



"Blessed are those who have not seen but yet believe."

The Season of Easter lasts for fifty days between Easter Sunday and Pentecost and is slightly longer than the Season of Lent which has just concluded. In the coming weeks, let us celebrate and share our Easter joy with those we meet who may need inspiration and encouragement.

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives us his final beatitude: *"Blessed are those who have not seen but yet believe."* Jesus is telling us that there is a "greater blessedness", as Father Martin Hogan describes it, for those who have faith in God without having seen him.

Saint Thomas needed a bit of convincing. He missed out on the first appearance of the Risen Jesus after the resurrection. Perhaps he was disappointed not to have shared in the incredible story being told by the other apostles and needed further proof. In doing so, he speaks for many believers down through the centuries, who have had doubts about their faith and needed extra assurance. We then have Saint Thomas's remarkable profession of faith which has found its way into one of the memorial acclamations following the consecration at mass: *"My Lord and My God."*

Although not recorded directly in the Gospels many Saints have written about how the Risen Jesus appeared to Our Lady after his resurrection. St Teresa of Avila tells us in one of her visions of Christ: The Lord said to her, *"On my resurrection I went to Our Lady who was in great need.... and I stayed long with her for she was in very great need of consolation"*.

Saint Vincent Ferrer, the Spanish Dominican, says: *Jesus' first visit was to the Virgin Mary, His Mother, is expressly taught by St. Ambrose, where he says: 'Mary saw the*

Resurrection of Christ, and she was the first to see it.' "Mary had suffered more than anyone else in the Passion of Her Son. He, therefore, was sure to give her consolation in preference to all others."

As we celebrate the fifty days of this Easter Season which brings us to Pentecost on Sunday May 19th, may we share Our Lady's joy at the resurrection of her Son Jesus which brings new life for us all. **Deacon Gerard**

COLLECTIONS

First Collection € 2,116

Share € 1,377

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

**Mr. Daniel Doona, The Kilns
Mrs Ann Egan, Limetree Avenue**

**Saturday, 6th April
6.30p.m.**

**John Madden, [A]; Niamh Hand, [Rec Dec'd]
Jim Hanifan and Marie Harte-Hanifan, [A].
Mary Carmel Geoghegan, [2nd A].**

**Sunday, 7th April
10.30a.m.**

For special intentions for people who are ill.

12 noon

**John Emmett, [Month's Mind]; Niamh Hand, [Rec. Dec'd];
Emer Hewitt, [Rec Dec'd]; Molly & Vinny Dillon, [A]
Mona Connolly [A]; Tommy McLernon, [A];
Bridget Diviney, [A]; Des Keane, [A]; Paul O'Dwyer, [A];
Paddy & Christina Culhane, [A]; Shane O'Brien, [A];**

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.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY- 7th April 2024



Divine Mercy Devotions and Mass will be celebrated in St. Anne's beginning at **2.45pm** with Confessions. **Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3.00p.m.**
Mass 4.00p.m.

Celebrations will take place in **St John the Evangelist, Kilbarrack-Foxfield** Parish Church from **3.00p.m. 7.00p.m.**

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.

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. Please book at the Parish Office with a Deposit of €20.

MEDUGORJE PILGRIMAGE

5th to 12th June 2024 with Marian Pilgrimages
To be included in our group please contact Derek & Anne Farrell , 0862573824, or 0879224077.

BAYSIDE ALPHA

are showing Bishop Barron's groundbreaking 10-part documentary series, 'Catholicism', on Zoom with discussion afterwards in breakout rooms starting on Sunday the **7th of April at 7.30pm** and continuing for 10 weeks. To register please email Paul at alphabayside@gmail.com.

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.

PORTMARNOCK INDOOR BOWLING CLUB

Social games take place in the in the Martello Room PSLC on **Mondays & Thursdays each week from 8pm - 10pm**. New members always made welcome. Coaching available. More information from Nuala at 087 9435397

ART CLASSES

with Sinead Gregory, In the Parish Centre, starting back on the **15th April 2024** for 10 weeks: 10.30a.m. – 12.30p.m.; 2.00p.m. – 4.00p.m. Cost is 35 euro.

HANDAL'S MESSIAH

Tallaght Choral Society is performing Handel's Messiah in the Helix theatre on **Sunday 14th April**, to celebrate 800 years of the Dominican Order in Ireland. All welcome

ANAM CARA NORTH DUBLIN

the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Evening for bereaved parents on **Wednesday 17th April at 7:15pm** in the Hilton Hotel, Malahide Rd, Northern Cross, Dublin, D17 Y924. Enquiries to info@anamcara.ie or 085 2888 888.

LOYOLA INSTITUTE, TRINITY COLLEGE

Thursday 11th April 7.30pm - the poet James Harpur will explore the creative possibilities of the Book of Kells, unfolding how he came to write a poem about it. The public lecture, entitled, **The Book of Kells: Imagining Kells** will take place in the JM Synge Theatre, Arts Block, Trinity College Dublin. This event should be of interest to many people.

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