



Luke 24:45-48

“They had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread”

It may surprise you to learn that the Season of Easter is the longest Season in the Church's year. It lasts for 50 days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost, longer than the six weeks of Lent, Advent and the Season of Christmas. This shows the importance that the Church gives to this time of the year which is highlighted by our recent Gospel readings recording the post resurrection appearances of the Risen Lord. These include his appearance to Mary Magdalene at the tomb, his meeting with the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, the two appearances with the apostles in the upper room one without Thomas present and eight days later when he was there, his appearance at the Sea of Galilee with the disciples when he shared a piece of fish and, of course, his final appearance immediately prior to the Ascension near Bethany where Jesus left us all his tremendous parting promise to be with us until the end of time. Today's Gospel is the last part of the Gospel of Saint Luke who, of course, went on to write The Acts of the Apostles. It begins with the final part of the story of the Road to Emmaus: *“The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread.”*

In fact, we are told that *“they were still talking about this”* when Jesus himself appeared amongst them. He begins with his now familiar greeting *“Peace be with you”*, something that we say at every mass. However, the disciples need more reassurance, so Jesus says to them: *“Why are you so agitated, and why are these*

doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed.”

There is a great call to action in this reading. Jesus says, *“Repentance for the forgiveness of sins [will] be preached to all the nations.”* This includes us and those to whom we share our own faith. It's a challenge for us all as we celebrate the Season of Easter. **Deacon Gerard**

Statement of Archbishop Farrell on the Appointment of Bishop Paul Dempsey:

I warmly welcome Pope Francis's appointment of Bishop Paul Dempsey as Titular Bishop of Sita, and Auxiliary Bishop of Dublin. I am very grateful to the Holy Father, Pope Francis, and to His Excellency Archbishop Montemayor, Apostolic Nuncio to Ireland, for facilitating my request to appoint another Auxiliary Bishop in the Archdiocese. I am also grateful for Bishop Dempsey's willingness to minister among us and for us, the people and priests of the Diocese of Dublin. Bishop Paul brings the fruit and wisdom of his extensive pastoral experience, as priest and bishop to the leadership of the Church in Dublin. Appointed Bishop of Achonry in 2020. Bishop Dempsey is no stranger to these parts: born in Carlow in 1971, Paul grew up in Athy which is in the Archdiocese of Dublin. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1997 for the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin.

CONFIRMATION CONNECT MASSES for the Confirmation Candidates attending **St. Marnock's NS** will be held on the weekend 20th-21st April (the weekend before the Confirmations). Parents/Guardians are invited to bring the children to the Mass of their choice (6.30pm Sat Vigil / 10.30am Family Mass or 12noon) during which the **Ceremony of Light** will take place. Each Candidate should bring a candle, preferably their Baptism Candle, which will be lit by one of the Adults from the Easter Candle and handed on to the child. Full details will be sent shortly to Parents/Guardians from the Parish Office. **The Confirmation Connect** Mass for St. Helen's SNS will be on the weekend of 27th-28th April.

TIMES OF MASSES: WEEKDAYS 10AM: MON, WED, THURS and FRI.

SATURDAY: 6.30PM (VIGIL), SUNDAY: 10.30AM. and 12 NOON. BAPTISMS 1ST & 3RD SUNDAYS AND AT THE EASTER VIGIL (SOME EXCEPTIONS AROUND CHRISTMAS AND EASTER.). CONFESSIONS SAT. AFTER 6.30PM MASS, AFTER DAILY MASS (UNLESS THERE'S A FUNERAL), OR ON REQUEST.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES Will take place on the **15th – 19th September 2024** accompanied by Canon John Flaherty, Spiritual Director. Please contact Pauline Geoghegan, 087 6293744.

COLLECTIONS

First Collection € 1,536

Share € 945

We are very grateful for your continued support.

EASTER DUES. MAY BE LEFT IN THE SAFES IN THE CHURCH OR HANDED IN TO THE PARISH OFFICE OR SACRISTY. SINCERE THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY CONTRIBUTED TO THIS IMPORTANT COLLECTION FOR THE COMMON FUND WHICH SUPPORTS ALL OUR ACTIVE, SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS

Recently Deceased
Clare Gorey, Torcaill
Mary Doherty, Carrickhill Drive

Saturday, 13th April

6.30p.m.

Sean & Mary O'Leary,[A]; Maurice & Peter Buckley,[A];
Sister Teresa Buckley,[A]; Peter Canning,[A];
Maura & Jimmy Sugrue, [A]; Thanksgiving intention.

Sunday, 14th April

10.30a.m.

Special intention for healing.

Special Intention

12 noon

Thomas O'Connor,[Month's Mind];

Thomas Murray, [A]; Eileen Smyth, [20th A] & Family
Rossa O'Keeffe,[A]

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK

Our Parish and Partnership group will join the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock, led by Archbishop Farrell, on **Saturday, 27th April**. Coach will depart St. Anne's Church

Carpark, Portmarnock at 7.30a.m. €60 pp which includes mid-morning refreshments and evening meal. Only a few places left – please book at the Parish Office.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

The Irish Hospice Foundation provides a free Bereavement Support Line. This National Freephone Service is available from 10am to 1pm, Monday to Friday, by calling 1800 807077. Visit www.hospicefoundation.ie for more information.

SENIORLINE Would like someone to talk to? SeniorLine is Ireland's national telephone service for older people open every day of the year 10am-10pm, Freephone 1800 80 45 91. Callers may feel isolated, alone, wish to discuss a problem in confidence, or for company during their day. SeniorLine's older volunteers are trained to listen, to support, to discuss options and to refer caller to other helpful services if necessary. So don't be alone if sharing a problem would help. Phone SeniorLine 1800 80 45 91, open every day of the year 10am-10pm.

ART CLASSES

with Sinead Gregory, In the Parish Centre, starting back on the **15th April 2024**
10.30a.m. – 12.30p.m.; 2.00p.m. – 4.00p.m.
Cost is 35 euro.

THE PORTMARNOCK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The AGM of the Portmarnock Community Association will take place on **Tuesday 16th April at 8.00PM** in Portmarnock Hotel and Golf Links. All welcome .

GAA CLUB – Legal talk

A legal talk will be presented by Helen McGrath, Partner O'Connor, LLP, on **Thursday, 18th April** in the GAA Club at **8.00p.m.** Helen will cover wills, estates and enduring power of attorney. Admission free, all welcome

DEADLINE FOR INCLUSION OF INTENTIONS FOR WEEKEND MASSES AND NEWSLETTER ITEMS IS WEDNESDAY 4PM. ANY MASSES BOOKED AFTER THE DEADLINE CANNOT BE INCLUDED IN THE NEWSLETTER WHICH IS PRINTED ON THURSDAY MORNING. MANY THANKS.

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