



Parish of Monasterboice (Mainistir Bhuithe)

Fifth Sunday of Lent Year A; 29th March 2020

Parish Priest: **Fr. Paddy Rushe**

T: 086 880 7470

E: monasterboiceparish2018@gmail.com

W: www.monasterboiceparish.com

Twitter: @MonasterboiceP

Also check our Facebook Page

St. Colmcille's Pastoral Area: Is comprised of our parish along with Termonfechin, Clogherhead, and Togher; The Pastoral Area is a great way of sharing the responsibilities, ministries and human resources of the different parishes for the service of all. The current crisis is a testament as to how helpful it is to be part of something like this. Contact numbers for the other priests are; **Fr Paul Byrne VF 982 2121;** **Fr Martin McVeigh 982 2224;** **Monsignor Jim Carroll 988 9335 .**

Parish Office Hours: please note the parish office is **CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC** but on Tuesdays from 2.30pm - 5.30pm, Ann McEvoy (087 648 6809) will be able to take phone calls, and answer emails about parish business, eg certificates, bookings, and so on.

Masses: FOR MASS FROM OUR LOCAL PRIESTS Please visit www.termonfechinparish.ie **On Sunday 29th at 11am;** Paul Byrne; **Monday 30th at 930am;** Jim Carroll; **Tuesday 31st at 9.30am;** Paul Byrne; **Wednesday 1st April at 9.30am;** Paddy Rushe; **Thursday 2nd April at 9.30am;** Martin McVeigh; **Friday 3rd April at 9.30am;** Jim Carroll; And on the webpage you will see other services; Divine Mercy, Rosary, Gospel Reflections, which you might like to view. Mass is also televised each day, several times a day, from EWTN, available on Sky 588, also RTE News Now at 10.30am, daily.

A Message from Fr. Paddy Fr. Paddy is available to assist in any way, but is very conscious of taking the appropriate precautions with regard to social distancing, hand and respiratory hygiene, etc. But if you feel he can be of assistance in any way, please don't hesitate to get in touch. In relation to updates in the coming weeks, please subscribe to our Facebook Page, our Twitter Feed, and our new Parish website; www.monasterboiceparish.com

Anniversaries: Due to the situation, anyone who has anniversaries or other remembrances booked, please contact the Parish office to re-schedule. Fr. Paddy can offer Mass for intentions when he celebrates the Mass via the internet, in Termonfechin on Wednesday next. Please contact him directly.

Our Churches will be open during daylight hours throughout the week; parishioners are able to drop in & pause for a moment of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Thanks to Kathleen and Teresa for their assistance.

Bulletins: Will be printed as usual each week, and distributed to both Churches, as well as Tenure Stores and Mulroy's Shop (*with thanks to the shop owners*).

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.

A number of people and organisations in the parish have offered help to those who may be homebound or isolated during these weeks. If you need food, prescriptions, solid fuel, or anything else collected/delivered, please get in touch with Fr. Paddy who will refer the request. If you would like to join this volunteer group, please contact Fr. Paddy directly, to leave your details. Thanks to everyone for their willingness to help.



Sacraments for the Children of our two schools: will be deferred until after the Covid-19 Crisis. Fr. Paddy sent a video message to the children of 2nd Class who were due to celebrate their First Confession on Tuesday (*Fieldstown*), and Thursday (*Tenure*). In it, he told them that he, & Patrick Logue (*Chaplain to NS Naomh Buite*) were praying for them and their families, and encouraged the children to do all they could to help and support their parents at this time. Also he promised that they would have their First Confession and First Holy Communion when everything was back to normal after the virus outbreak.

Faith centered resources for Children at home: During the current Covid-19 Pandemic the Archdiocese of Armagh wishes to provide all families and especially the children of the Diocese with resources and activities whilst the schools of the diocese are closed. With this in mind the pastoral team at The Office for Pastoral Renewal and Family Ministry

OPRFM have compiled and collated a number of quality resources which will be released over the coming days and weeks. please visit <https://www.armagharchdiocese.org/childrens-activities-and-free-downloads/> for more information.

Spring Time - Clocks go forward: Don't forget to change the clocks, and although we will all lose an hour in bed on Saturday night, it will be worth it to have the lighter evenings, especially in present circumstances - more chances for us all to be outside for exercise, and the garden, but, safely, observing all the Covid-19 guidelines.

Recent Death: Fr. Vincent Darragh (87) was a retired Parish Priest for the Archdiocese who died on 13th March. He served as a curate in our parish from 1970-73, before being sent as curate to Dungannon, Co. Tyrone. Many of our older parishioners may remember him. Please offer a prayer for the happy repose of his soul.

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.

Coping with the Coronavirus Emergency in our Parishes and Diocese: In his weekly bulletin, dealing with the Covid-19 emergency, Archbishop Eamon has said **"It is most important that we continue to accompany each other during these difficult times and do our best to maintain pastoral contact. Many have already been making ample use of social media, webcams etc; I think it is important to keep the Parish Bulletin going in some format so that you can keep essential communication lines open"**.

He also asked parishes to take note of the following;

- ✦ **No liturgical gatherings of any kind should be taking place in churches** with the exception of "funerals" (with only immediate family and with appropriate social distancing – see below). Churches should therefore only be "quietly open" for solitary personal prayer.
- ✦ **Weddings and baptisms (and/or any other planned or scheduled GATHERING OF PEOPLE for Adoration, Rosary etc.) may no longer proceed.**

Subject to daily review, the following guidelines should be followed:

- ✦ **Funeral services within the church building may proceed for now**, but physical participation must be limited to immediate family only; No visiting concelebrants allowed; In the case of death from COVID 19, specific arrangements will apply as communicated by the health authority via funeral directors; Pastoral support to bereaved families should be offered over the telephone and priests should not attend gatherings of people at wake houses.
- ✦ **All Baptism ceremonies should now be postponed.** Please note that, in an emergency, Baptism may be celebrated by any person who intends what the Church intends. Priests can advise the faithful upon request.
- ✦ **All Marriage ceremonies should now be postponed.**
- ✦ **Routine pastoral visits to the sick by clergy, extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist, etc., should be SUSPENDED.** All such visits, including First Fridays, should be replaced with pastoral support through regular phone calls, texts, email, etc., where the person has agreed to this. Routine nursing home visits are also suspended,
- ✦ **Clergy and pastoral workers must not visit hospitals at this time.** If families would like their loved one in hospital to be attended to, please direct them to ask the nursing staff to contact the chaplain on call.
- ✦ **It is difficult to see how the Sacrament of Reconciliation can be offered at the present time**, in a manner which would be safe and respectful of public health authority guidance on reducing movement and maintaining distance. **Catholic doctrine teaches that if a person cannot get to Confession, it is sufficient to confess one's sins to God**, seeking forgiveness and with the intention of going to Confession when possible to do so.
- ✦ In accordance with recent Decrees from the Holy See, the **Holy Week and Easter ceremonies will be celebrated this year without the physical participation of the faithful.** Resources are being prepared to support family prayer and are being made available on the website www.armaghprays.com. Here in our Pastoral Area, the ceremonies will be broadcast via the Church of the Immaculate Conception Webcam, on www.termonfechinparish.ie

The Archbishop concludes his bulletin by acknowledging and thanking our priests and parishioners for their ongoing efforts to cope during this unprecedented situation. Please continue to look after yourselves. With every blessing and kindest regards, Yours sincerely, + **Eamon Martin** Archbishop of Armagh

Call to Prayer: The leaders of Ireland's main Churches, together with other denominations and Christian organisations, also issued a call to pray, which will take place on **Palm Sunday, 5 April from 3pm-4pm.**

Mullary Cemetery Draw:

Weekly Collection: We are aware that many people will be suffering financial hardship at this time, and if there is any way the Church might be of assistance, please come and speak with Fr. Paddy, or any member of the Finance Committee. Because of the situation, we are asking parishioners **not to leave envelopes in the Church, or at the Parochial House**, if people want to switch their envelope to an online donation, these are the parish details; **BIC: AIBKIE2D and IBAN: IE68 AIBK 9320 9421 7710 85;** Please make sure you give your Envelope Number or Family Name as a Reference. Thank you for your financial support of the Parish - especially in this difficult time.

Notes for next week's bulletin email no later than Wednesday please to mboice2010@gmail.com

Please see Church notice boards for further upcoming events and notices.