

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

A guided Holy Hour of prayer
concluding with Benediction
Wednesday 7.30pm
from the Oratory

Silent Adoration after
10am Mass on Friday until 11.30am in
the Oratory



Sundays 3rd & 17th May
were to have been First
Communion days in the parish.
Sadly they were postponed.
All children are invited to join
Fr. Ger for the 11am Mass
next Sunday by logging on
To Baltinglass Parish Webcam.

MASS
Mon. - Fri. 10am
Oratory
Sat. 6pm / Sun. 11am
St. Joseph's Church

Available on webcam
& radio 100.2fm

ANNIVERSARIES

Patricia McDermott
Parkmore

Margaret & Thomas Cullen
9 Parkmore

Annie Murphy
Carrigeen

Michael Germaine
Bessina

Marie Dunne
Belan Street

Thomas & Anna Bollard,
Randlestown & their daughter
Margaret Shiel and her
husband Frank, London

*Rest in
Peace*



WEEKLY ENVELOPES AND EASTER COLLECTION

Thanks to those who have
contributed over the
past few weeks.
In the meantime you may wish
to put your contribution into
your envelopes each week &
keep them until churches
re-open again for Mass.

You may leave your envelopes or Trocaire box (with coins
converted to notes) in the letter box at the Parish Office
Monday to Friday from 10am to 4pm.
The box is monitored by CCTV from the office and
will be emptied several times during the day.



The Rosary and the Month of May

The month of May is traditionally devoted to Mary and many Catholics already are in the habit of praying the rosary at home during the month. "The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this 'family' aspect, also from a spiritual point of view." Pope Francis reminds Catholics that simplicity is the key to praying the Rosary and that there are many good models of the prayer on the internet. See Kandle.ie for a guide to praying the Rosary.



Trocaire
Working for a just world.

TRÓCAIRE depends on
the Lenten campaign
to fund its projects.

Please keep your box
safe until you can bring
it to the church.

RE-OPENING OF ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

"I now feel it is time to reopen our churches in the Diocese in a responsible manner for a minimum time each day for private prayer. The decision to close our church buildings was an act of solidarity and commitment to the national effort required to suppress the COVID-19 virus. I fully recognise the huge sacrifice that closing churches has been for parishioners and priests alike".

(Bishop Nulty)

The church will be open daily from 10am to 4pm.

An area at the back of the church has been prepared to facilitate safe distancing and people will only have access to this area. This is to avoid people having access to all of the church and to assist in daily cleaning.

- Enter by the main door. Please leave doors open.
- Keep your distance (2m apart).
- Use hand sanitiser.
- Avoid unnecessary touching of surfaces.
- While praying (to minimise touching of surfaces):
 - Stand if you can.
 - Sit if you must (or wish to).
- Lighting of Candles.
 - Light from the existing lighted candle or with your own lighter. *(Lighters cannot be provided for hygiene reasons).*

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
UNDERSTANDING AND CO-OPERATION!**

PARISH NEWSLETTER

BALTINGLASS - BIGSTONE - GRANGECON - STRATFORD

5th Sunday of Easter

10th May 2020

Most of us know what it's like to be parting company from another whom we love and wondering if we will ever see them again.

Well, today Jesus is preparing his disciples for his leaving them and so our Gospel has a sad, yet wonderful atmosphere to it.

Jesus tells them this is not the end and in doing so is telling us too. There is more to us than our material lives -we each have an inner, spiritual aspect and our lives on earth are a preparation for the place Jesus has prepared for each of us for "There are many Rooms in my Father's house". Our earthly existence is not permanent. Christ became flesh and he too had to move on from this life.

Thomas questions Jesus "We do not know where you are going so how can we know the way? And so we hear the beautiful consoling words from Jesus "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life".

We tend to look outwardly for the Way just as the disciples did but the "Kingdom of Heaven is within." Philip wants to see the Father even though Christ has been teaching him and with him for so long. Everything Christ is and says is from the Father for I am in the Father and the Father is in me". Christ has nothing his own no more that we have, nor can we do anything of value on our own.

Our Gospel today may be tinged with sadness, mystery and wonder but it invites us today to "Trust in God still, and trust in me".

