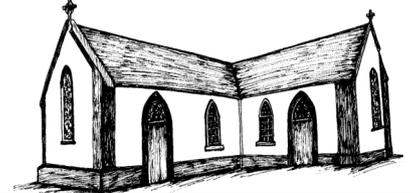
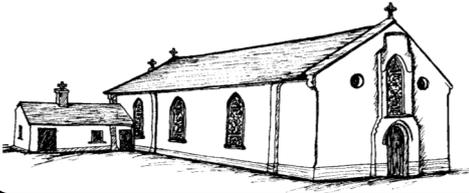


Kingscourt Parish Bulletin



info@kingscourtparish.ie

visit www.kingscourtparish.ie 042/9667314

Priest on Duty: Fr. Gerry.

BENEDICT XVI: AT MOMENTS OF DIFFICULT I HAVE FELT THE SUPPORT OF YOUR PRAYERS

"From the first moment of my election as Successor of St. Peter I have always felt supported by the prayers of the Church, by your prayers, especially at moments of greatest difficulty, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart", said Benedict XVI today during his general audience.

"Constant choral prayer is also an important way to overcome any trials that may arise on life's journey, because it is by being profoundly united to God that we can also be profoundly united to others".

As part of a series of catecheses dedicated to the early Church, this morning the Holy Father focused his remarks on the last episode of St. Peter's life recounted in the Acts of the Apostles, when he was imprisoned by Herod Agrippa then freed by an angel of the Lord.

The Pope said that, while the Apostle was in prison, the Church prayed for him constantly. Thus, the Holy Father explained, "the power of the Church's incessant prayer rose up to God; the Lord listened and sent His angel to ensure the Apostle was freed by an inconceivable and unexpected act of liberation".

The Pope then turned to consider Peter's actions while in prison, and the fact that he was sleeping which the angel came. "In such a critical and dangerous situation, this may seem strange, but it actually denotes tranquillity and trust", he said. "Peter trusted in God, he knew he was surrounded by the solidarity and support of his followers and so abandoned himself entirely into the hands of the Lord. This is how our prayer must be: assiduous, united with others, an ex-

pression of complete trust in God Who knows us in our most intimate selves and looks after us".

Once free, Peter went to the house of Mark's mother where many disciples were gathered in prayer. As in other episodes in the Acts of the Apostles, so also on this occasion "the response of the community to difficulties and peril was to entrust themselves to God, to intensify their relationship with Him", Pope Benedict said. In this context he also dwelt on another moment of difficulty faced by the early Church, motivated by envy and disputes within the community. According to St. James, who recounts the episode, there were two reasons for the crisis: the fact that people allowed themselves to be dominated by their passions, especially selfishness, and the lack of prayer. That situation will change, the Apostle says, if the entire community prays together, assiduously and cohesively. This recommendation, the Pope explained, is "also an important call for us and for our communities, both small communities such as the family, and larger communities such as the parish, the diocese and the Church as a whole".

The liberation of St. Peter, the Holy Father concluded, "tells us that the Church, and each one of us, must suffer difficulties, but the incessant vigilance of prayer supports us. ... With constant and trusting prayer the Lord frees us from our chains and guides us. ... He gives us serenity of heart to face the difficulties of life, even rejection, opposition and persecution. ... The Apostle Peter, though in chains, was calm and certain that he was not alone: the community was praying for him, the Lord was close. He knew that 'the power of Christ is fully expressed in weakness'".

PRAYER OF THE 50TH INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

Lord Jesus, You were sent by the Father to gather together those who are scattered. You came among us, doing good and bringing healing, announcing the Word of salvation and giving the Bread which lasts forever. Be our companion on life's pilgrim way.

May your Holy Spirit inflame our hearts,
Enliven our hope and open our minds,
So that together with our sisters and brothers in faith we may recognise you in the Scriptures and in the breaking of bread.
May your Holy Spirit transform us into one body and lead us to walk humbly on the earth, in justice and love, as witnesses of your resurrection.

In communion with Mary,
Whom you gave to us as our Mother at the foot of the cross,
Through you may all praise,
honour and blessing be to the Father
In the Holy Spirit and in the Church, Now and forever. **Amen.**

We welcome the Exam students and their families to our annual Exam Mass today. We wish them every blessing.

Exam Prayer

O God of Wisdom, I thank you for
the knowledge gained
and the learning experiences
during this year.

Please guide me during
my exams and help me so that
I can perform to the best of my ability.
Help me to remember what is
truly important,
as I focus my time and energy
on these tests in the immediate future.

Finally, may I sense your peace in knowing
that I applied myself to the challenges of this day.
I ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



LITURGICAL NOTES

26th/27th May.

Vigil 6 p.m.: Michael Gaynor, Cortubber, & his grandson, Stephen.

Vigil Muff 7.30 p.m.: Michael Rooney & his son, Pat.

9 a.m. Corlea: Anna McConnon, Clusnabradren.

10.30: Lena, Thomas & Eileen McKenna, Leigh, Lisnalong, requested by Bridie McKenna, Shercock.

12.00: Sean Smith, Northlands.

2nd/3rd June.

Vigil 6 p.m.: Gavin O'Connor, Ballinaclose. First Anniversary.

Vigil Muff 7.30 p.m.: Eveline Connolly-Louth. Month's Memory.

9 a.m. Corlea: Henry & Mary Farrelly, Lisagoan.

10.30: Niall O'Halloran, First Anniversary & Marian O'Halloran.

12.00: Natalie Tully, requested by Susan McMahon, U.S.A.

Tuesday 10: Eucharistic Service.

Wednesday 10: Eucharistic Service.

Thursday 10: Eucharistic Service.

Friday 10: List of the Dead & Anniversaries Occurring.

Saturday 1 p.m. Muff: Wedding Mass.

Friday 7.30: List of the Dead & Anniversaries Occurring. Luke Reilly, Cortubber.

Philip & Roseann Tully & son, Philip, Cortubber.

Tommy & Maisie Fleming & dec. family.

Killian & Denis Farrelly.

Francie Owens, Ervey. Christy Sullivan.

John & Maureen Tully, Copponagh.

Edward & Kathleen McCabe. Sheila, James & Margaret Lynch. Dec. membs. of Hand fam. Kingscourt & Northlands. Brendan & Josie Markey. Eugene & Annie Jackson. Philip Farrelly, Tierworker. John and Esther Campbell & Phyllis McLoughlin, Peter Corbally.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord: Peter Burns, Drumgill, Norah Brady, Ardee & Nobber, Sean Nolan, U.K.

A sincere word of thanks to all who were involved in our Parish Mission this week to mark the jubilee of the Church and in preparation for the forthcoming Eucharistic Congress. We pray that the mission will be a blessing for all families, individuals and the parish community as a whole.

Next **Baptism preparation meeting** will take place in the **Parish Centre** on **Thursday, 7th June**, at **8.00 p.m.**

Sincere thanks to all parishioners for your very kind donation to **Trócaire** this year which amounted to €5,607 and for the **Vocations Sunday collection** in support of our seminarians who are currently studying in Rome and Maynooth for service in this diocese which realised €1,898.

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

All notices for the bulletin should be addressed to the **Parish Office** and left in not later than 10.00 a.m. on Thursdays to ensure inclusion.

On Saturday, 9th June, we are having a special celebration to mark the feast of **Corpus Christi** in the year of the International Eucharistic Congress. It will commence with the Vigil Mass at 6 p.m. followed by an evening of Guided prayer, Rosary, Music, Meditation and Quiet reflection, concluding with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at Midnight. We are hoping that every family in the parish could be represented at some stage of the evening.

What is a Eucharistic Congress?

Since Pope Benedict XV1 announced that the 50th International Eucharistic Congress will be held in Dublin in June 2012, people have been asking "What exactly is a Eucharistic Congress and what is its purpose?"

A Eucharistic Congress is an international gathering of people which aims to

- Promote an awareness of the central place of the Eucharist in the life and mission of the Catholic Church
- help improve our understanding and celebration of the liturgy
- draw attention to the social dimension of the Eucharist.

The Congress normally takes place every four years. The daily celebration of the Eucharist is at the very heart of the Congress. The wider programme of the Congress includes other liturgical events, cultural events, catechesis and testimonies, and workshops during the week of the Congress. The most recent Congress was held in Quebec in 2008 and was a source of encouragement and renewal for the many thousands who took part.

Most people in Ireland are familiar with the fact that a Eucharistic Congress was held in Ireland in 1932. our parents and grandparents speak of it as a significant event in their own experience of Church. Since we started preparing for the Congress, people from all over Ireland and even further afield have sent us a wide range of memorabilia relating to the 1932 Congress, some of which will be on display at a special exhibition in 2012.

Archbishop Piero Marini, President of the Pontifical Committee for International Eucharistic Congresses, explains in greater detail the meaning of a Eucharistic Congress in his address to the Irish Catholic Bishop's Conference in June 2009. [The Shape, Significance & Ecclesial Impact of Eucharistic Congresses.](#)

The Eucharistic Congress takes place in Ireland from June 10th—17th. The Meath Diocesan Day is June 12th. All welcome.

We welcome **Glenys Carty**, who today on Pentecost Sunday, will celebrate the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion. We thank all who have supported and journeyed with her over recent months.

Parish Website statistics for April: There were 5,000 page views to the Easter Dawn Mass and 3,000 page views to the Parish web cam facility. There was an 85% increase in visits from Canada, 66% increase from France, a 50% increase from Poland and the Philippians. Over 13,000 were new visits for the parish web site.

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION FOR JUNE

Vigil: Dymphna Gargan, Kathleen Tinnelly, Denise Carolan, Emma Rooney, Catherine Gargan. **10.30:** Lynda Boylan, Aileen Sexton, Catherine McKenna, Fiona Burke, Emmet Carolan. **12.00:** Ned Waters, Josie McEntee, Lilly Reilly, Annette O'Rourke, Majella Kelly. **Muff:** Geraldine McMahon. **Corlea:** Caroline Clarke.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD FOR JUNE

Vigil: Catiriona Cunningham. **10.30:** Paddy Prendeville
12.00: Margo McCann.
MUFF: 2nd—Miriam Tierney. 9th—Orla McCabe. 16th—Deirdre McCabe. 23rd—Donal Reilly. 30th—Frances Reilly.
Corlea: 3rd—Marie Fay. 10th - Rosemary Cunningham. 17th—Eileen Donnelly. 24th—Margaret Cespedes.

COMMUNITY NOTICES: **CAO change of mind open evening** Dundalk Institute of Technology, Muirhevna Building, Mon., 28th May, 6—8 p.m. **Social Services** 4 day outing to Waterford 25th—28th June. Bookings by 28th May. Congrats to Holly Lynch, Nicola Fleming and Emma Duffy, on winning the Ulster Championship last weekend. **Gym An Ri 6km fun run, jog or walk** in aid of Kingscourt Cancer Fund and AED training, Sun., 3rd June, 2 p.m. Entry fee €10. **Care to Drive** is a volunteer transport programme run by the **Irish Cancer Society** and is looking for people to drive patients to and from Connolly Hospital, call Gail 01/2310566. Tarahumara Church Gate Collection on June 2nd and 3rd. Six Week Computer Course starting June 1st. Phone 9664540

This Week's Collection : Plate: **€1,485 Development Target €1,850. Received: €1,790.** Many Thanks.
Bereavement Support Group will meet on Friday after 10a.m Mass in Parish Centre. Confidentiality assured.