

Holy Family Parish, Askea

5th April 2020 Vol 29 No 21

Palm Sunday

Fr. Tom Little - 91-31559

Fr Tommy Dillon - 91-64882

Sr. Joan Pierse 91-42565

.....
Emergency Priest on Duty

087 2588118

.....
Askea Parish Community

Centre Phone 91-42565

087 1269709

.....
Mass Times:

Askea 9.30am Mon-Fri;

Sat 7pm; Sun 9am,

10.30am

& 12 Noon.

Bennekerry Sun 11.30am;

Tinryland Tues 9.30am &

Sunday 10am

Deadline for items for

Newsletter is 5pm on

Wednesday by phone to

9142565 or email to

office@askeaparish.ie

Website: www.askeaparish.ie

**The building is closed.....
but the Church is open!**

Today's Readings

The first reading:

The striking characteristic of God's faithful servant is that he does not resist evil, but nor is he cowed or diverted by it. He does not meet anger with anger, or hatred with hatred, but remain faithful in the face of opposition.

The second reading:

The Lord Jesus, in his passion, followed a U-shaped path: from equality with God, he descended all the way to death on a cross. From that lowest possible point, he returned to glory, a glory that every creature will acclaim.

The Gospel:

Matthew's telling of the story of Jesus' passion begins with a betrayal and ends with the sealing of a tomb. These are the moments that bookend God's mighty works in his Son.

Keeping in Touch

St Mary's Parish, Bennekerry

Sunday 5th April 2020

Palm Sunday

**The building is closed.....
but the Church is open!**

Today's Readings

The first reading:

The striking characteristic of God's faithful servant is that he does not resist evil, but nor is he cowed or diverted by it. He does not meet anger with anger, or hatred with hatred, but remain faithful in the face of opposition.

The second reading:

The Lord Jesus, in his passion, followed a U-shaped path: from equality with God, he descended all the way to death on a cross. From that lowest possible point, he returned to glory, a glory that every creature will acclaim.

The Gospel:

Matthew's telling of the story of Jesus' passion begins with a betrayal and ends with the sealing of a tomb. These are the moments that bookend God's mighty works in his Son.

St Mary's Parish, Bennekerry

Fr Tom Little PP - Ph 059 9131559. Fr Tommy Dillon PE 0599142565

Newsletter Items - 059 9143881. **Deadline for News items: - 9pm Wednesdays**

Emergency Number for the Priest on Duty 087 2588118.

Parish Office - 059 9142565 087 - 1269709.

Website: www.askeaparish.ie; email: office@askeaparish.ie

Anniversaries 5th April 2020

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am-8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

Trócaire Boxes

We ask you to continue to make your donation to the work of Trócaire. We will announce arrangements for collecting Trócaire Boxes later.

Church Collections

In response to the many queries we have received about Church collections we are listing the parish account details below. If you are making a donation directly to the parish through the Bank please put your name and address in the reference box. You can also hold on to your donation envelope and return it to the Church when things get back to normal. Your support for the Parish is greatly appreciated.

Bank Name and Address: AIB Bank, Tullow Street, Carlow

Name of Account: Bennekerry Parish. BIC AIBKIE2D

IBAN: IE25AIBK93310401334017

Kildare & Leighlin Weekly Lotto

K & L Lotto Suspension

Unfortunately in order to comply fully with the coronavirus restrictions and social distancing this is the last K & L Lotto draw until further notice. We thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am-8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

Trócaire Boxes

We ask you to continue to make your donation to the work of Trócaire. We will announce arrangements for collecting Trócaire Boxes later.

Church Collections

In response to the many queries we have received about Church collections we are listing the parish account details below. If you are making a donation directly to the parish through the Bank please put your name and address in the reference box. You can also hold on to your donation envelope and return it to the Church when things get back to normal. Your support for the Parish is greatly appreciated.

Bank Name and Address: Bank of Ireland, Shamrock Plaza, Carlow

Name of Account: Askea Parish. BIC BOFIIIE2D

IBAN: IE78BOFI90653118867569

Contact Details for the Parish Office

You can contact the Parish Office to book Anniversaries at 087 1269709.

Bringing Holy Week Home

The Diocese has published a guide to help us to *Bring Holy Week Home*. A link to the guide is on the parish website and it is also available on the Diocesan website www.kandle.ie

Chrism Mass

The Chrism Mass for the Diocese takes place on Monday 6th April at 7.30pm in Carlow Cathedral. You can follow it on www.iCatholic.ie

Mass and Services Broadcast Schedule **for Holy Week**

We will broadcast Mass in Askea Church during the coming week at 9.30am Monday to Wednesday.

- Penitential Service Tuesday at 7pm.
- Holy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7pm
- Good Friday ceremony at 3pm with Stations of the Cross -8pm.
- Easter Vigil at 8pm and
- Easter Sunday at 10.30am on Sunday.

Helpdesk Phone Line

Carlow County Council through the 'Carlow Covid-19 Community Response Forum' has established a helpdesk that will respond to the needs of the vulnerable members of our community by linking State agencies, the community and voluntary sectors to vulnerable people's needs. Freephone in confidence 1800-814-300 from 8am – 8pm Monday to Sunday or Email:covidsupport@carlowcoco.ie

One important measure in preventing the spread of Covid-19 is cocooning. This is a measure to protect people who are over 70 years of age or those who are extremely medically vulnerable not leaving your house.

Freephone **1800-814-300** to arrange shopping and / or pharmacy deliveries.

"In truth this was a son of God"

What was it that prompted this exclamation from the Roman centurion? In the Passion account we hear today, these words are spoken just after Jesus dies on the cross. Matthew's Gospel tells us that great signs accompanied his death. The veil of the Temple is torn, the earth quakes, and tombs are opened - all signs that point to who Jesus really is.

But when we look at what preceded these signs, the words of the centurion take on new meaning. Jesus has suffered the most horrific and degrading death possible, only a few days but a million miles away from the celebrated figure who entered Jerusalem to the cheers of the crowd. The broken body on the cross does not look like a saviour. The man who quietly submits to mockery and torture does not act like a worldly king. The abandoned man who cries out, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' does not appear to have any power. In the world's eyes, he is a failure.

Yet, this broken figure is God. When God became human, he allied himself with the weakest and most vulnerable - from his humble beginnings in poverty to his death as a criminal. When we talk in the church about having solidarity with those who are poor or vulnerable or abandoned, we are directly following the example of Jesus. Not only did he extend love and compassion to all those at the margins of society, he became a marginal person himself. And it is at his very lowest point that he is first recognised as 'son of God.'

It is worth asking ourselves: if Jesus were here today, where would we find him?

Triona Doherty - Intercom Magazine

Sacrament of Reconciliation

During Holy Week we will hold a Penitential Service and broadcast it on the webcam on Tuesday 7th April at 7pm.

Some of the prayers usually recited during the Sacrament of Reconciliation are listed here below:

Act of Sorrow

O my God, I thank you for loving me.

I am sorry for all my sins,

for not loving others and not loving you.

Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again. Amen.

Prayer for Forgiveness

O my God, help me to remember the times
when I didn't live as Jesus asked me to.

Help me to be sorry and to try again. Amen.

The Confiteor

I confess to almighty God.

And to you, my brothers and sisters,

That I greatly sinned

In my thoughts and in my words,

In what I have done and in what I have failed to do;

Through my fault, through my fault

Through my most grievous fault;

Therefore I ask blessed Mary, ever virgin,

All the angels and saints,

And you my brothers and sisters

To pray for me to the Lord our God. Amen

Prayer after Forgiveness

O my God thank you for forgiving me.

Help me to love others.

Help me to live as Jesus asked me to. Amen.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

During this time although we cannot be present at Mass to receive Communion we can receive Jesus spiritually.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Seeing our Life through the Lens of the Gospel

The account of the Passion is a vivid story with a variety of characters and much action. To enter into the passage we can read the story slowly and see if we can identify with different characters. Also, any one scene can provide us with much food for reflection and prayer. Keep in mind that one of the aims in reflecting on the passage is to discover the *good news* the story has for us. Here are some pointers for prayer.

1. Jesus is revealed as Messiah and Son of God, not with a display of human power, but as one who was prepared to suffer unto death to show us how our God loves us. How does the Passion story speak to you as a revelation of how God loves you? When has the willingness of another person to go to great lengths on your behalf been an eye-opener regarding their love for you?
2. Jesus gives us an example of patient endurance and faithfulness in suffering. Suffering is something we all encounter. It is not something that anyone likes, but sometimes we cope with it better than others. What have you found helps you to cope better with suffering?
3. As you read through the narrative of the Passion, where do you find yourself resonating with a character in the action? Is there any message there for you that is life-giving?