

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

**PENITENTIAL ACT**

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:  
 Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*  
 You bring pardon and peace to the sinner:  
 Christ, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*  
 You bring light to those in darkness:  
 Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*  
 May almighty God have mercy on us. *Amen.*



**OPENING PRAYER**

Grant, almighty God, through the yearly observances of holy Lent, that we may grow in understanding of the riches hidden in Christ and by worthy conduct pursue their effects. Through our Lord Jesus Christ...

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7**

*A reading from the Book of Genesis*

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

*The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 50: 3-6. 12-14. 17**

**R. Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. *[R]*
2. My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done. *[R]*

3. A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. *[R]*

4. Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise. *[R]*

**SECOND READING Romans 5:12-17 (Shorter form)**

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

*The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!  
 Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.  
 Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!**

**GOSPEL Matthew 4:1 - 11**

*A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.*

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:

He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

*The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

**NICENE CREED**

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

*All bow for following three lines:*  
 and by the Holy Spirit  
 was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
 and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

*Pray brothers and sisters, .....*  
 May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

**AFTER THE CONSECRATION**

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

**INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION**

Behold the Lamb of God, .....  
 Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

**PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE**

May bountiful blessing, O Lord, we pray, come down upon your people, that hope may grow in tribulation, virtue be strengthened in temptation, and eternal redemption be assured. Through Christ our Lord.

Illustration: Michael G. ... (text is small and partially illegible)

focus on sunday

Each day has its own temptations towards evil. Christ himself was tempted away from good and from what he knew was best in life. As the angels looked after him in his temptation, so he and his saints look after us in ours.

TRIALS in the WILDERNESS

Matthew 4:1-11

"I belong to God."



Never a dull moment.

We can often be tempted off course: a friend of mine is always suggesting easier ways to get to places that I travel to. Or we could only imagine the consequences if an air pilot went off course. The same in friendships and marriages where our own needs and even selfishness could take us off the course of our best promises.

We are reminded today of the ways Jesus might have been taken off course. His mission from his Father would be limited by his comfort zones for food, by his wanting to do things his way, and by placing trust only in himself. These would be constant temptations in his life right to the end, even to the Agony in the Garden where he accepted that he would die for the sake of his mission.

Lent is a time for resetting the compass of life, for asking questions like, 'Who am I?', 'where have I come from?' where am I going?' Not all at once but these are questions that root us in the past, the present and the future.

Somehow God is involved in the answers. We come from God, and are going to God; and the answer to 'who am I?' is that I am loved and called by God into his service in the central desires and focus of my life.

The mantra 'I belong to God' might be a good prayer for this week; maybe say it in the morning, at lunchtime and in the evening.

*Lord, keep me in your way, living by your truth and energised in prayer and service by the life you share.*

*Donal Neary SJ., editor Sacred Heart Messenger*

## St. Paul's Parish Ayrfield



First Sunday  
of Lent  
5<sup>th</sup> March 2017

### Mass Times

Saturday : 6 pm Vigil  
Sundays : 10:30 am & 12 noon  
Weekdays : Mon. – Fri. 10:00 am  
Monday 7:30 pm

Contact: Co-Parish Priest Fr. Paddy Boyle 086 1011 415  
Co-Parish Priest Fr. Gerry Corcoran (Moderator) 01 847 9822  
Parish Office 8160984 Sacristy 8160981  
www.stpaulsparishayrfield.com Email : parishofficeayrfield@eircom.net

*We remember at Mass and in our prayers those who have gone before us*

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm

John Rooney 9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Rita Fahey-Nolan Anniversary

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> 10:30am

Pat Stanley Anniversary

Joseph Fitzpatrick Anniversary

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> 12:00 noon

James & Esther Evans Anniversary

Your prayers are also requested for

Billy Jennings,  
James, Mary & Margaret Clancy  
Gerry & Lucy Myler Anniversaries

John Courage 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm

Jim & Mary Duffy Anniversary

*May they rest in peace*

Eucharistic Adoration is cancelled for the next 2 Monday nights 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>.

NOVENA OF GRACE 4<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> March  
Novena prayers to Saint Francis Xavier will be recited at all masses.

### St. Vincent De Paul

The Society will take up their monthly collection after all masses next weekend.

The Months Mind for Fr. Tom Colreavey R.I.P. will be held on Saturday next, 11<sup>th</sup> March, at 6pm mass. A Book of Condolence is open in the Church.



### You Shall Be My Witnesses - Sacrament of Confirmation

This Saturday at the 6pm Vigil Mass, we welcome the children who are preparing for Confirmation and their families. The children have been invited to take part in a special Enrolment Ceremony.

The You Shall Be My Witnesses programme provides parents with the opportunity to get more involved with their child's preparation. **The programme continues this week and next week on Monday in the Pastoral Centre from 8pm – 9pm.**

We hope that by participating in this programme you and your child will become more aware of the commitment being made at Confirmation to become a full active member of the Christian community through which we all belong through Baptism.

### Do This In Memory

The 2<sup>nd</sup> class children from St. Paul's Snr. School will be celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation when they will make their First Confession on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 7:00 pm** in the Church.

### Devine Mercy Pilgrimage in Knock

A coach for the Divine Mercy Pilgrimage in Knock is being organised for **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**. The Seats are €25 each and the bus will depart at 8am sharp. See our notice board for more details.



## 2017 St. Patrick's Day Sponsored Swim



A reminder that preparation for the 2017 St. Patrick's Day sponsored swim, at 12 noon at Portmarnock Strand are underway. **The swim this year will also be held in fond memory of Fr. Tom Colreavey R.I.P., who encouraged everyone and participated each year.**

Last year €7,500 was raised and all funds went to the Julie Wren, Children's Cancer Support Centre, of Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin. The Cancer Support Centre has a hugely positive and powerful effect on the lives and recovery of so many sick children through the Complimentary Therapy Room at Crumlin Children's hospital. They also finance palliative care to parents, who wish their child to spend their last moments in the comfort of their own home. Your generous action will help to support their seriously ill children, by providing critical and urgent services, which will transform the lives of children battling with cancer and recovering from serious illness.

Sponsorship Cards are available from **Shay O'Reilly - 8482068, Irene Killeen – 8479629, Margaret Maher – 8472251** or can be collected from the Parish office & Sacristy.



### Lenten Talks

There will be a 'Ten Minute Talk', **every Wednesday** at 10:00 Mass:

**March 8<sup>th</sup>** : 'A humbled contrite heart, O God, you will not spurn.'

**The Sacrament of reconciliation** - Fr. Gerry Corcoran

**March 15<sup>th</sup>** : 'Can you drink the chalice that I am going to drink?'

**Sharing in the mission of Jesus** - Fr. Donal Neary SJ

**March 22<sup>nd</sup>** : 'Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.'

**Prayer and the Christian Life** – Deacon Gerard Reilly

**March 29<sup>th</sup>** : 'The Lord is gracious and merciful'.

**How do we show the kindness of the Lord?** – Sr. Kitty Ellard

**April 5<sup>th</sup>** : "If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples"

**Where do we find the Word of God?** – Fr. Donal Neary SJ

**April 12<sup>th</sup>** : "you were led to your crucifixion like a gentle lamb to the slaughter"

**Death and Resurrection** – Fr. Paddy Boyle

### Ayrwaves

Closing date for submission of articles, advertisements, etc. for the Spring edition, which will also include special articles on the Late Fr. Tom Colreavey is **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March**. Email: [ayrwaves@gmail.com](mailto:ayrwaves@gmail.com) or contact the parish office on **8160984**.

**Notice to Coeliacs:** If you have been advised to abstain from Gluten, please contact the Priest before Mass so that we can try to accommodate your requirements.