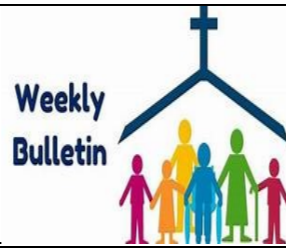




PARISH OF THE HOLY REDEEMER, DUNDALK
 17TH MAY 2020
 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
 A Parish in the 'Dun Dealgan' Pastoral Area



Sunday's Gospel JN 14:15:21

If you love Me you will keep my commandments



Anyone who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; John 14:21

Our Gospel today in one which offers us both a great consolation and a great challenge at the same time. The setting for our Gospel takes place during the Last Supper, where Jesus speaks openly to His Apostles about His approaching death and going to the Father. Sensing their pain and anguish Jesus comforts them by assuring them that He will rise again and be with them in a new way. And though they will lack His physical presence He will send them another **Advocate to be with you forever**, to comfort and teach them, so they will not be left **orphans**. This same promise also applies to us. Therefore there is a great mystery of hope contained in today's Gospel and we should take courage from it. As no matter what trials or tribulations arise in the future, we will never have to face the alone, as Christ Himself and His Holy Spirit will always be with us and ready to help us when needed. But more importantly they are both trying to lead us closer to God, if only we would truly open up to the help they are offering.

But today's Gospel also contains a great challenge for us, in that Jesus clearly tells us **If you love me you will keep my commandments**. Jesus is very definite here as He does not say "try to keep but a very clear and definite **you will keep**. And what were His commandments that we must keep – forgive our enemies, bless those who persecute us, give to the poor, turn the other cheek, love as I have loved you, and so on. **If you love me you will keep my commandments**. This is not so much about keeping a set of rules but more about living our faith everyday. People will recognise true Christians, by the way we live our lives and there lies the challenge for us. Do we live our lives in love for others as Christ did? Do we care for people who are sick, old, poor? Do we visit prisoners, feed people who are hungry, clothe those who have nothing? Do we really care if another person in pain, afraid or sad? Or is it a case better than me? Can we truly put their needs first without thinking about what we deserve? Or is our religion, our faith only words, only for inside a Church building?

If you love me you will keep my commandments. At the end of the day we really wouldn't be much of a Christian if we don't live and love as Jesus taught us.

REFLECTION



It's a chilly day by the seaside, far too windy for my comfort. But the gulls don't seem to mind the wind. In fact they seem to enjoy it. I watch them flying about: they go with it, they go against it, they soar into the sky, they plunge back to earth. All the time they are using the wind, they are availing of its power. And I reflect on how we, the disciples of Jesus, are so easily blown off course by the winds of adversity. Lord send us the Holy Spirit who will enable us to turn the hard and easy to our advantage, so that everything that happens to us may bear us along the road to your kingdom.

PRIESTS IN PARISH
 V Rev Michael Sheehan Adm.
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PARISH OFFICE HOURS
 Monday - Thursday 10am-1pm. 2pm-4pm.
 E-mail: holyredeemerdundalk@gmail.com
www.holyredeemerparish.ie

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MISSION STATEMENT:

"Conscious of our brokenness and moved by the Spirit of Compassion, we the Holy Redeemer Parish Pastoral Council, strive to be messengers of God's healing and love in today's world and to encourage and support all parishioners to bear witness to the Gospel of Christ."

Anniversary and remembrance Masses

Sunday	17th May	10.00am	Av	Danny Dawe & Mary & Tom Woolsey.
		6.00pm	Av's	Mary Donnelly. Kevin, Josephine & Ciaran McKeever & Seamus Hearty.
Thursday	21st May	10.00am	Av	William (Willie) Duffy.
Sunday	24th May	11.30am	Av	John (Jack) Gray.
		6.00pm	Av's	May, Harry & Seamus Hearty.



WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED Monica Cardwell, Beechmount Drive. Miceál MacArtain, Mount Avenue. Elizabeth Roddy, Ard Easmuinn. Gay Nicholson, Ard Easmuinn. Doreen Rogers, Cedarwood Park. Marie Collins (née Larkin) Mount Avenue. Joan Kinney (née Hughes) Ard Easmuinn. Jack (Jackie) Coburn, Blackrock. Paul Maddy, Marian Park.



Prayer against the Coronavirus

Most Glorious Queen of Heaven & Mother of God, You whom the Blessed Trinity has crowned with unequalled glory. You are the Sovereign Queen over all God's Creation. I place myself & all my loved ones under the power, protection & sovereignty of your Crown. Under the protection of your crown & through your immense intercessory power, I ask you to spare us all from the effects of the coronavirus. Dearest Mother & Queen, more Mother than Queen, we, your children in Christ Jesus, ask you to obtain for us an end to the spread of the virus. **Amen.**

A Prayer for our Healthcare workers during the Coronavirus

Loving God, we place into your care all our doctors, nurses and healthcare workers. Give them courage of heart and strength of mind and body. Keep them safe from harm. May they know our deep gratitude for all they are doing to heal and help those affected by the coronavirus. God of all consolation may they know your protection and peace. Bless them in these challenging days and bless their families.

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People ALONE has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

ANNIVERSARY MASSES All Anniversary Masses which have been booked are still being celebrated by Fr. Sheehan and Fr. Shajan in private.

PARISH WEEKLY ENVELOPE COLLECTION In light of the current situation with COVID-19 (Coronavirus) there have been a lot of enquiries from parishioners wishing to continue to support our parish financially during these testing times. To facilitate this, parishioners are advised to leave their weekly envelope in the Parish Office letterbox. This will be checked and emptied regularly.

OUR CHURCH Will remain open for solitary personal prayer each morning from 9.30am-12.30pm. Please respect social distancing.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS POLICY STATEMENT: The parish recognises and upholds the rights of all children and vulnerable adults and is committed to ensuring their safety and wellbeing at all times. A copy of the policy is always available for those who wish to view it in the parish office or the Sacristy. The Safeguarding Children representative for Holy Redeemer Parish is Thomas Fox 042-93-34259.



ANNIVERSARY MASSES All Anniversary Masses which have been booked are still being celebrated by Fr. Sheehan and Fr. Shajan in private.