

PARISH OF CLONLEIGH

St Patrick's Church, Murlog, Lifford

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SUNDAY 11 APRIL 2021 – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe' (John 20:29)

In the Gospel of the Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday (also known as Low Sunday), we listen to St John's account of the Apostle Thomas' struggle with faith. It is the story that gives him the name "Doubting Thomas." Of course Jesus did not dismiss or abandon Thomas for doubting.

Just as Jesus understood Thomas' doubts, and gave Him another chance, He understands our doubts and fears too and does not abandon or give up on us. It is often in times of despair, fear or uncertainty that we turn to Jesus in faith and experience His enduring presence in our lives. These moments of grace bring the peace and reassurance that only faith can bring. We thank God today for the gift of faith and the joy of knowing that, wherever we are on our faith journey, He never abandons us. In the words of Thomas, we pray with faith in the Risen Lord, "My Lord and my God".

MASS SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

With our church being closed, you are invited to participate in our Masses & Liturgies via our webcam. Our 11.00am Mass is also broadcast live each Sunday on Finn Valley Radio, FM95.8.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: Mass at 9.30am

Saturday, Vigil Mass: 6.30pm Sunday: 11.00am

The Angelus and Rosary will be recited Monday - Saturday at 12.00noon.

Our church remains open for private prayer (other than when public liturgies are being celebrated). You are invited to come along when you can, and to light a candle for your prayer intentions.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK:

Thursday 15 April, 9.30am: Mary Sarah Doherty, Porthall – Month's Mind Mass

Saturday 17 April, 6.30pm: Kathleen Keeney, Legandara – Month's Mind Mass

ANNIVERSARIES: We remember the souls of: John Crawford, The Common; Eddie Crawford, The Common; Mary Mc Elhinney, Tober; John Mc Elhinney, Coneyburrow Road; Dermot McCosker, Ballyduff; Rosaleen McGranaghan, Strabane; Billy Bonner, Townparks; Paul Friel, Braide; John & Agnes McCallion, Coneyburrow; Teresa McBrearty, St Johnston; Bridie McGettigan, Edenmore. **May they rest in peace.**

THANK YOU for your generosity to the collection last week, which amounted to €3,023. I continue to be available in the church each day after the Rosary for those who wish to bring along their envelope. Thank you also to those who contribute by Standing Order and those who make online payments.

CHARITABLE DONATIONS (GIFT AID) SCHEME: I am hoping that, in this coming month, with your support and co-operation, we will make good inroads into building up this scheme to its full potential in the parish, so that, together, we can maximise in claiming from the Revenue Commissioners on all eligible donations. With the upcoming graveyard project and the proposed new toilet facilities in the church, Gift Aid will be a most useful source of additional income. So, if you are a tax-payer and pay €250 or more per annum to the weekly collection, then I appeal to you, please, to consider joining the scheme. Remember, it is at no extra cost to you! Please contact Lorna in the parish office for an application form or contact me at the Parochial House. Thank you to those who have signed up already.

TROCAIRE COLLECTION: Thank you for your generosity so far in the Trocaire collection. For those returning their Trocaire box to the church or Parochial House, you are asked to include notes or cheques only, in so far as possible, for ease of counting in general and, in particular, to reduce the level of risk for the counters. Please note: cheques should be made payable to Trocaire (not the parish). Thank you very much for your co-operation.

Easter Prayer (from the Family Prayer Book)

Heavenly Father and God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead,

For He is alive and has become the Lord of life.

From the waters of death You raise us with Him and renew Your gift of life within us.

Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ

And help us to grow as Your people towards the fullness of eternal life with You.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.