



# COBH PARISH NEWSLETTER

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Temperance Sunday 3rd March 2019



This is a time of year we do not associate with fresh fruit except for imported lemons and oranges in abundance. If you have been getting any presents of marmalade lately—you might know that this is the time of year for Seville oranges. Tangerine fruit is also in abundance. We rely heavily on these imports. To go to the Mediterranean in the early New Year is to see lemons and oranges in abundance, falling to the ground. We have several months before we can expect to see our native apples or pears. Every fruit has its season, and if you have perhaps lived or holidayed in sunnier climes abroad you would be familiar with fresh fruit off the tree. One of the most abundant places for fruit in the world is the Jericho Valley in Israel, whilst another is the San Joaquin Valley in California (which can feed 90% of the US population). Orchards and vineyards and groves are truly an amazing sight.

By its fruits will a plant or tree be known, Jesus says. He could have easily said, 'by its leaves', or 'shape', or 'buds or flowers'. But no—its fruits. So as Christian disciples we should be known by fruits — repentance, forgiveness, almsgiving, charitable speech, patience etc. Abundant fruit is the sign of a healthy tree, abundant good works the sign of a healthy Christian. But we are meant to be always in season! The coming Lenten season is a time of pruning so that we can produce even more abundantly. What can we prune of what we have amassed, so that others may live more abundantly?

A healthy fruit also contains many seeds - the potential for new life. The fruit disperses its seeds by wind or animals and then the seed shrivels and dies in the ground before it is capable of producing new life, the new generation, providing ultimately many years of fruit, not just a single crop. Holy Week and Easter reminds us that Jesus is the one who has provided, through His death on the Cross—and His glorious resurrection, new life for the world. By His death and burial He became the source of New Life. But 'you cannot cram a crop.' The laws of nature, of time, of watering, of nurturing and fertilising, take many years, but the fruit will be worth the wait. Christ waits for us to produce by good example; we are watered by prayer, pruned by sacrifice and almsgiving. May this be a spiritually profitable springtime and Lent for us all, leading ultimately to eternal life. We will be recognised as Christians by the fruits which we produce and the Lord will take us, and our fruits of our labours, one day into the Barn of heaven. This Lent let us begin again.

## ST COLMAN'S HISTORICAL ONE DAY CONFERENCE



A conference to mark the centenary of the consecration of Saint Colman's Cathedral, Cobh and the sesqui-centenary of the laying of its foundation stone will take place on:

**SATURDAY 9<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2019**

**COMMODORE HOTEL, JACK DOYLE ROOM,  
WESTBOURNE PLACE, COBH.**

**9:45am – 4:45pm**

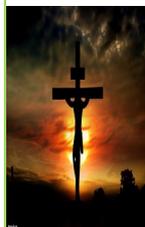
**To Book Your Place**

Contact Marita Foster at [maritaffoster@gmail.com](mailto:maritaffoster@gmail.com) /  
0860667529 OR Collect a registration form at  
Cobh Parish Office, 5 Cathedral Terrace, Cobh.

**Cobh Parish Income: Collections for 24/2/2019 was Cathedral €1,890.00, Norwood €590.00, Mount €190.00, Ballymore €90.00.**



**Baptisms:** We welcome into our community Mason Hayes, Luna Evie Verhey O'Shea and all who were baptised recently.



**Deaths:** We pray for the repose of the soul of Carol Gaul, Coolamber Crescent, Marie O'Donnell, Ballydanielmore, Kay Roads (nee Ireland), Berkshire & late Patricks Sq., and all who died recently.

**May they rest in peace.**

### **TOUR GUIDES FOR ST. COLMAN'S CATHEDRAL 2019**

The Cathedral is celebrating its centenary year and so we are looking for extra tour guides or 'ambassadors' who would meet and greet people as they visit St. Colman's Cathedral for the coming season.

Cobh will be welcoming over 100 liners to the town this summer. Most visitors come to see the Cathedral. Have you time to spare to meet and greet visitors during this special year?

Please contact the Parish Office 4813222 or Nuala 087 7692311 if you are interested.

#### **Mass Goers Association (MGA)**



**The Mission Prayer for this period**  
"We pray for all the displaced and abandoned families and children around the world."

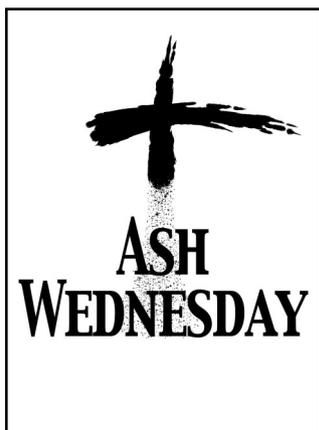
**Our next meeting will be Wed 13th March 2019 - after 10am Mass in St. Colman's Hall.**

**Our Purpose is Caring and Sharing  
St John Paul II, Pray for us.**

#### **Ash Wednesday**

Next Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent and there will be blessing and distribution of ashes at all Masses.

There will be an extra evening Mass on Ash Wednesday at 7.30 pm at Norwood Church.



V. Rev. John McCarthy, Adm.	4815619
Rev. Tom McDermott CC	4812937
V. Rev. Liam Kelleher	087 8516984
Rev Aquin Casey CC	4813601
Parish Office	4813222
Priest on Sick Call	087-6872014

#### **Cobh Parish Safeguarding Committee**

The parish Child safeguarding Committee meets quarterly in the Parish Office

Information regarding Child Safeguarding Policies and Procedures in the Diocese of Cloyne can be found at <http://www.safeguardingchildrenclayne.ie/>

#### **Irish Heart Foundation.**

Annual Church Gate collection takes place this weekend Sat 2nd & Sun 3rd March.

**Anam Cara Cork**, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Evening on Wednesday 6th March at 7:20pm in the Clayton Hotel, Silver Springs, Tivoli, Cork. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not.

# **Trócaire**

Trócaire was established by the Catholic Church in 1973 as a way for Irish people to donate to development and emergency relief overseas. Our dual mandate is to support the most vulnerable people in the developing world, while also raising awareness of injustice and global poverty in Ireland.

Lent invites us to personal spiritual renewal, and also to be mindful of our poor, oppressed and persecuted sisters and brothers and to reach out to them in their hour of need. The 2019 Lenten Trócaire Boxes will be available shortly to collect from the back of the church, and through schools from Ash Wednesday onwards.

Your kind donation to Trócaire this Lent helps all the children and families we work with worldwide. Thank you so much for holding them in your heart.