



COBH PARISH NEWSLETTER

3rd Sunday of Lent

24th March 2019

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Coming down the steps on a September day in 1979, Pope St John Paul went down on his knees and kissed the ground at Dublin airport. It was a powerful moment of witness. In this gesture, he recognised the land, more than that, he bowed to the sacredness of the land he had chosen to visit. It was his third visit outside Rome (following visits to Poland and Mexico) and was to be the first of many to countries all over the world. This gesture of kissing the ground remained a central part of all his visits. Indeed, there is footage of him, feeble now and tired and unable to kneel on the ground, being brought a bowl of earth that he might kiss it and acknowledge, as he did in Dublin that day, the soil beneath our feet.

As a child I remember attending a funeral in Connemara. I don't remember much of the ceremony, but I have a clear recollection of the burial. The grave was filled in while we were still there and the Rosary was prayed, in Irish I imagine. When the grave was filled, the men who had taken turns filling it in, flattened the surface and then rolled out a long "sod" of grass. It was, for all the world, like a roll of carpet and they rolled it back into place over the filled in grave, patted it down and left it, as they had found it. Though young, it's a vivid memory for me and I think I understood it for what it was, a sign of reverence of the earth. There was something said that when a man's life is over, he should leave the world as he found it, no worse because of his presence. Respect.

Moses, in today's reading, is told to take off his shoes for the ground on which he walks is "holy ground". Respect.

Reflecting again on Trócaire's Lenten Campaign this year, we are reminded of land-rights. Grass is grass and earth is earth wherever it is found, and rights are rights. There remains much injustice in our world. Much of Trócaire's work seems to be linked with being on the side of right rather than might. The people working for Trócaire abroad are, in most cases, local people who have no stomach for oppression and want to make a difference in their own place. Respect.

Visiting Honduras a few years ago, I had the chance to witness some of this work and was surprised because prior to that, I thought of Trócaire's workers in terms of being Irish Missionaries of sorts. I felt I would be meeting Irish men and women, miles away from home, working in difficult and dangerous situations. While I did meet some, what I learned was that Trócaire seeks to connect with like-minded people, native to the

countries to which it brings aid, because these are the people who know the story best. Imagine a problem in Ireland and people coming from another country to fix that problem for us, only to return to their own country when the work was done. Yes, there might be a "fix" but the presence of the worker, the one who knows best the story, is central and crucial. The work done by Trócaire here in Ireland and abroad is crucial and the ability of people on our "ground" to recognise those best placed to make a difference is a key factor in the work being done and supported by us at parish level.

When John Paul kissed the ground of Ireland, he made a statement around respect. He knew that he would be here for a limited amount of time but wanted the people of Ireland, like Moses, to recognise the holiness of the ground on which they walked and, like the man buried in Connemara, to leave the world a better place, but in no way damaged, because we lived.

Respect!

Goodbye & Good Luck Party for Fr. Pat O'Donoghue

**There will be a farewell social for Fr Pat
O'Donoghue in the GAA Hall on
Tuesday, 2nd April at 7.30 pm.
Refreshments served & all are welcome.**

Stations of the Cross daily at 3.15pm in the Cathedral for the season of Lent. All welcome

Irish Blood Transfusion Service are holding a blood donor clinic at Cobh GAA Hall on Wednesday, 27th & Thursday, 28th March, 2019 from 5.00pm to 8.30pm.

St. Benedict's Priory Coffee Morning Wednesday 27th March, 10.30am-2.00pm. Unique handicrafts and home baking also for sale. In aid of the maintenance of the Priory and Bible Garden.

Anam Cara Cork, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Evening on Wednesday 3rd April 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.

First Confessions: a special word of thanks to all the teachers and staff of the primary schools of the parish who helped in the preparation of the children of 2nd classes for the sacrament of reconciliation.

Cobh Parish Income: Collections for 10th March, 2019 was Cathedral €2,045.00, Norwood €480.00, Mount €123.00, Ballymore €230.00.



Baptisms: We welcome into our community Padraig Moloney, Charlie O'Hanlon and all who were baptised recently.



Deaths: We pray for the repose of the souls of William Griffin, Lr. Middleton St., Rose Maher, Norwood Park, Johanna Hegarty, Clonmult 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 on 087 7692311, if you are interested.

Cobh Parish Safeguarding Committee

The Cobh 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/>

LENTEN STATIONS

Tuesday, 26th March 10.00am - Cathedral Fr. Tom McDermott.

Orelia Tce., Edmond Rice Crescent, Edmond Rice Close, The Park, Upper Park, Park Road, Park Tce., Ahern Place, St. Colman's Sq., Park Road Centre, Plunkett Tce., Aileen Tce., Ballyvoloon, Cloyne Tce., Barrymore Ave., Donelan Tce., French's Ave., Kirkwood Villas, Dawnview, Glenanaar Place, O'Sullivan Place, Glavin Tce., Stack Tce., Innishmore Park, Springfield Park, Pat O'Brien Close Ballywilliam, Cuskinny, The Drive, Inis Álainn

Wednesday, 27th March 10.00am - Cathedral Fr. Tom McDermott.

Lissaniskey, Tay Road Ticknock, Hilltop Park, Hillcourt Drive, Hillcourt Ave., Hillcourt Grove, Carrig Eoin, Coolamber Close, Coolamber Ave., Coolamber Crescent, Coolamber Drive, Maurice Moore Place, Assumption Place, O'Donovan Place, Ringmeen Est., Summerfields.

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

LENTEN STATIONS CONTD/..

Monday, 1st April 10.00am - Cathedral Fr. Liam Kelleher:

Bishop St, Beechmount, Mount Crozier, Rope Walk, Carrignafof, The Anchorage, Seafield Ave., Thomas St., Maple Court, Bond St., The Belfrey, Bishop Ahern Close, Roches Tce., Hawthorne Tce., Roches Row, Bellvue Tce., Bellvue, Sandymount, Lower Middleton St., West View, Park View, Spy Hill, West End Tce., The Crescent.

Hillview Tce., St. Maur's Tce., Athenian Tce., Glasson's Ave., Wilmount Ave., Carrignafof, Garryowen Villas, Wilmount Park Philip O'Neill Place, The Spires, College Gate, College Drive, College Ave., College Green, College Lawn, College View, The Grove, College Court, College Gardens, College Corran, College Orchard, Ard Aoibhinn.

Westbourne Place, Casement Sq., West Beach, East Beach, Lynch's Quay, Sirius Wharf, Harbour Row, Harbour Hill, East Hill, Albert Tce., Meehan's Tce., Lake Road, Fort Villas, High Road, Lower Road, Lissaniskey, Connolly St., The Mall, New Park, Cottrell's Row, East Hill Villas, East View, Upper East Hill, Seaview Tce., Brighton Tce., Frenches Walk, Mount Eaton, Eaton Heights.

Tuesday, 2nd April 10.00am - Norwood - Fr. Aquin Casey.

Elmwood Grove, Russell Heights, Leevue Court Newtown, Newtown Court, O'Halloran Place, Ballynoe, Ballynoe Road, Ballynoe Park, Ballynoe Mews, Ballynoe Drive, Estuary View, Estuary Walk, The Mews, Oak Drive, Gardiners Walk The Meadows, The Orchard, Chandlers Walk, Chandlers View, Chandlers Rest, Hermitage Drive, Hermitage Grove, The Pines, Copperfields, Riverside Ave., Riverside Rise.

Wednesday, 3rd April 10.00am - Norwood - Fr. Aquin Casey.

Norwood Park, Norwood Grove (old), Brooklawn, Norwood Grove (new), Norwood Court, Brookvale, Rushbrooke Park, Rushbrooke Manor, Flower Hill, Woodside, Ballyleary, Tay Road.

COUNTRY STATIONS - Friday, 5th April 7.30pm - Ballymore Church - Fr. Liam Kelleher

Ballinacrusha, Ballydulea, Fanick, Rossleague, Belgrove, Ashgrove, Ballyelane, Belvelly, Clonmult Tce., Cois Fota, Belvelly Lower, Fota View, Ballard, Ballymore, Ballydanielmore, Corbally, Currabally, Valley Road, Walterstown, Glenmore, Ballybrassil.