

Clonskeagh Parish Newsletter

Let us remember those who are sick
and housebound in our Parish
today!



The churches are open for *private prayer* and those over 70 and those with underlying conditions are asked to limit their contacts, stay in place at home in so far as possible and to exercise a heightened sense of personal care.

The *Parish Office is closed to the public* and not available for in person visits to book masses or get Mass cards.

Please email parishofficeclonskeagh@eircom.net as the emails are checked remotely.

We all need to exercise caution in our interactions with the public and with each other. The norms of social distance, hand washing, and masks are to be strictly observed.

Everyone who visits our church is to wear a face covering, to practice hand sanitising and social distancing, in order to protect everyone's health.

Fr Joe Mullan Adm.

Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the 2021 World Day of the Sick -11 February 2021 "You have but one teacher and you are all brothers" (Mt 23:8).

The celebration of the XXIX World Day of the Sick on 11 February 2021, the liturgical memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Lourdes, is an opportunity to devote special attention to the sick and to those who provide them with assistance and care both in healthcare institutions and within families and communities. We think in particular of those who have suffered, and continue to suffer, the effects of the worldwide coronavirus pandemic. To all, and especially to the poor and the marginalized, I express my spiritual closeness and assure them of the Church's loving concern.

The commandment of love that Jesus left to his disciples is also kept in our relationship with the sick. A society is all the more human to the degree that it cares effectively for its most frail and suffering members, in a spirit of fraternal love. Let us strive to achieve this goal, so that no one will feel alone, excluded or abandoned.

To Mary, Mother of Mercy and Health of the Infirm, I entrust the sick, healthcare workers and all those who generously assist our suffering brothers and sisters. From the Grotto of Lourdes and her many other shrines throughout the world, may she sustain our faith and hope, and help us care for one another with fraternal love. To each and all, I cordially impart my blessing.

We prayerfully remember all those who are
**Recently Deceased & all whose
Anniversaries** occur at this time.
"May they rest in peace. Amen."



Accord Annual Collection - Accord Dublin's Annual Collection will take place this weekend, **13th & 14th February.**

We realise that it will be much more difficult for parishes to support us this year – although the demand for services is greater than ever. Your parishioners can donate in the following ways:

Online at www.accorddublin.ie where you will find a DONATE button

By post to Accord Dublin, Holy Cross Diocesan Centre, Clonliffe Road, Dublin 3

By bank transfer to ACCORD Dublin Catholic Marriage Care Service CLG,

Bank of Ireland, 88 Lower Camden Street, D 2. IBAN: IE27 BOFI [9001 1357 0742 03](https://www.bankofireland.com/iban); BIC:BOFIE2D

Parish News & Announcements

Few Words from Fr Joe –

"Remember thou are but dust and onto dust you will return." With these words, and the marking of our foreheads with black dust, from old palms, we embark on a journey of 40 days in preparation for Easter, our annual Lenten pilgrimage. The exuberance of Mardi Gras, or Shrove Tuesday, suggests a final fling with fun and friends, a cleaning out from the cupboards of all the things we like, before turning heart and mind in the direction of fasting, almsgiving and deeply prayerful contemplation.

Another phrase that launches Lent is "*Repent and believe in the Good News.*" Hearing these words might trigger a response of heart and mind, facing up to our individual wobbles, the shady part of our lives, where pursuit of self-interest and personal benefits outweigh our desire to live life in a way that expresses our love of God and the guidance of His Word. There is no doubt that Lent is good for our spiritual lives, our faith and our church. The coming weeks will afford us many different ways to listen and learn, to appraise our faith commitment and ask where we are going as a parish community. There will opportunity to share, to look out for the poor and needy and Trocaire will introduce us to an aspect of life in the developing world and ask for our support.

Last Shrove Tuesday I gathered with friends for a pancake flipping feast, at a table laden with chocolate spread, ice-cream and fruity toppings. We stuffed ourselves with sweet treats, tears ran down our cheeks as we laughed and shared stories. We got up from the table promising to gather again on Easter Sunday, but COVID changed our plans. One of those who sat with us that evening, a young teacher, Eamonn, has been 31 days now on a ventilator, struggling for his life, and we have prayed and prayed and prayed for his recovery. Just in the last couple of days hopeful signs are emerging. We dare to hope. We would so like to have that Easter meal with him, not an empty chair at his place. So, this year we will all live a virtual Lent, no ashes, no gathering to set out on the journey as a community. From our homes we can try and join the daily Mass, find a prayer companion, take on a spiritual challenge, look out for friend and neighbour. Dare to hope. Grow in faith. Please pray for Eamonn and all who are very ill.



'Lent is a season of Fasting, Prayer, and Alms Giving in preparation for the joy of Easter'

- **Fasting** – Some ideas of fasting include: Fast from judging others, fast from harsh words, fast from discontent, fast from anger, fast from worry, fast from complaining & fast from idle gossip.
- **Alms Giving** -Trocaire once again invite us to join in with their Lenten Campaign. The Trocaire packs are available at the back of the church. All families in the parish are encouraged to take the pack from the back of the church and join in the Lenten Campaign.
- **Prayer** – Why not go online at <https://www.mountmerriionparish.ie/webcam/> to join 10am Mass

Let's Live Lent!

Join us for Pastoral Conversations
5 Tuesdays starting 16th February 8pm

Feb 16: Let it Go
Feb 23: Would you listen to Him?
March 2: Songs of the Sanctuary
March 9: Into the Light
March 16th Seeds of Hope

Presented by a team from the Office
for Evangelisation and the Liturgy Resource
Centre.

To book email
lisia.cashen@dublindiocese.ie

Bringing the Lenten Gospels to Life