

Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood.

Recently, 21 men started their year of pre-seminary training. 15 seminarians began their training in Maynooth, 2 of them for the Diocese of Waterford and Lismore. The total number of men studying for the priesthood for Irish dioceses is now 74. Please pray for all of them.

Vocations workshops

Exploring priesthood – October 12th UCD.

Exploring priesthood – St. Flannan’s, Ennis Saturday 26th October.

Exploring priesthood – Saturday November 10th – Pallottine House, Thurles.

Irish Bishops’ Conference Council for Vocations.

E-mail: info@vocations.ie Website: www.vocations.ie

Sr. Mary and Sr. Rita Say Thanks.

Sr. Mary and Sr. Rita (Carriglea) wish to thank all those who supported them in the life-changing events of July 2024 – their move from Carriglea to Ferrybank and following Sr. Rita’s awful accident.

Thank you for your words of kindness, Get Well Cards and Mass Bouquets, your generosity and the genuine concern we feel you have for us! We are amazed and humbled. We will be forever grateful for your kind-heartedness which brought us through those very difficult weeks. We felt we were being carried. Sr. Rita wants you to know that she is well on the road to recovery.

In appreciation, we will have Mass offered for you and for all your intentions.

Sr. Rita and Sr. Mary.

Dungarvan Youth Group.

Explore the Joy of our Catholic Faith. For ages from 13 to 17. Faith, Fun, Friendships, Games and Outings. The group will meet on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of every month in the Parish Pastoral Room in the building to the right of the Deise Day Centre - X35 DE98. The group met on Fridays, September 13th & 27th from 7pm – 8.30pm.

More information on our notice boards or its own email address: youthclubdungarvanparish@hotmail.com

St. Mary’s Parish Dungarvan

October 2024



10 Good Reasons to go to Mass

Whether you’re 8 years old or in your 80s, at some point in your life you’ve probably struggled with the question, “Why do we have to go to Mass?” If you feel like skipping Mass, here are 10 good reasons to go:

1. God asks us to make one day holy. God asks us to set aside one day to refocus physically, mentally and spiritually. We live in a secular world. Going to Mass helps us to see everything from a different perspective.

2. Jesus gives us the gift of himself. When we go to Mass, we are doing what Jesus commanded his followers to do. It is a command to love and to be loved by God.

3. We need to be a part of community. When we come together at Mass to pray and worship God, we fulfil a deep need inside of us to be in communion with other people.

4. God has a special message for us. When we listen to the readings, the homily and the prayers of the Mass, God speaks to us in a special way.

5. We need talk to God. When we go to Mass, we speak to God through our singing, our communal responses and prayer, and our personal prayers from the depths of our hearts.

6. People need our prayers. We can pray for other people anytime, but when we pray for others during Mass, we pray in a special way.

7. We need to stand up for what we believe. Being a follower of Jesus is counter-cultural. At every Mass, we have the opportunity to stand up and proclaim what we believe publicly.

8. We need to acknowledge that we make mistakes. At every Mass, we have the opportunity to review the past week. We admit that we have sinned in thought, in word, in deed, in what we have done and what we have failed to do.

9. We need ritual in our lives. Mass is a ritual, which means that through the repetition of prayers, movements, and the changing of bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ, we are formed, disciplined and consoled.

10. We need to experience something bigger than ourselves. When we go to the Mass, we share in the death and resurrection of Jesus. When we offer our ordinary lives to God through Jesus, we enter into God’s great plan for the world. We are strengthened by the Eucharist and sent out into the world to bring the Gospel message to all people.

Continued overleaf

Change of Attitude

What if you changed your attitude about going to Mass? What if you began to think of Mass as the time in the day when you can connect with God and with other people in a special way? What if you concentrated on the things you like about your parish instead of what you don't like? What if you made Mass a priority? The effects of these kinds of positive attitudes may surprise you.

Lorene Hanley Duquin, Our Sunday Visitor. Fuller article on Intercom, October 2024, Page 8

<p>October 2nd: The Guardian Angels <i>Prayer to our Guardian Angel</i></p> <p>Angel sent by God to guide me, be my light and walk beside me; be my guardian and protect me; on the paths of life direct me. Amen.</p>	<p>October 15th: St. Teresa of Avila <i>Prayer of St. Teresa of Avila</i> (1515-1582)</p> <p>Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you, all things will pass away. God never changes; patience obtains all things, whoever has God lacks nothing. God alone suffices. Amen.</p>
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October 20th: Mission Sunday

Mission, we see, is a tireless going out to all men and women, in order to invite them to encounter God and enter into communion with him.

Tireless! God, in great love and rich in mercy, constantly sets out to encounter all men and women, and to call them to the happiness of his kingdom, even in the face of their indifference or refusal. Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd and messenger of the Father, went out in search of the lost sheep of the people of Israel and desired to go even further, in order to reach even the most distant sheep (cf. *Jn* 10:16). Both before and after his resurrection, he told his disciples, 'Go!', thus involving them in his own mission (cf. *Lk* 10:3; *Mk* 16:15). The Church, for her part, in fidelity to the mission she has received from the Lord, will continue to go to the ends of the earth, to set out over and over again, without ever growing weary or losing heart in the face of difficulties and obstacles.

Let us not forget that every Christian is called to take part in this universal mission by offering his or her own witness to the Gospel in every context, so that the whole Church can continually go forth with her Lord and Master to the 'crossroads' of today's world. 'Today's drama in the Church is that Jesus keeps knocking on the door, but from within, so that we will let him out! Often we end up being an 'imprisoning' Church which does not let the Lord out, which keeps him as 'its own', whereas the Lord came for mission and wants us to be missionaries'.

Pope Francis, Message for Mission Sunday 2024

Blessed Carlo Acutis and His Devotion to Our Lady.

Carlo Acutis was 15 years old when he died of leukaemia in 2006. A 15-year-old who had a keen interest in social media, particularly, the internet. He designed websites. An ordinary 15-year-old, in many ways, but extraordinary in other ways, in particular, in his faith. He is now Blessed Carlo Acutis, well on his way to being named a saint of the Church, more than likely next year, the Holy Year 2025. His mother, Antonio Salzano Acutis with Paolo Rodari has written a book: 'My Son Carlo.' (2021) His mother says Carlo has a close relationship to Mary since he was little. He spoke about her frequently. He always prayed to her and invited his father and herself to do so with him. From a very young age, Carlo prayed the rosary every day. **He described the rosary as the shortest ladder to heaven.** His mother says that he 'recited it in pieces, while he went to school, or on the bus, or while we took walks. He always liked to pray it with the family or the community or in church or with someone else.' (My Son Carlo. pp 11& 12 and p. 203.) He always preferred to pray it with at least one other person.

This young man, Carlo Acutis has a lot to teach each one of us, and in the coming years we will hear much more about this young man whose example will inspire generations of people, especially young people. He emphasised the uniqueness of each person. **He said: 'Everyone is born unique, but many die as photocopies.'**

A prayer to Blessed Carlo Acutis says: **'You gave him Mary as a beloved mother, and you made him, through the rosary, a cantor of her Tenderness'**

Our Lady and the Saints

John Paul II said that as a young man, praying the Living Rosary helped him realize that not only does Our Mother Mary direct us toward Christ, but Christ also directs us towards His mother. Christ is saying 'Look what marvels I have worked for my mother.'

Devotion to the saints and especially to Our Lady, is so important because it marks out why our faith is so special. God's grace is not something superficial but penetrates the core of our being. God has promised to make us like Himself. Our Lady is the first in whom this promise has been fulfilled, and so she is worthy of the highest of praise.

Robert Verrill OP Intercom, October 2024, Page 39.

Timmy Waddle – Children's Book.

This is a beautiful hardback children's book about a graylag goose written by a nun in Glencairn Abbey. It is currently on display in the noticeboard in the church's main porch and on sale in the parish office @ €15.