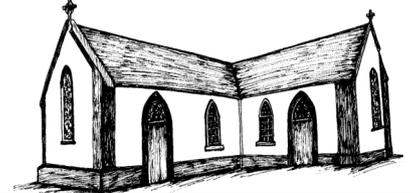
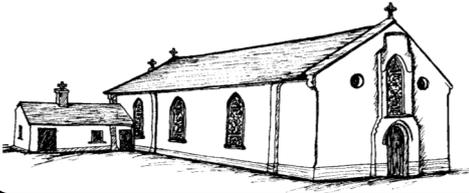


Kingscourt Parish Bulletin



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Priest on Duty: Fr. Gerry.

SILENCE IS INDISPENSABLE FOR PRAYER

During his general audience Benedict XVI concluded a series of catecheses dedicated to the prayer of Jesus. He turned his attention to the theme of alternating words and silence which characterised Christ's earthly life, above all on the Cross, and which is also significant in two aspects of our own lives.

Addressing the 10,000 pilgrims, the Pope explained that the first of these aspects, "concerns accepting the Word of God. Interior and exterior silence are necessary in order to hear that Word", he said. Yet, "our age does not, in fact, favour reflection and contemplation; quite the contrary it seems that people are afraid to detach themselves, even for an instant, from the spate of words and images which mark and fill days". However, "the Gospels often show us ... Jesus withdrawing alone to a place far from the crowds, even from His own disciples, where He can pray in silence". Moreover, "the great patristic tradition teaches us that the mysteries of Christ are linked to silence, and only in silence can the Word find a place to dwell within us".

"This principle", the Holy Father went on, holds true individual prayer, but also for our liturgies which, to facilitate authentic listening, must also be rich in moments of silence and of non verbal acceptance. ... Silence has the capacity to open a space in our inner being, a space in which God can dwell which can ensure that His Word remains within us, and that love for Him is rooted in our minds and hearts, and animates our lives".

The Pope then turned to focus on the second important aspect of the relationship between silence and prayer. In our prayers", he said, "we often find ourselves facing

the silence of God.

We almost experience a sense of abandonment; it seems that God does not listen and does not respond. But this silence, as happened to Jesus, does not signify absence. Christians know that the Lord is present and listens, even in moments of darkness and pain, of rejection and solitude. Jesus assures His disciples and each one of us that God is well aware of our needs at every moment of our lives".

"For us, who are so frequently concerned with operational effectiveness and with the results ... we achieve, the prayer of Jesus is a reminder that we need to stop, to experience moments of intimacy with God, 'detaching ourselves' from the turmoil of daily life in order to listen, to return to the 'root' which nourishes and sustains our existence. One of the most beautiful moments of Jesus' prayer is when, faced with the sickness, discomfort and limitations of his interlockers, He addressed His Father in prayer, thus showing those around him where they must go to seek the source of hope and salvation".

Christ touches the most profound point of His prayer to the Father at the moment of His passion and death, Pope Benedict said. And citing the Catechism of the Catholic Church he concluded by noting that "His cry to the Father from the cross encapsulated 'all the troubles, for all time. Of humanity enslaved by sin and death, all the petitions and intercessions of salvation history are summed up in this cry of the incarnate Word. Here the Father accepts them and, beyond all hope, answers them by raising His Son. Thus is fulfilled and brought to completion the drama of prayer in the economy of creation and salvation".

Book for the 50th International Eucharistic Congress

There are 3 ways to book for the Congress:

1. Book Online: www.iec2012.ie/registration
2. Telephone booking offices on 01/2891122.
3. Download a paper booking form from www.iec2012.ie/registration and send the completed form to CSSL, 3rd Floor, Paradigm House, Dundrum Office Park, Dundrum, Dublin 14. Advance bookings are open until the 9th of May 2012. After that date all bookings are onsite at the RDS during the week of the Congress.

The following also received **IEC pins and certificates** at the recent Mass: Bernard Owens, Charlie Muldoon, Joe & Kathleen McCaul, John Gargan, John McEntee, Louise Shields, Maggie Reilly, Anne Smith, Dymphna McEaney, Peter Burns, Annie Dillon, Ann Carolan, Kathleen Regan, Pat McKenna, Nancy Corrihan and Patricia Cosgrove.

We congratulate all the boys and girls who took part in the **Eucharistic Congress Art competition**. The following are the category winners: Joe McCaul, Emmalee Morgan, Dovile Kaminskaite, Ellie Carroll, Aaron Rooney, Hannah Rooney, Orla Fleming, Jenny Smith, Zoë Gillen, Beta Ukoennin, Thomas McCabe, and Megan Canning.

SuperValu
Real Food, Real People

POINTS FOR THE PARISH
Last year the parish teamed up with Gemma and Kingscourt Super Valu in 'Points for the Parish'. We encourage all parishioners to consider signing up if they have not done so already. Super Valu will match your points for the Parish.

Cut here -----

Detach and deposit in the designated box in the church or in **Super Valu Kingscourt**.

Name: Address:

Contact No.:

This Week's Collection Plate: St. Patrick's Day & Sunday €2,924. Envelopes: Target: €1,850. Received: €3,224. Many thanks.

LITURGICAL NOTES

24th/25th March.

Vigil 6 p.m.: Elizabeth & James O'Reilly, Drumgill, & dec. family.

Vigil Muff 7.30 p.m.: John Smith, Drumcrin.

9 a.m. Corlea: Philip Finnegan, Corlea.

10.30: Paddy & Molly Reilly & son, Joseph.

12.00: Paddy Carolan, St. Mary's Road.

31st March/1st April.

Vigil 6 p.m.: Philip McDaniel, Bailieboro Road.

Vigil Muff 7.30 p.m.: Mary Reilly, Clonturkin.

9 a.m. Corlea: John & Elizabeth Ward, Northlands.

10.30: Deceased members of St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band.

12.00: Brendan Gorman, Dunaree.

Tuesday 10: No morning Mass.

Tuesday 8 p.m.: Patrick Clarke & his daughter, Laura, Lisnagrew.

Wednesday 10: Carmel McKenna, Lisnagrew.

Wednesday 7.30 p.m. Corlea: Michael & Mary O'Reilly &

dec. family, Taghart.

Thursday 10: Ned McCabe, Mount St. Joseph.

Thursday 7.30 p.m. Muff: James McCabe.

Friday 10: Edward & Elizabeth O'Reilly & son & daughter, Gerry & Mary.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord

Benny McKeown, Laragh Muff, **Geraldine McMahon**, Copponagh, **Natalie Tully**, Cabra View, **Owen McElroy**, Lisdoonan, **Janie Plunkett**, Kilmainhamwood.

Next **Baptism preparation meeting** will take place in the **Parish Centre** on **Thursday, 5th April**, at **8.00p.m.**

One in the Sacrament of Marriage

Congratulations to **Paul Thomas**, Donegal, & **Kathly Farrelly**, Dundalk, **Jim Mackin**, Church St., & **Ruth Brady**, Firhouse, **Michael O'Reilly**, & **Michelle Leonard**, Donnycarney, on their recent marriages.

The Parish Repository is open on Saturdays from 2 p.m. and **after all weekend Masses** with a wide selection of First Holy Communion & Confirmation gifts, candles and religious goods at **COST PRICE.**

The Lenten Novena continues on Tuesday at 8 p.m. with guest speaker, Sean Boylan, former Meath football manager.

We welcome the Confirmation pupils and families at the **Pre-Confirmation Mass** at 10.30 Mass this morning. They will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on April 29th at 3 p.m.

Fr. Gerry will bring Holy Communion to the sick and household of the parish on Friday, 30th March, commencing at 8.30 a.m.

Next Sunday is **Palm Sunday** and the beginning of Holy Week. Palm will be blessed at all Masses

The annual **Dawn Mass** on Easter Sunday will take place again this year at the Mass Rock on Lough an Lae. The Mass will commence **at sunrise**, which is expected this year at **6.30 a.m.**

The annual **Lenten Penance Service** takes place on Monday, 2nd April, at 7.30 p.m. in Kingscourt.

Fr. Gerry will continue visitation to the homes of **Carrickleck.**

Congrats to Ann Burns, editor of '**Pass It On**'. The book was reviewed in The Irish Catholic as excellent in presentation and striking in contact. The reviewer described the book as a moving and heartening collection with finely executed illustrations. It was described as "a lovely little, book, worth five stars any day".

Our relay service provider had a hardware issue on the parish webcam during the week. Any inconvenience is regretted. We are back on the air! The parish website is maintained by **www.taraconcepts.com** and the webcam by **www.p5tv**

PRAYER FOR LIGHTING A CANDLE

Lord, may this candle be a light for you to enlighten me in my difficulties and decisions. May it be a fire for you to burn out of me all pride, selfishness and impurity.

May it be a flame for you to bring warmth into my heart towards my family, my neighbours, and all those who meet me.

Through the prayers of Mary, virgin and mother, I place in your care those I come to remember, especially ...

I cannot stay long here with you in your church:

in leaving this candle, I wish to give you something of myself.

Help me to continue my prayer into everything I do this day.

Amen.

LENT IN OUR PARISH

Additional evening Mass for Lent Mass at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesdays of Lent in **Corlea.**

Mass at 7.30 p.m. on Thursdays of Lent in **Muff.**

Lenten Evening Novena 8 p.m.

27th Mar. Sean Boylan, former Meath football manager.

3rd April: Bishop Michael Smith, Bishop of Meath.

There will be **no morning Mass** on the Novena Day.

Lectio Divina Praying the Gospel for Lent on each Monday at 7p.m. in the Parish Centre. All are welcome.

Developing our Faith The reflection on Saint Mark's Gospel has concluded.

Morning Prayer of the Church Each morning before Mass for Lent in Kingscourt at 9.45 a.m.

Trócaire Boxes Trócaire boxes have been made available through the schools and are also in each of the Parish Churches. This year's Trócaire box tells the story of Daniel Okweng, from northern Uganda. Forced to flee their home due to conflict, Daniel and his family have moved back to their family home having spent many years in a camp. It was at this point that their biggest struggle began—to begin life again. With the support of our parish, Trócaire has been there, helping this family to readjust to life back home. Working together with the community, Trócaire have provided training and support groups to help people cope with the trauma they have experienced.

The Lenten Garden The Lenten garden prepared in the Parish Prayer Space will assist us in prayer and reflection this Lent.

Eucharistic Adoration We encourage all parishioners to consider giving even 30 minutes to Eucharistic Adoration on the Tuesdays of Lent. Adoration takes place from 10 a.m.—7 pm in the Parish Centre.

In the recent weeks parishioners who have made a donation to the parish in excess of €250 will have received a Revenue CHY 2 form. You are asked to **complete and return it to the Parish Office** by **April 1st** as we will then be forwarding these completed forms to Revenue.

COMMUNITY NOTICES: **The Children's Choir** are holding a '**Bring & Buy Sale**' on Holy Saturday, 7th April.

The Seven Last Words of Christ, String Version by Joseph Haydn, performed by Alexander Jablovkov Quartet, St. Patrick's Church, Trim, Palm Sunday, 1st Apr, 8 p.m. A meditation for Holy Week in words and music. No booking necessary.

Co Cavan VEC Adult Learning Centre is registering for English classes in the Kingscourt area. If you, or somebody you know, is interested in attending English classes a registration evening will be held in Kingscourt Community Centre on Thur., 29th Mar., from 7.30—9 p.m. Further info. at 049/4361881.

The Parish wishes good luck to the **Kingscourt Harps** in their Junior Students Final on Balbriggan today.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes May 22nd—27th with Fr. Padraig McMahon. Enquires 046/9027470.

Scouts: Disco in Dun A Ri, Fri. 30th Mar. 7-9 p.m. Adm. €3.

Kingscourt Credit Union Car draw in the office on Sat. 14th Apr. at 12 noon. All welcome.