



Parish of Saint Columbanus, Loughlinstown



A continued Happy Easter!

I hope you had a reasonably happy week, the good weather certainly helps. Have there ever been cleaner houses? cleaner hands? so many phone calls?

We eagerly await hearing what is to happen after May 5. When will we be able to resume Mass and our regular services in St. Columbanus?

Archbishop Diarmuid Martin reminds us that we have 40 Lay Chaplains and 36 Ordained Chaplains in our health care facilities in the Dublin Diocese. All of them are working at full pace in these extraordinary times.

When praying for the sick and their families, also when praying for frontline health care staff, let us remember the Chaplains.

Their work, today more difficult than ever, is to accompany the sick, especially the seriously ill, to pray with them and offer them the consolation and strength of the sacraments. Chaplains see their support of the families of the sick as being of supreme importance, they give a lot of their time and energy towards this.

Chaplains also have a special role to play in caring for the healthcare staff.

We ask a special blessing on them, in these strangest of times.

Sadly, some patients die. Unfortunately we cannot celebrate their funerals as we would like, but thanks to Fr. Tom and priests like him, Parish Funeral Teams, and good undertakers, all is done with great care, compassion and dignity.

Webcams allow many friends, neighbours and community to take part in the funeral Mass.

For all those who have died of Covid 19 we ask your mercy O Lord. May they rest in Peace.

Teresa gives you details below of "A Virtual Pilgrimage to Knock" for next Sunday. She also includes in your envelope, the Spiritual Communion prayer which I know you will be delighted to get.

It is always good to end on a happy note! So today we join in wishing John Carroll a **Very Happy Birthday**. It is what we might call a "roundy" birthday! Is it 40, or 50? John is one of our stalwarts, from the first days of St. Columbanus.

Hoping that you will have a peaceful and safe week, full of blessings.

Your brother in Christ.

Enda L

A Virtual Pilgrimage to Knock with the Archdiocese of Dublin - Programme Sunday April 26th

You can join the pilgrimage from this link: www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live.html

- 2.30pm:** Rosary
- 3.00pm:** Pilgrimage Mass celebrated by the Rector of Knock Shrine
- 3.45pm:** Benediction
- 4.00pm:** Virtual visit to the Apparition Chapel
- 4.15pm:** Opportunity to place a petition, light a candle or have a mass said online.

Trócaire Boxes

Trócaire Boxes can be held until we have some very practical way of collecting them and getting the funds to their centre in Maynooth. Perhaps you would consider supporting them in other ways, as explained below.

If you would like to donate online or over the phone, you can contact (01) 629 3333 online at: www.trocaire.org/donate/make-a-donation or Cheques can be made payable to Trócaire and posted to Trócaire Head Office, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, W23 NX63.

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