

Easter Message 2020

The Lenten season has come and nearly gone for another year. What a Lent it has been for ourselves, our community and World at large. No public masses since the 13th march in our Parish or indeed any parish in the World where the Covid-19 virus has entered. In the midst of this most worrying and fearful time we continue to live the life of faith. Perhaps more than ever our faith is the anchor of our lives at this time.

We pray for all the people who are effected by the virus that they may make a full recovery. We specially pray for all who have lost loved ones due to the virus, may their faith be their consolation. We pray for all who are on the front line of our health care facilities playing their vital part in saving lives.

We remember all who are providing necessary services in our community to meet our daily needs. We pray for our own welfare, our family and friends. We continue to do our utmost to carry out the strict procedures for our safety and the safety of others ie. physical distancing, hand washing, staying at home etc.

All Churches remain closed until the **12th April**.

Mass is live streamed on the web cam daily at

10 am Monday to Friday, Saturday 6pm and Sunday 10:30am.

Easter ceremonies will be held in our Church and transmitted via the web i.e. **www.stpaulsparishayrfield.com**. If it is possible I invite you all to join us through this medium. RTE will as always transmit the ceremonies.

As we enter Holy week may we experience these few days as preparation for the Easter Triduum. May this time be a time for quiet prayer and as Pope Francis said be a time also of "quite service" in whatever way we can reach out to others.

The Trocaire campaign always invites us every year to be in solidarity with the millions less fortunate in our world. If you did not get a Trocaire box they are available for collection in the Church. A Parish mission led by the Vincentian mission team had been planned for our Parish in early May but has now been deferred to the Autumn.

By our participation in the Holy Week ceremonies, through web or television, we will be in Spiritual communion with the Lord and each other. In this participation and communion may we be renewed this year more than ever with the Easter Spirit which is always a spirit of joy and hope.

God Bless

Fr. Gerard Deegan