



# COBH PARISH NEWSLETTER

## 5th Sunday of Lent

### 7th April 2019

#### FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT We began our Lenten journey, allowing the dust of ashes be placed on our foreheads. We talked about this a few weeks ago: “Remember you are dust and unto dust you shall return” and here we are, almost at journey’s end and focused once again on dust ... not the dust of ashes but the dust on the ground, dust used by Jesus to be his canvas as he wrote words that nobody seemed to read. We know the story well. A woman dragged into a hostile crowd and left there, standing before Jesus. No words exchanged between them. Chances are, like the father in last week’s Gospel passage, he saw her while she was still a long way off. Neither of them needed words. The speaking was done by her accusers. “Caught”, they told him, “in the very act of committing adultery”. Then they brought Moses into it, telling Jesus that Moses demanded women like this be stoned to death. “What do you say?” In their minds the answer was clear – in their hands they held the stones. That’s when he started to write. Bent downwards, his finger traced letters, words, images maybe in the sand but he said nothing. They were not happy with that response. They wanted him to say “Stone her” so that other words he had spoken about forgiveness, second chances, turning the other cheek, treating others as you would want them to treat you, would all be overshadowed by his condemnation of this woman. He kept writing – doodling, in the dust. An answer was demanded “What have you to say?” It must have seemed like an eternity to them – the time between the question and the response. “Let the one among you who has never sinned, throw the first stone”. Turning to the ground – the dust, he begins to write again. Stones dropped, shuffling steps, muffled voices until he was alone – alone with the woman. “No condemnation?” She shakes her head. “Neither do I condemn you. Go away and sin no more”. Trócaire. Mercy! What is he writing on the land today? In the dust? “Grabbing”, “Oppression”, “Greed”, “Justice”, “Truth”, “Equality”, “NOW”. Bent down, he’s avoiding eye contact because maybe he wants us to arrive at a place without feeling he’s looking directly at us, a place



where we do the right thing by people, drop the stones and walk but .... is that enough? They walked away from the woman that day and, in walking away from her they also walked away from him. You’d like to think they might have dropped the stones, looked at her and with him, chosen not to condemn – to walk towards. Through these weeks of Lent we have had the chance to walk towards people in their time and place of need. We have in the Trócaire Lenten Campaign, been brought face to face with people who otherwise we would not encounter. We have had the chance to hear some of their words and to respond in a meaningful way. With Jesus, we have had the chance to make a difference – not loud or dramatic, just in the quietness of reflection and in the generosity of sharing. So, let us look now at some of the words and phrases Jesus might write beneath our feet today, knowing that we have tried to respond to the needs of those put before us during the Lenten Campaign. “Thank you”. “Insofar as you did it to one of the least of my brothers or sisters, you did it for me”. “Well done good and faithful servant”. As for images or emojis! Surely, a smiling face and a thumbs up. Trócaire.

#### Safeguarding

**A copy of Bishop William Crean’s message for Safeguarding Sunday is available at the back of churches this weekend. We invite you to take a copy home and study its contents. Notices with details and contact numbers of Safeguarding personnel in the Diocese and details of relevant State agencies are available on the notice boards. Bishop Crean’s message will also be available on the diocesan website: [www.cloynediocese.ie](http://www.cloynediocese.ie)**

**Cobh Parish Income: Collections for 24th March, 2019 was Cathedral €1,941.00, Norwood €460.00, Mount €100.00, Ballymore €212.00.**



**Baptisms:** We welcome into our community Jessica Olahova, Emily O'Hanlon and all who were baptised recently.



**Deaths:** We pray for the repose of the souls of all who died recently.. We especially pray for Jerome Murphy, Norwood Park; Michael (Micko) O'Connell -Carrigaloe & Passage West; and Baby Krystian Jan Kretowicz Cluain Ard.  
**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 on 087 7692311, if you are interested.

### **LENTEN STATIONS**

**Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> April 10.00am – Norwood - Fr. John McCarthy.**

Whitepoint, Railway Cottages, Whitepoint Moorings, Whitepoint Est., Whitepoint Drive, Whitepoint Ave., Rushbrooke, Ringacoiltig, Coolgreine, Pebble Beach, Lake Road, Grove Gardens, Castleview, Prospect Villas, Knockeven, Roseneath, Norwood Villas, Rushbrooke Tce., Beausite, Riveria Tce., Ferry view, Dock Cottages, Dock Tce., Strandville, Carrigview, Carrigaloe, Marino Villas, Marian Tce., Cedar Walk, Cedar Crescent, Cedar Ave., Cedar Grove, Ashgrove, Beechwood Drive, Beechwood Mews, Beechwood Grove, Beechwood Ave., Beechwood Court, Willow Bank, Willow Drive, Willow Park, Chestnut Mews, Chestnut Close, Chestnut Drive, Cooline Drive.

### **Cork Autism Conference 2019**

**Autism: No Limits, Just Possibilities,** Sunday September 22nd, Silversprings Hotel, Tivoli, Cork. The conference provides a unique forum for Parents, Families, Caregivers, Autistic Adults, Employers, Educators, Professionals, Agencies, Advocates and anyone with an interest in autism. All are welcome. More info here: [www.bookwhen.com/autismcork](http://www.bookwhen.com/autismcork) or call 089 239 8900

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

**Next Sunday is Palm Sunday.**

**Holy Week cards outlining all ceremonies will shortly be available at the back of churches. A copy will also be displayed on notice boards. Confessions will be heard after all Masses on Saturday night and Sunday next weekend. There will be a Penitential Service on Tuesday week the 16th of April at 7.30 with visiting priests.**

**Rosary at the Grottos:** Join thousands of people around Ireland as we go to our local Grottos to pray the Rosary each day during the month of May at 8pm (unless otherwise stated).

To sign up your local Grotto simply visit [www.coastalrosaryireland.ie](http://www.coastalrosaryireland.ie) or call/text 087 278 6552. Here in Cobh we will pray at a different grotto each week during May. We will keep you updated.

**Stations of the Cross** are recited daily at 3.15pm in the Cathedral for the season of Lent for the release of the Holy Souls in Purgatory.



All welcome  
**Mass Goers Association (MGA)**  
**The Mission Prayer for this period**  
**"We pray for peace in our world"**

Our next meeting will be held in in the Benedictine Café.  
on Wed., 10th April, 2019 after 10.00am

**"Life in the Spirit" seminar by Mr Brendan Walsh.**

**DATE:** Monday 15th April

**TIME:** 7:30-8:30 PM

**DURATION:** Over 7 week period

**VENUE:** Muintir Mhuire, Ballybutler, Ladysbridge, Co.Cork

**Thank you:** A big thank you and farewell evening of celebration, for Fr. Pat O'Donoghue, took place on Tuesday 2nd April in the GAA Hall. Sincere thanks to all those who contributed on the night and all who helped organise behind the scenes these last few weeks and all who provided catering. Thank to the GAA for providing the Hall for the night. A great night was had by all.