

DROMAHAIR – KILLARGUE- NEWTOWNMANOR

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Sunday 28th March 2021 – Palm (Passion) Sunday

Today's Gospel Reflection – The journey of discipleship

Our opening reading from Mark's Gospel **captures the elation of the crowds** who welcome Jesus in Jerusalem. They spread greenery on the road in front of him, they ***lift their voices in praise, singing 'Hosanna! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!'*** But their **hope and loyalty is short-lived**, as we discover in our reading of the Passion. ***Jesus is left almost alone to face humiliation and death.*** His followers have heard his radical message of reversal and upheaval, but when it comes down to it, the challenge is too much. We are told ***'they all deserted him and ran away'***. While ***Peter follows Jesus at a distance***, **he is soon denying** he even knows him. Soon, the crowds are shouting for Jesus to be crucified.

We are very familiar with the Passion Gospel and ***it can be tempting to*** allow ourselves to tune out, particularly when it comes to the unpleasant parts. **We do not like to think of ourselves** as part of the mob shouting ***'Crucify him!'*** Yet if we enter fully into the experience, ***we can see ourselves in the story.*** When things are going well, it is easy to praise God and shout ***'Hosanna!'*** ***and promise we will not lose faith.*** There are other times we fall asleep, become complacent. And then there are days when we struggle, when we are confused or do not know what God expects of us or whether we are able to handle the difficult times. ***We pull away from God.*** The different disciples display this range of human reactions and emotions. **This week, Holy Week, we are the disciples walking with Jesus on a journey that leads to the cross.** And yet, here at the cross, ***we find Mary Magdalene and the other female disciples,*** and Joseph of Arimathea. We know the story is not over for these disciples, or for Peter and the others. The journey of discipleship is just beginning.

'We don't have to be able to articulate all the logic of what is happening now. But Christians walk on with the conviction that there is One who does make sense of the apparent madness of shattered human dreams.'

(Bishop Donal McKeown)

Ceremonies for Holy Week & Easter

All ceremonies for Holy Week will be held behind closed doors and livestreamed from St. Patrick's Church, Dromahair, as follows:

Saturday 27th March – **Vigil Mass for Palm (Passion) Sunday at 8.00pm.**

Sunday 28th March – **Mass for Palm (Passion) Sunday at 11.15am.**

(Palm for all three churches will be blessed at these Masses)

Holy Thursday 1st April – **Mass of the Lord's Supper at 8.00pm.**

Good Friday 2nd April – **Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord at 3.00pm.**

Good Friday 2nd April – **The Stations of the Cross at 8pm.**

Holy Saturday 3rd April – **Easter Vigil Mass at 8.00pm.**

(Easter Water for all three churches will be blessed at this Mass)

Easter Sunday 5th April – **Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord at 11.15am.**

On Wednesday next – 31st March, the final guided Holy Hour for Lent, will take place from 8.00pm to 9.00pm

This will be done via our Webcam while the government restrictions remain in place. From the comfort of your own home, you could be part of a relaxing and peaceful hour in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. I invite you to consider taking this on for Lent individually or as a family.

The Sacrament of Baptism: From last weekend onwards, baptisms are allowed to take place. Please note the **maximum allowed at each baptism is 6 people.** Please contact Fr Paul for more information or to arrange your child's baptism.

Trócaire - give what you can: *One last push for Holy Week.* Lent is an extremely important time of year for Trócaire. The organization relies heavily on the income that comes in during Lent through the generosity of schools & parishes. Please give what you can, it will make all the difference.

RECENTLY DECEASED: John Patrick Healy, Sligo & Fawnlion, Funeral Mass will take place on Monday in the Cathedral in Sligo. **Cepta McGoldrick (nee Cuddy)**, Sligo & formerly of Claremorris, whose funeral took place on Friday last – 26th March. **Elaine Carey**, Dublin, (sister of Karen Finan, Kilcoosey), whose funeral took place on Saturday 20th March. **Maura Miney (nee McMorrow)**, Carrick on Shannon, & formerly of Gubaderra, whose funeral took place on Saturday 20th March.

May they Rest in Peace. Amen.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, DROMAHAIR:

1. **Mass: No Mass on Monday's;** Tuesday at 8.00pm; Wednesday at 9.30am & **Holy Hour at 8.00pm;** **Holy Thursday at 8.00pm;** **Good Friday Liturgy at 3.00pm & The Stations of the Cross at 8.00pm;** **Saturday – Easter Vigil at 8.00pm;** **Easter Sunday at 11.15am.**

To access the webcam please type the following in your search engine. **www.churchtv.ie** then click on *County Leitrim icon, and then, click on the Dromahair icon, then click play.*

2. **Pray for:**

James & Josie Feeney, Curry, their deceased sons, daughters, in laws & grandchildren. **John & Winnie McNulty**, Curry. **Katie Rooney & Deceased Family Members** and **Maureen Murray (nee McSharry)**, Kilcloon, Co. Meath & Dromahair. (Vigil) Mass on Sat 27th March at 8.00pm

Dr James A. Jordan, Main Street, First Anniv Mass on Sun 28th Mar at 11.15am (*streamed live*).

Kathleen Gordan, nee Connaughton. Fr Vincent's sister. Mass on Tue 30th March at 8.00pm

Available for Intention. Mass on Wednesday 31st March at 9.30am (*streamed live*).

Shane Flanagan. Calry. Memorial Mass on **Holy Thursday 1st April at 8.00pm** (*streamed live*).

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion. Good Friday 2nd April at 3.00pm (*streamed live*).

The Stations of the Cross on Good Friday 2nd April at 8pm. (*streamed live*)

The People of the Parish. Easter Vigil Mass Saturday 3rd April at 8.00pm (*streamed live*).

Available for Intention. Easter Sunday – 4th April at 11.15am (*streamed live*).

May they Rest in Peace. Amen.

Act of Spiritual Communion

(For those watching mass via the webcam. Please pray this prayer with Fr Paul before the final prayer of the Mass.)

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you.

SINCERE THANK YOU: To all who have dropped in their parish envelopes for the support of the parish. You can continue to drop **Dues/Offertory Collection Envelopes** into Fr Paul at the Parochial House in Dromahair (or to John McMorrow in Killargue). **Please do not leave Collection Envelopes in any of the three churches while unattended.** **Thank you for your generosity & understanding.**

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Drumkeeran, gratefully acknowledges the Christmas Church Gate Collection of €1,090.00 from the three churches in the parish. We greatly appreciate your generosity and would like to remind you that anyone wishing to contact the SVP can do so at 085 7764431.

Donations Received for St. Brigid's Crosses in all three churches as well as the Christmas Crib in Killargue Church amounted to €400. Proceeds have been forwarded to North West Hospice. Thank you for your generosity to this worthy cause, in difficult times.

Children & Holy Week: Although the schools are closed for holidays, *we encourage parents to help* the children learn more about Holy Week. **First Holy Communion children:** At the Last Supper, on Holy Thursday, the disciples (friends) of Jesus made their First Holy Communion. ***Please join us for the Holy Thursday Mass at 8.00pm.*** **Confirmation children:** On Good Friday, Jesus ***“gave up his spirit”*** as he breathed his last. **As you prepare to receive the Holy Spirit** in Confirmation, we encourage you to tune in to the Good Friday ceremonies at 3.00pm or 8.00pm.

