

Mission Sunday

Responsorial Psalm – Give the Lord glory and power.

Gospel Acclamation – Alleluia, Alleluia! Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday 18th Jesus recognises that we can be faced with conflicting claims for attention. He does not tell us how to resolve that dilemma but challenges us to make sure that our own allegiance to God takes priority.

Monday 19th Ss John de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues and their companions, eight Jesuit Missionaries slain in North America in 1647/8.

St Paul of the Cross (1694-1775). Founder of the Passionists, who had a special dedication to the Passion and tended the sick, the dying and the lapsed.

Thursday 22nd St John Paul II (1920-2005). Born in Poland, ordained priest in 1946 and bishop in 1958. Attended the Second Vatican Council, where he made a significant contribution. Elected Pope in October 1978, he visited many countries, including Ireland in September/October 1979.

Friday 23rd St John of Capistrano (1386-1456). Married man, lawyer, Franciscan, papal emissary, mission preacher, army chaplain.

Saturday 24th St Anthony Mary Claret (1807-70). A Spaniard who founded the Claretians, a missionary order. For a time he was Archbishop of Santiago in Cuba but he returned to his native country, where he preached and published while chaplain to the Queen of Spain. He established a number of educational and similar institutions.

The October edition of *The Net* is now available on line at www.derrydiocese.org

Moville Parish

St. Pius X, Moville

St. Mary's, Ballybrack

St. Columba's, Ballinacrae

St Joseph's Oratory, Shrove

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A letter from Fr McGoldrick.

Dear friends in Moville,

I have been overwhelmed by the number of letters and cards that you have sent me since my retirement and by the warmth and generosity of your response. Many thanks to you all.

Such kindness on your part deserves a personal reply to each one of you. Unfortunately, and to my great regret, I know that I haven't the strength or the energy any longer to do this. I apologise for this, but I would ask you for your understanding.

Please accept this expression of my gratitude and my admiration of your good-heartedness, not just in my retirement but all through my twenty-two years in the parish. It has been my privilege to serve there over that time.

Let us continue to pray for one another; God, in his love, will not be outdone in generosity.

Every blessing,

Patrick McGoldrick.

Buncrana, 15 October 2020.

Sympathy: we offer sincere sympathy to the family and friends of Brendan Diver, Newpark Gardens. May he rest in peace.

Recent collections: 21 Sept: €2378; 28 Sept: €1142; 4 Oct: €1122; 11 Oct: €1454. Thank you for your generous contribution to the parish.

Messengers for November available in the porch of the Parochial House.

Greencastle Community Centre: 9381054/info@greencastlecentre.ie

ETB courses and school-related activities will run as normal, including those below. Please note: all other courses are postponed.

- North Star SLT, an independent service providing children and young people aged under 25 with support for their speech, language and communication skills. Contact Catriona on 0863616878.
- Corecare Counselling – supporting individuals. Contact 085 245 8535

There will be no '**Drive-Thru Flu Clinics**' until further notice as the Health Centre is waiting for stocks to be replenished by the HSE following last week's very successful clinics.

DROMANTINE RETREAT CENTRE, Newry, intends to host the following events, in a safe and welcoming environment:

'Broken Open': How difficult times can help us grow - a Workshop that will explore the potential for discovering courage, compassion and wisdom even in the most painful of life circumstances. Presented by Fr Hugh Lagan, SMA: Monday 2 November, 9.30am – Tuesday 3 November, 5.00pm. Full cost: £115 or €125.

'Loss and Recovery': This seminar will explore loss in its many facets and how it is also an invitation to wholeness. "While the heart grieves for what it has lost, the Spirit dances for that which it has found." Presented by Fr Jim Cogley: Saturday 14 November, 9.30am – 5.00pm. Cost: £35. For booking or enquiries, tel: (028) 3082 1964, or email: sma.dromantine@sma.ie

Praying for Vocations: *For a growth in reverence for the gift and the mystery of vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life, and a readiness to give to God what is God's in response to his call. We pray to the Lord. Lord, hear our prayer.*

CORONAVIRUS

I heard a radio interview this week, with a lady who was celebrating her 107th birthday. The interviewer remarked to her how, being born in 1913, she has lived through two World Wars and other conflicts around the world. It was also noted that she has already lived through one pandemic, the infamous Spanish Flu of 1918, and is now living through the Covid-19 pandemic.

There may well be many people alive today who'll still be alive in 100 years time or so, and able to recall the difficulties we're currently living through.

Our hope right now is that we'll all survive and live to tell the tale for as long as we live. Sadly, however, we know that it's more than likely that a good number of people will get sick, and many will die as a result of contracting the virus.

We're reminded daily of the seriousness of the pandemic – even though some people still deny its presence among us, and the dangers it brings with it – and we're reminded daily also that the solution is very much within our grasp, and in our own hands, literally and metaphorically.

Here in Donegal, as well as in Cavan and Monaghan, we're being asked to live within the restrictions of a Level 4 situation, while the rest of the country is presently at Level 3.

God alone knows what the next few weeks will bring, but we all ought to know that the situation will only get worse – meaning more positive diagnoses, more pressure on our struggling health care workers and resources, and more deaths – if we don't play our part.

The usual celebrations around Hallowe'en will have to be suspended this year, but if we want to be able to celebrate Christmas with family and friends, and be able to attend Mass for Christmas, we will have to heed the recommendations of our government and our health experts.

Wear a mask – not a shield. Wash / sanitize your hands. Maintain a healthy social distance. Stay at home as much as possible, but keep in touch with your family and friends, and particularly with anyone who may be vulnerable, worried or lonely. Protect yourself, your loved ones and your neighbours. Please!!

Fr Pat.