

visit them. Works of mercy are also works of hope that give rise to immense gratitude. Gratitude should likewise be shown to all those healthcare workers who, often in precarious conditions, carry out their mission with constant care and concern for the sick and for those who are most vulnerable.

Signs of hope are also needed by those who are the very embodiment of hope, namely, the young. Sadly, they often see their dreams and aspirations frustrated. We must not disappoint them, for the future depends on their enthusiasm.

It is gratifying to see the energy they demonstrate, for example, by rolling up their sleeves and volunteering to help when disasters strike and people are in need..... With renewed passion, let us demonstrate care and concern for adolescents, students and young couples, the rising generation. Let us draw close to the young, for they are the joy and hope of the Church and of the world!

(Paragraphs from Pope Francis' Letter: Hope Does Not Disappoint.)

**Visit of the Relics of St. Bernadette.
Cathedral of the Most Holy Trinity Waterford.
Tuesday, 17th September 2024.**

The Relics of St. Bernadette will come on pilgrimage to Ireland for the very first time visiting every diocese in the country. This very special, once in a lifetime event, will provide an opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds to experience the special gifts and charisms of Lourdes in their diocese.

The Relics of St. Bernadette will visit the Diocese of Waterford and Lismore on Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th September. Below is the full programme for Tuesday 17th.

A short programme for Wednesday 18th will be available soon.

Schedule:

1pm – 2pm: Time for Schools.

2pm – 3pm: Quiet Time.

3pm – 4pm: Welcome Liturgy and Water Liturgy.

4pm – 6pm: Quiet Time.

7pm – 8pm: Mass.

8pm – 9.30pm: Quiet Time.

St. Bernadette of Lourdes, pray for us.

This will be a very special time for anyone who has special devotion to Lourdes and St. Bernadette.

St. Mary's Parish Dungarvan

September 2024



Dungarvan Youth Club.

Explore the Joy of our Catholic faith. For ages from 13 to 17. Faith, Fun, Friendships, Games and Outings. The 2nd and 4th Friday of every month, starting in September. Please see our notice boards for more information.

Congratulations to our Young People.

We congratulate the young people who received their Leaving Certificate results last week. We wish them every blessing for the future. Also, as schools and colleges reopen over these weeks, we pray for all our young people as they begin another year in school or in college.

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.

What will this School Year Bring?

What will this year bring? We do not know. It will likely bring its usual times of work and play, experiences of success and failure, all things that are part of school/college life.

It is a new beginning, the planting of a seed that will grow for a year, the seed of a fruit that will blossom in times to come. It offers new hope, hope for good work, for successful results, for friendship, for fun, for learning.

In the coming year, may there be learning, prayer and fun. May there be hard work, faith and friendship. May no one in school/college be lonely; may no one be left out in class; may no one suffer because of how others treat them.

As we begin this new school/college year in hope, in prayer and in friendship, may God begin it with us, be with us during it, and successfully bring it to its conclusion. (Author unknown)

Look!!

An activity page for children based on each Sunday's gospel is available in the side porch and in the church. It has activities, a short summary of the Sunday gospel and a prayer.

**Good, better, best
Never let it rest
'Til your good
is better
And your better
is best.**

Attributed to St. Jerome
who died on 30/9/420

**Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual
Help.**

This novena begins on Monday,
September 2nd at 7.30pm and continues for
9 Mondays at 7.30pm each Monday.
No 9.30am Mass on Mondays during the
novena. We also welcome all those who
listen on **98.5FM**, and in that way are
united with everyone making the novena.

Novena Prayer to Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

Mother of Perpetual Help, with the greatest confidence we come before your holy picture to be inspired by the example of your life. We think of you at that moment when, full of faith and trust, you accepted God's call to be the mother of His Son. Help us, your children, to accept with joy our own calling in life. When you learned that your cousin Elizabeth was in need you immediately went to serve her and offer your help. Help us, like you, to be concerned for others. We think of you, Mother, at the foot of the cross. Your heart must have bled to see your Son in agony. But your joy was great when he rose from the dead, victorious over the powers of evil. Mother of Sorrows, help us to realise that we must expect trials and disappointments. Help us not to lose heart. May we share with you and your Son the joy of having courageously faced up to all the challenges of life. **Amen.**

Autumn Collection: 14/15 September 2024.

The Autumn Collection for the support of the priests of the parish will be taken up on the weekend of 14/15 September. Please use the Autumn Collection envelope, the white envelope from your weekly box of envelopes. The offertory collection at each of the Masses that weekend will also go to the support of the priests of the parish. This is one of the 4 collections each year for the support of the priests. The priests' allowances rely totally on the generosity of the people of the parishes of the diocese.

Jubilee/Holy Year 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope.

Theme: Hope Does Not Disappoint.

'Everyone knows what it is to hope. In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring. Even so, uncertainty about the future may at times give rise to conflicting feelings, ranging from confident trust to apprehensiveness, from serenity to anxiety, from firm conviction to hesitation and doubt. Often, we come across people who are discouraged, pessimistic and cynical about the future, as if nothing could possibly bring them happiness. For all of us, may the Jubilee be an opportunity to be renewed in hope. God's word helps us find reasons for that hope. Taking it as our guide, let us return to the message that the Apostle Paul wished to communicate to the Christians of Rome. "Since we are justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing in the glory of God... **Hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us**" (Rom 5:1-2.5).

The first sign of hope should be the desire for peace in our world, which once more finds itself immersed in the tragedy of war. Heedless of the horrors of the past, humanity is confronting yet another ordeal, as many peoples are prey to brutality and violence. What does the future hold for those peoples, who have already endured so much? How is it possible that their desperate plea for help is not motivating world leaders to resolve the numerous regional conflicts in view of their possible consequences at the global level? Is it too much to dream that arms can fall silent and cease to rain down destruction and death? May the Jubilee remind us that those who are peacemakers will be called "children of God" (Mt 5:9). The need for peace challenges us all and demands that concrete steps be taken. May diplomacy be tireless in its commitment to seek, with courage and creativity, every opportunity to undertake negotiations aimed at a lasting peace.

Signs of hope should also be shown to the sick, at home or in hospital. Their sufferings can be allayed by the closeness and affection of those who

P.T.O.