm, 14 March – 16 May in St. Mary's Parish Church (Except Holy & Easter Weeks). For those interested in 'digging deeper', this study group will read & discuss, over the course of 8 Thursdays, the book "7 Secrets of the Eucharist" by Vinny Flynn. For those wishing to attend this study group, please RSVP: 089 405 7847.

See notice in Church porches for more details.

St. Mary's Parish Dungarvan

Lent 2024



Ash Wednesday, 14th February 2024

Remember you are Dust

Every Ash Wednesday, we wear ashes. We acknowledge the reality that every believer, atheist, scientist and mystic can all agree: 'we are dust and unto dust we will return.' It is a reminder that we will die. Yet Isaiah (61:3) tells us that a messenger would come 'to bestow on us a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourner's tears and a garment of praise instead of a heavy heart.'

Ashes remind us that we are not spared death—but that the power of death has been defeated. There is a moving ritual in the burial service of various Christian churches and other faith traditions, in which the priest (Minister) and then the chief mourners, if they wish, let a handful of earth fall onto the coffin. For mourners who remember hearing the scriptures, this ritual has a special significance, as the Genesis words: 'Dust you are and unto dust you will return' are intoned. Here, God seals our mortality. The words evoke our solidarity with one another and with all of humankind in our shared experience.

Genesis contains a promise that the serpent will be crushed (3:15). That promise was fulfilled when Christ, in complete solidarity with us, went down to the dust and defeated death on our behalf. 'As in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.' (1 Cor 15:22)

John Cullen, Intercom, February 2024

Ash Wednesday Masses, St. Mary's: 9.30 am & 7.30 pm

Trócaire Box 2024: Climate Change: Malawi

Malawi: The warm Heart of Africa

Malawi is a country with extremely high levels of poverty, where life is already a struggle for many. Climate change means flooding and droughts are becoming more unpredictable. People are losing their homes, their livelihoods and even their lives. You can support communities to build resilience. To prepare for the devastation that could arrive any day.

Working together for the Future

After destructive cyclone in Malawi last year, Trócaire worked with local partners to repair over 50 boreholes, restoring vital access to water for communities. With a focus on sustainability, solar powered water pumps have been installed in 12 communities across Malawi. Your generosity could mean many more families have access to clean fresh and safe water.

Too little water and the Children miss school.

Malita's children, Patrick and Patricia, spend hours every day fetching water. A lack of rain means the maize that Malita plants withers in the ground, leaving her family hungry. You can help her adapt with drought-resistant crops.

Too much water and the family's livelihood is destroyed.

Sudden floodwaters can wash away the crops and any nutrients in the soil, leaving families like Malita's with nothing and no hope for a harvest in the next season. You can help communities shore up vital flood defences.

Please take home a Trocaire Box and give it a prominent place in your home during Lent. Every little helps.

Lent: Points to Ponder

Even though the Church no longer asks us to observe the severe Lenten penances of former times, it is surely fitting that we make some form of preparation. It should be a time for personal reflection on where we stand as Christians. Only a little reflection will convince us that, on the one hand, there are many ways in which we fail through word and actions, through our thoughts and through our failure to be the kind of people that the Gospel challenges us to be.

But our reflections should not only focus on the negative.

What are the positive things which should be a part of my daily life?

What kind of a person am I in relation to my family friends, working colleagues and other people with whom I come in contact?

How active am I as a member of Christian community e.g my parish?

What difference do I make to other peoples lives?

What do I do, within my limitations, to help eradicate the abuses which are part of our society?

These are just some of the questions I can ask myself during these six weeks.

And it is never too late to get started. Let us not rigidly think that, because Ash Wednesday has already come and gone, I cannot start today. Remember that even those who came to the vineyard at the eleventh hour were paid the same amount. But the earlier I start the better.

livingspace.sacredspace.ie, Intercom, February 2024, P.39

Sunday/An Domhnach.

Sunday, an Domhnach Mór, is the day we pray: Céad fáilte romhat, a Rí an Domhnaigh bheannaithe. Christ is King of creation, of the days of the week, and especially of the day sanctified by his Passion and Resurrection. Sunday is a holy day and a holiday, a day of rest, of prayer and worship. Lá breá aoibhinn chun Críost a agallamh. Therefore, stir your feet and make your way to Mass. Féach suas ar Mhac na Banaltran, Christ, Son of the blessed Nurse, Mary. Fáilte roimh toil Dé.

Verse

Dé bheatha chugainn, a
Dhomhaigh bheannaithe. Lá
breá aoibhinn tar éis na
seachtaine,
Lá breá aoibhinn chun Críost a
agallamh.
Corraigh do chos is téire chun
an Aifrinn.
Corraigh do chroí agus díbir
an ghangaid as,
Corraigh do bhéal chun
bréithre beannaithe.
Féach suas ar Mhac na
Banaltran,
Mac na hÓighe, ós é a
chennaigh sinn,
Gur leis a bhuaifar beo agus
marbh sinn.

Translation

We bid you welcome, blessed
Sunday,
A fine and lovely day after the
week,
A fine and lovely day to speak
with Christ,
Stir your feet and make your
way to Mass,
Stir your heart and drive from
it all spite,
Stir your lips and speak words
of blessing,
Look up and see the son of the
Blessed Nurse,
The son of the Virgin, for it
was he who redeemed us,
May we be his in life and in
death.

*(Padraig Ó Fiannachta and Desmond Forristal, Saltair. Vincent Ryan, OSB,
the Shaping of Sunday.) Intercom, February 2024, P.31*