

Newsletter February 2024 .

Assumption Church Walkinstown .



On Feb 1st Catholics in Ireland and elsewhere we honoured Saint Brigid of Kildare .

Saint Brigid was born in 454 and she went on to found a double monastery in Kildare with the assistance of Bishop Conleth. Saint Brigid used her famous cross made out of rushes to explain the Christian faith, remains popular sign of God's protection. Speaking about Saint Brigid last week, Bishop Denis Nulty of Kildare and Bishop Patricia Storey the Church of Ireland Bishop of Meath and Kildare said,

"For people of faith Saint Brigid represents that transition from paganism to Christianity in Celtic Ireland. In 480 she founded her monastery in Kildare, the church of the oak tree. Every school child knows the song of Brigid and how her cloak covered the area we know today as the Curragh, Saint Brigid's Field. Brigid is linked with the earth, with agriculture, particularly ploughing, sowing, milking, butter-making and, of course, vibrant Christian faith. Brigid was extravagant in her hospitality".

Let us pray through St Brigid's intercession that we too may be welcoming and hospitable to those around us and that Ireland will never lose the Faith she so ardently professed.



Feast of The Presentation of the Lord.

The Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2, also called Candlemas for the custom of Blessing of lighted candles. This feast day celebrates both the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, as well as the Purification of Mary, which was required by the Mosaic Law forty days after the birth of a child.



3rd February Feast Day of St Blaise.

Saint Blaise is believed to started off as a healer then, eventually, became a "physician of souls." He then retired to a cave, where he remained in prayer. People often turned to Saint Blaise for healing miracles. *'Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness'.*



Ash Wednesday 14th February

Ash Wednesday is the doorway into our Lenten season of renewal – a day rich in associations and symbolism. It marks the beginning of Lent – a time for turning again to the practice of our faith, in prayer, self-denial (fasting) and practical generosity (almsgiving). Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of a period of 40 days (Sundays excluded) in which Catholics prepare for Eastertide. This period also represents the 40 days that Jesus spent in the desert as well as the 40 years that the Israelites spent in exile. The ashes themselves come from the burned palms from last year's Palm Sunday celebration: thus bringing us full circle

To our last celebration of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus. On Ash Wednesday, we are reminded that we are called to turn away from sin, to repent and to believe the Good News of our salvation through Jesus Christ.

FORMS OF FRIDAY PENANCE

The following are suggested as ways of fulfilling Friday penance:

- Abstaining from meat or some other food;
- Abstaining from alcoholic drink or smoking;
- Making a special effort at involvement in family prayer;
- Making a special effort to participate in Mass on Fridays;
- Visiting the Blessed Sacrament;
- Making the Stations of the Cross;
- Fasting from all food for a longer period than usual and perhaps giving what is saved to the needy;
- Helping the poor, sick, old or lonely.

From the statement on Friday Penance issued by the Bishops' Conference, 2011

Mass Times

Monday — Friday 10am
Saturday - 6pm (Vigil Mass)
Sunday 11:30am
Holy Days –Mass at 10am
Vigil Mass 7pm previous evening.

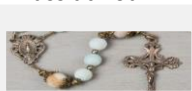
Confessions before weekend masses or on request.

Adoration takes place every Thursday morning after 10am Mass in the Church. All are welcome.

Rosary

We say the rosary every morning from 9.30am until Mass at 10am.

You are all welcome to come and join in.



Parish Priest

Fr. Paul Glennon.

089 2389681

Sacristan

Parish Secretary

Ann Conway

01-4502649

Joe Morrison

Baptisms are the **3rd** Sunday of every month. If you would like to book a baptism please contact the **Parish Office 01-4502649.**

Mon - Fri 9.30am– 1130am.

Out of hours please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Parish website;

www.walkinstownparish.ie

Email;

walkinstownchurch@gmail.com

We remember our parishioners who have passed away recently. Especially, **Anthony (Tony) Tierney , James Bradley , Isabella Scanlon, John Anderson and Patrick Rice.**

We will continue to keep them and their families in our prayers.



Holy Water

We have holy water at the side entrance of the Church, if you would like to bring some home with you.



Holy Water has been blessed by a priest and is called a sacramental as it is a visible sign that imparts invisible grace. It is extremely effective at protecting us from evil and temptation. Sprinkle yourself with it before leaving home in the morning and before you go to sleep.

Sunday Gospel Reflection

A small group of lay people meet every Friday after the 10 o'clock Mass to reflect on the gospel of the up-coming Sunday. We follow a simple format:



1. The gospel is read aloud.
2. We stay silent for a short time to allow the reading to speak to us.
3. Anyone who wishes may say a word from the gospel that has meaning for them.
4. The gospel is read again.
5. We discuss the reading and relate it to our lives.

We meet in a room off the sacristy for just 30 minutes. No specialist knowledge is required. We believe that the Word of God is alive and speaks to each of us now. What comes up can be powerfully inspiring and encouraging. Come and see, you would be very welcome. If you would like more information, please contact **John on 087 615 7795**

After Mass Hospitality .

Every Wednesday after 10am Mass and 2nd Sunday of the month after 11.30am Mass.



The Pope's Monthly Intentions for February. For The Terminally Ill

Let us pray that the sick who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.

St Valentine



As St Valentines day approaches and we celebrate with our loved ones, we thank them for all they do for us, and as St Valentines day falls on Ash Wednesday this year, why not suggest to those we love that we keep our day of fasting from meat and have a nice vegetarian meal instead. I'm sure they will love it and most importantly they will love us for making it.

Saint Valentine's Day



O St. Valentine, lover of Christ and of the Church, we ask your intercession that we may learn how to love God above all things and to selfishly love one another.

O glorious St. Valentine, pray for us, that we too may have the steadfast faith of the martyrs. Amen.



Light in the Bell Tower

You may have noticed the repair of the bell tower light. It looks lovely shining over our parish and like God, watching over us.