

Parish of Saint Columbanus, Loughlinstown



A continued Happy Easter. Four weeks to go until Pentecost/Whit Sunday.

We are into May. I will miss our singing of "Queen of the May" maybe we will manage it somehow.

Sunday coming, May 3rd I hope to celebrate Mass by ZOOM, thanks to Tom Robinson, Chairperson of our PPC.

Below this letter Tom will give you all the relevant details of how to take part, if you so wish. Mass will be at 11am from my house, with participation organized by Tom, readers etc etc.

If our first Zoom Mass works satisfactorily, I would love to continue on Sundays, and all those who would like to read etc can be facilitated by phoning Teresa in the Parish Office.

I am really pleased that it is possible. I'm very sorry that everybody may not be able to join us, but perhaps a family member could organize it for you if you do not feel you are able to do it.

And for your information RTÉ1 will broadcast Mass for Vocations on Sunday Morning at 11am.

Fr. Enda

ZOOM MASS

If you would like to Join Fr. Enda on Sunday for Mass at 11am please enter the ZOOM link below on your device. You don't need to have a ZOOM Account, the ZOOM App will automatically open with this link.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82779900837

Tom Robinson, Chairperson of the Parish Pastoral Council.

(If you have difficulty logging onto to the ZOOM link this weekend please contact Teresa next week, Tuesday to Friday, on 01-2824085 for assistance)

Parishioners Parish Contributions

A fair number of parishioners have been asking about Easter Dues/ supporting the Parish and have sent in contributions. Thank you, most sincerely.

Brian McKeever, chairperson of our Parish Finance Committee, says,

"During these difficult times, we are very aware of the financial constraints of our parishioners and also of the parish. With this in mind we are very grateful to those who have already supported our church, both with the weekly envelopes and Easter Dues. If you wish to contribute there are some suggestions as to how to do so".

First and Share collections and Easter Dues may be paid directly to the church in envelope form.

Envelopes can be supplied if required and we can arrange for them to be collected if you are not in a position to bring them to the church yourself. Weekly Family Offering envelopes can also be collected if required.

Please contact Teresa at 01-2824085 if you would like to avail of this service.

To contribute through your bank by Direct Debit or Standing Order you can do so with the following details:

Loughlinstown Parish No.1 Account

Bank of Ireland, Kill O'The Grange

BIC No. BOFIIE2D

IBAN No. IE60 BOFI 9011 8350 2672 64

We soon hope to have an On Line Donate facility on our Website.

Brian McKeever, Chairperson of the Parish Finance Committee

Fr. P. Enda Lloyd Co-Parish Priest

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"We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God".

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity, that they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realise that we are all members of one great family and to recognise the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.