

COBH PARISH NEWSLETTER

THIRTIETH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

29TH OCTOBER, 2017.

Parish Office: Phone 4813222 Email: info@cobhcathedralparish.ie

www.cobhcathedralparish.ie

Thought for the day

The commands of Jesus **‘TO LOVE God with all your heart mind and soul and your neighbour as yourself’** is as simple and as hard as Christianity gets. All else is window dressing. It is the task of a lifetime.

Note the priority – God, then neighbour, then self, and note also the importance of the word ALL in relation to God and at the word AS between neighbour and self. God alone is worthy of all our love, and other loves or lesser loves are on the context of this complete gift of self – heart, soul, mind and strength.

St Augustine said ‘love God and then do what you will’.

It is more than a statement of intent; it is a way of life of striving to more fully appreciate what this love entails in practical living out and decision making, even to the tiniest details. St Therese said that ‘in the heart of the Church [she] would be love’, and she also taught us to do the ordinary things with great love.

To love and to be loved are the two greatest longings we all have—and to love another and to know that we are loved are the two great joyful discoveries awaiting each maturing person. We are fortunate indeed if we discover these truths early. Many psychological and emotional disturbances occur in those who have not yet discovered the fact that **we are unconditionally loved by God** and that this love can never be taken away no matter what happens to us; and that **we are lovable**, warts and all. Many childhood experiences—of conditional love—and the trials of life prevent us from reaching this state of tranquillity and acceptance readily.

We are never going to be happy if we decide to live in splendid isolation, although we might want to choose to be; nor are we designed to eke out ‘lives of quiet desperation’. Love does not have to be affective, or erotic, but the emotional thrill of love for and by another person must be believed in and experienced at least once in one’s lifetime to believe in love, and to begin to appreciate the higher loves – of God, of sacrifice, or striving to live out love, and to be **IN LOVE WITH CHRIST**, not just ‘to love Him’ as a banal statement of intent. The great definition of love is to be found in St Paul in 1 Cor 13: Love is patient and kind and so on.

If this love is not experienced, love is sought in vain self-centredness, also called **narcissism**, after the mythological



figure of **Narcissus** who fell in love with his own reflection in a pool and drowned in the—literally—vain attempt to attain embrace with self.

The pain of self-destructive behaviours associated with

addictions and ‘impulse control’ issues such as reckless eating, drinking, gambling, drug-taking, even shopping, are hugely damaging to self and are acts of self-hate. True self-love or self-regard is found in self-surrender to God AND others. We must unconditionally surrender – to God that we choose to accept Jesus Christ as our **PERSONAL** Lord and Saviour – completely, whatever the consequences, whatever the change required of us. Our lives change drastically and we begin to see others in a new light once we do this. We begin to see that others are also struggling, and that they too will not find happiness without a personal encounter with Christ Jesus our Lord, and through Mary.

The concern that follows then for others – called service - distracts us from self-pity and over-analysis, and we begin to see how we are gifts **FOR** others and we need to **CONSUME** ourselves for others.

It is a love we want to share. There is a whole world out there of people waiting to be listened to, whose problems we may not be able to solve, but who wish to unburden themselves. They are eager to hear Good News in a world of fear, pain and heartache.

Let us pray for those who dedicate their whole lives, who spend themselves for others for the sake of the Gospel so that the love of Christ may be preached, heard and experienced in all His richness. In giving may we too receive, and may we once more appreciate in our own lives ‘the difference that Christ makes.’ Amen.

Cobh Parish Income: Sunday 22nd, October. Cathedral: €1,665.00, Rushbrooke: €506.00, Ballymore: €192,00, The Mount: €61,00. We thank all who contributed to these collections.

V. Rev. John McCarthy, Adm. 4815619

Rev. Tom McDermott CC 4812937

Rev. Pat O' Donoghue CC 4813601

Priest on Sick Call

087-6872014



Baptisms: We welcome into our community Joni Fitzpatrick, Darragh Moloney, Toni Walsh and all who were baptised recently.



Deaths: We pray for the repose of the souls of those who died recently. We pray especially today for Con Lynch, Rushbrooke. May he rest in peace. The **Monthly Remembrance Mass** this Sunday night at 7.00 pm is

for all parishioners who died in the month of October. All welcome.

Family Mass: In the coming year the family mass will be celebrated on the 3rd weekend of every month.

Thank you: Thank you so much for your contribution to last week's Mission Sunday collection. Your prayers and donations will help missionaries across the world to share the Gospel with those in need, and help to build a worldwide Church. Those who have never heard the message of Jesus are given the chance to experience the love of Christ and to know the support of our Church family. Please pray for the work of World Missions Ireland and all those working to offer the love of Jesus, that we may remain strong in our witness to Christ's love for all peoples. To continue supporting mission throughout the year, please go to www.wmi.ie or call +353 (0) 1 4972035 for further information.

Altar Servers: Any young people interested in becoming an Altar Server in any of the parish churches please contact the parish office on 021-4813222 for application forms.

ACCORD MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT COURSE

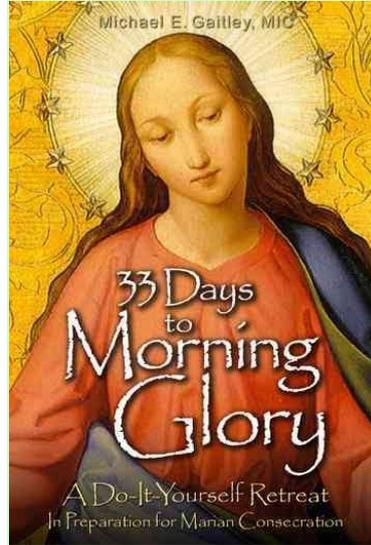
Part of our WMOF18 preparations

As part of the diocesan preparations for the World Meeting of Families we are offering an **Enrichment Course for married couples**. Your marriage relationship is a precious gift and it is well worth taking time out to enrich and renew your commitment to each other in a safe and supportive atmosphere.

A Marriage Enrichment Course will be held in the Accord Centre, St Colman's Hill, Fermoy, over three evenings, Wed 15th Nov, Tues 21st Nov and Thurs 23rd Nov 2017 From 7.30pm to 10.00pm

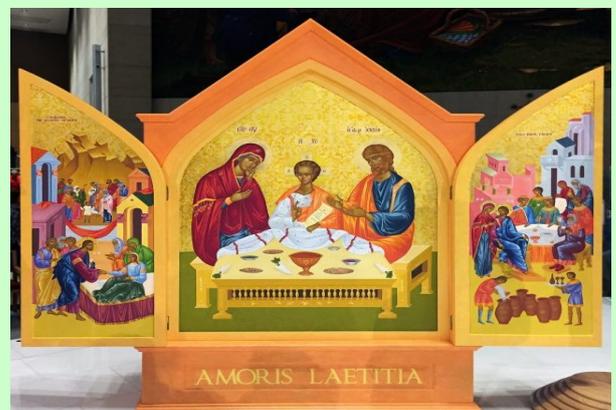
"No family drops down from heaven perfectly formed, families need constantly to grow and mature in the ability to love." Pope Francis AL325 To book ring Jean on 025-31899 before Tuesday 7th November. Alternative dates may be arranged by contacting Jean.

Total Consecration to Our Lady



The French saint Louis Marie de Montfort devised a 33 day programme of preparation and a Formula to consecrate or entrust oneself and one's whole life to Jesus Christ through the Queenship and maternal care of Mary. This has proven to be a very popular devotion and way of life for many people, including Pope St John Paul II—whose motto was 'Totus Tuus' (Totally Yours)) in Our Lady's honour—St

Teresa of Calcutta and St Maximilian Kolbe. Total Surrender to Jesus Christ through Mary—'I am hers and She is mine' is an ideal way to love God and neighbour selflessly. If you would like to know more on the topic you are invited to a presentation on Marian Entrustment in the Parish Centre on **Tuesday October 31st in the Parish Centre at 7.30 pm**. Please spread the word. The 33 Day Prayer Programme in preparation for Total Consecration to Our Lady involves a commitment to pray and to read from Fr Michael Gaitely's booklet of reflections on the topic. Booklets are free of charge. In undertaking these reflections one is committing oneself to daily preparatory reflections from November 5th to one's consecration day on Friday December 8th, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. **Please see notice boards for more information.**



SUNDAY 29th OCTOBER 12.00 Mass celebrated by Bishop Crean; 3.00—6.30 pm Veneration of the Icon

MONDAY 30th OCTOBER Holy Hour 7.30—8.30

Monthly Mass for Life and Family



Two events will dominate the headlines in the summer of 2018. Both events require prayerful preparation and discernment.

The World Meeting of Families will take place in August 2018, while the referendum to repeal the 8th Amendment to the Constitution is due to be held in early summer.

It is clear that we are living in challenging and difficult times for the preservation and protection of vulnerable human Life and respect for the traditional Christian Family in God's plan.

This Sunday marks the first of 9 monthly Sunday Masses — a novena of months from October to June — where the specific intention of the 12.00 Sunday Mass will be offered for the intention that protection of life in the womb will be preserved in the Constitution and for the success of the World Meeting of Families.

We ask your prayers, especially the Daily Rosary in these nine months of prayer—symbolic of pregnancy—for these two crucial concerns.

Mass is being offered for these intentions on **this Sunday morning at 12.00 by Bishop Crean**. Each final Sunday of the month will also have a period of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the cathedral from 3.00 pm. for these intentions. Please note the next two Sundays of this Novena are:

November 25th —Feast of Christ the King

December 31st —Feast of the Holy Family



THE GOSPEL
OF THE FAMILY
Joy for the World



www.worldmeeting2018.ie

November—remembering our Faithful Departed

All Saints Day November 1st

Holy Day of Obligation

Vigil Mass Tuesday 31st of October at 6.00 pm,

Masses on Wednesday November 1st: 10.00am and 7.30 pm in Cathedral; Benedictine Priory @ 8.30am; Ballymore at 9.30am and Norwood at 11.00am

Prayer in all cemeteries this coming Sunday November 5th—after 9.30 Mass in Ballymore, 2.30pm in Old Church Cemetery, 3.30pm in St Colman's Cemetery

Holy Souls - All Souls Day—Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed is November 2nd. It is possible to gain a plenary indulgence applicable to the holy Souls in Purgatory by going to Mass and receiving Holy Communion, praying for the Holy Father's intentions and visiting a cemetery once each day from November 1st to 8th. Sacramental confession of sins is also required within 8 days before or after this act of mercy.

Envelopes for Masses for the Faithful Departed are available at the back of all churches. The Bishop and the priests of the parish will each offer 12 Masses for the souls of all of the faithful departed parishioners of Cobh. You are invited to return a completed list of all family names on the page provided in the envelope with your offering. You can do so by handing them in to the sacristy, to the parish office or to any of the priests' houses. Thank you.

Annual Remembrance Mass for all faithful departed parishioners—with special mention of all who died in the parish since November 1st 2016—will take place on Tuesday November 21st at 7.30 pm. All are welcome—you may wish to pass this information on to family, relatives and friends living elsewhere.

Hospital Remembrance Mass for all those who died in Cobh Community Hospital in the past 12 months will take place on Thursday, 16th of November.

Please note that due to the Bank Holiday there is no 8.00am Mass in the Cathedral and no 10.00am Mass in Norwood this Monday, 30th October.