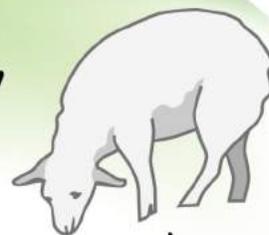




"FEED MY SHEEP."

(John 21:17)



Mass Times

Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.30
Sunday: 9.00, 10.30, 12.00

Weekdays:

10.00 Monday – Friday
7.30 Tuesday only

Parish Staff

Fr. Joe McDonald P.P. Tel 6 265 119
Fr. Seamus Ryan P.E.
Fr John Atooh Parish Chaplain
Sr. Anne Marie Moynihan Parish Sister

Secretary: Moya Doyle Tel 6 265 695
Parish Office: 9.30 - 2.00 Mon to Thu
Email:
stmatthewsparishcentre@gmail.com

Sacristy: Tel 6 264 448

Baptism

1st and 3rd Saturday of each month
1st Sunday of each month

Preparation meetings for Parents and Godparents are held twice each month.

Details available in sacristy.

A month's notice is required.

Eucharistic Adoration

Mon 10.30 – 4.00
Wed 10.30 – 9.00
Fri 10.30 – 9.00

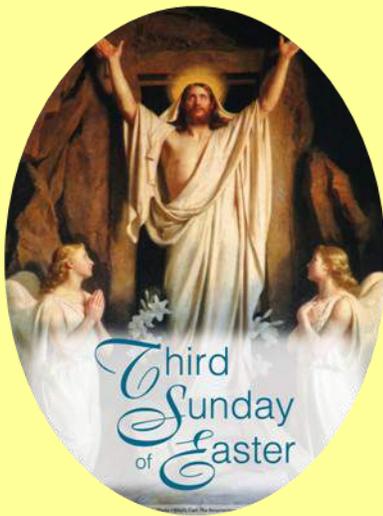


Divine Mercy Meeting

Every Wed Evening @ 8.00
in the Prayer Room

Parish Centre

Tea/Coffee & Chat after 10.00 Mass



Date	Time	Mass Intentions
Sat 9 Apr	6.30	Patrick Fallon Ann Redmond Joan Denby
Sun 10	10.30	Harry Jackson
Sun 10	12.00	John Stokes Desmond O'Farrell
Tue 12	7.30	Peg Norgrove

Mass Intentions
Ann-Marie Keogh Alfie Redmond Harry Denby
Marian Stokes Josephine O'Farrell Jack Lawlor
Ann McNamara Luke Redmond
Joan Burke
Martha Doherty



Recently Funerals from St. Matthew's:

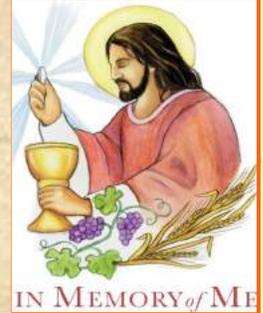
Frances Byrne	Hugh O'Neill
Mary Kearney	Kenneth Courage
Brian Higgins	Margaret Houlihan

TRÓCAIRE
Working for a Just World

Bring in your Trócaire boxes and leave them in at the Sacristy as soon as possible. Please wrap the boxes up well. Thank you.

Do This in Memory of Me

Mass today at 12.00 is for all the children preparing for First Holy Communion.



SPECIAL NOTICE

There will be a Farewell Mass and Evening Reception for our Pastor Emeritus,

Rev. Fr. Seamus Ryan

at 6.30 pm, Saturday April 23rd, here in St. Matthew's. This event will allow us, as a parish community, to show our appreciation, and the huge debt of gratitude we owe Fr. Seamus, and for us to ask God's blessing on this new chapter of his priesthood as he returns to Cappamore. I look forward to you joining us on this special occasion,
Fr. Joe

Church Collection Totals

Week Beginning 27/3

First Collection	965
Share Collection	570
Family Offering	425

PARISH SHOP

Cards, Calendars, Candles and much more available at the shop in the Parish Centre

SACRISTY

Masses, Baptisms Arranged, Certs Obtained after all the Masses (Mon – Fri) Please do not call before or during Mass

BOOK OF THE WEEK

GOD OF SURPRISES

Gerard W Hughes

Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. Grand Rapids/Cambridge Third Edition 2008 pp 163

"One of the great books of spiritual guidance. It is a lovely, wise, and lucid book of deep humanity. Above all, it is a useful book, a book to be used by those who find it hard to forgive themselves: the stumblers and agnostics who hardly dare believe that God is within them."

Gerald Priestland

FAITH MOMENT

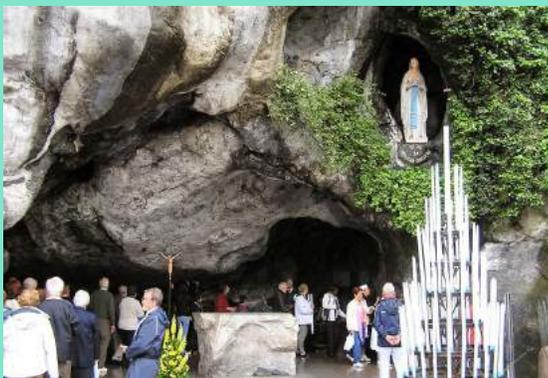
Through our baptism we all receive a vocation. It is a call to Holiness.

Feast of St. Matthew

Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes

17 – 22 September 2016 — Hotel Padoue
Cost €739 per person sharing (inclusive of Airport Taxes and Insurance)
Single Room Supplement €175 per person
All Meals Included
Deposit €200 per person

Booking forms available from Parish Centre



Rumblings from the Bunker

GOOD FRIDAY PEASANTS v EASTER MORN ROYALTY?

I have been reflecting in these post-Easter days on what exactly we celebrate? Or, at least, what are we supposed to be celebrating? I mean apart from the Easter eggs...oops sorry I know there's a move to stop calling them 'Easter' eggs, lest we offend those who do not believe in Easter...(sounds a bit mad Dougal, what do you think?).. Apart from the eggs, and the odd Easter bunny, or if you want to drop the E word, the odd bunny, this season certainly continues to escape the crazy commercialism that has enveloped Christmas. Yet we are told this is the high point of the liturgical year, the great Christian feast. Still we seem not to be sure what exactly has happened? We say things like was he really dead? Did he rise bodily? Was he like a ghost? Was it symbolic? With this type of thinking it's not surprising we are confused, and that so much of the resurrection story proves difficult for us to connect with. In some strange way, does it seem at times that we are more at home with Good Friday than Easter Sunday?

You are not tall enough. You haven't a note in your head. You will never make a dancer. You talk too much. You think you are clever. The pain has gone now, but it will come back. We won't have enough to make ends meet. He doesn't really love you. You are far too quiet. The cancer is advanced, there is no hope. There is something terrible up ahead. I saw one magpie this morning, one for sorrow. Yes there is a bit of sun there, but apparently it's going to come down in sheets in the afternoon. The glass is half empty. The pain in my back has eased, but I know it will be return with a vengeance. Apparently it's too late, there is no hope.

Some people do not move very far from the Cross. They crucified him at a place called the Skull. What a stench! It has the gagging smell of death. What awful screams. Blood curdling. After these come deep painful moans. Death groans. Some people hover in the shadow of the Cross. There are many prophets of gloom. Long faces. Furrowed brows. Sometimes the worst offenders, in this regard, are religious people. Sometimes, so called holy people, have big sad heads. This does not add up. Actually, this makes no sense at all. Followers of Jesus, can of course be sad, can grieve, can worry, can be frightened, however they do not live in gloom. Let me say it clearly: a Christian without hope, is a walking contradiction. Yes, Good Friday is crucial. To meditate on Good Friday, and the suffering of Jesus, is an important part of being Christian. However to stay in Good Friday is a deep spiritual poverty. To remain in his passion and not to celebrate the joy of his resurrection is to miss the great victory. The Good News. The Resurrection was full and complete. The Risen Jesus cooked breakfast for them, and ate with them.



No, my friends, we are called to more. We are called to the light. We are called to dance. We are **ALLELUIA** people. We should not covertly whisper, He is Risen, but shout it, sing it, more importantly, live it. Not for us to open the popcorn, or crack open a beer, and spectate, but rather for us to immerse ourselves in the sacred story. We are not poor hopeless peasants. We are meant to be **celebration** people. A royal priesthood, a holy people, a people set apart.

Isn't your hair lovely? You did very well. You are brilliant. You have great gifts. You have a great smile. With the help of God she will be alright. Many people recover. The forecast is often wrong. Where there is one magpie, there are always others. The glass is half full. The pain relief has helped. I am going to make the first move. I am going to make the call. I am going to drop a card. I am going to smile. To say sorry. To say thanks. To say I love you. Yes, I want to move closer to the joy of Easter Sunday morning. Why look among the dead for someone who is alive?

HE IS NOT HERE, HE HAS RISEN!! ALLELUIA!!