

Easter Sunday

Responsorial Psalm This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia Alleluia! Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord. Alleluia!

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday 4th 'Christ is risen, alleluia!' This is the ancient Christian greeting on this day of great joy and happiness for all. Easter is not simply one feast among others, but the "Feast of feasts". The mystery of the Resurrection, in which Christ crushed death, permeates with its powerful energy our old time, until all is subjected to him.

Tuesday 6th Holy Communion Service in St Pius X Church, 3 – 4 pm.

Mass this week: Monday – Friday, 10am; Saturday, 7pm; Sunday, 10am.

The Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet will be recited in St. Pius X Church, Merville, at 7.30 pm every day, from Sunday – Friday. **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** on Monday, 2-9pm; Wednesday, 6-9pm.

Mass, The Rosary, and Adoration may be followed on the parish webcam.

We offer our **sympathy** to the families and friends of Jimmy McDermott, Australia, formerly Glenagivney; Patsy Doherty, Ballybrack, who died recently. May they rest in peace.

Baptism: we welcome into God's family Rían Dermot Reynolds, Merville, who was baptised recently.

Thank you for your generous financial support to the parish in the past week, which amounted to €

A sincere **Thanks** to our sacristans and readers who facilitated the celebration of the 7am Mass on the weekdays of Lent. **Thanks** also to those who have volunteered their services as readers and musicians / singers during the ongoing period of lockdown. Their ministry adds so much to our liturgies. If you'd like to **offer your service** to the parish in any way, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

The parish of Merville

St Pius X, Merville

St Mary's, Ballybrack

St Columba's, Ballinacrae

St Joseph's Oratory, Shrove

Parish Priest: Fr Pat O'Hagan Tel: (074) 9382057

Parish Office: Tel: 089-9798562

email: mervilleparish@gmail.com Parish website: www.mervilleparish.com

Bulletin email address: mervillebulletin@gmail.com



St Joseph, “a father in the shadows.”

In *Patris Corde* (With a father's heart), the document with which he launched the Year of St Joseph, Pope Francis refers to a book entitled *The Shadow of the Father* which tells the story of the Saint's life in novel form. Joseph is depicted as the earthly shadow of God the Father, watching over and protecting Jesus.

Fathers, the Pope says, are not born, but made. Made by taking up the responsibility to care for their child/ren. Sadly, today, many children grow up without the presence of their father. A father's presence can help children to mature, by not being overprotective or possessive, but making them capable of deciding for themselves, enjoying freedom and exploring new possibilities. A love that is possessive can be dangerous – it imprisons and constricts the child. God's love for us is not possessive – God leaves us free even to go astray – but God always loves us. We see that kind of love in the person of St Joseph – loving with freedom, never making himself the centre of things, not thinking of himself, but focused instead on the lives and livelihood of Mary and Jesus.

If you'd like to receive a copy of the **parish newsletter** by email, please send an email to: mervillebulletin@gmail.com The newsletter will be sent out securely, giving no one else access to your email address, in accordance with GDPR.

Greencastle Community Centre (9381054).

info@greencastlecentre.ie / Facebook / Twitter.

The parish office is now located in what was Fr McGoldrick's house. Normal office hours are Monday, Tuesday and Friday, 10am – 2pm. During “lockdown” the times may change. If the office door is closed (or if there's no answer on the phone) please call to the parochial house.