



June the Month
of the Most
Sacred Heart
of Jesus

Mass Times

Saturday: 6.30 (Vigil Mass)
Sunday: 9.00, 9.45 (Convent),
10.30, 12.00

Weekdays:

10.00 Monday – Friday
7.30 Tuesday only

**No Tuesday Evening Mass
in July and August**

Parish Staff

Fr. Joe McDonald P.P. Tel 6 265 119
Fr John Attoh 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
Masses, Baptisms, Certs

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 Mon - Fri
after 10.00 Mass



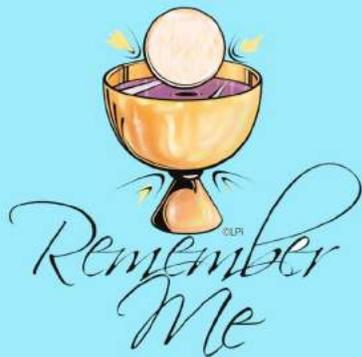
Rest in Peace

William Doyle
Dermot Casey

*Blessings and Sympathy
to the Families*

Cemetery Masses

Palmerstown: Sun 19 June @ 3.00
Glasnevin: Sun 26 June @ 3.00
Newlands Cross: Sun 10 July @ 3.00
Esker: Sun 28 Aug @ 3.00



Gospel Readings for the Week

Mon 6 Jun **Mt 5:1-12** Rejoice and be glad!
 Tues 7 **Mt 5:13-16** Your light must shine.
 Weds 8 **Mt 5:17-19** I have come not to abolish the law, but to fulfil it.
 Thur 9 **Mt 19:27-29** What about us?
 Fri 10 **Mt 5:27-32** But I say this to you....
 Sat 11 **Mt 10:7-13** You received without charge, give without charge.
 Sun 12 **Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Mini-Camino Walk of the Five Parishes of the Cluster

Starts Chapelizod → Palmerstown → Cherry Orchard →
 St. Matthew's → Assumption with Refreshments
 Sunday June 12 @ 1.30 starting at Chapelizod
 For further information contact
jane.mellet@dublindiocese.ie

FAITH MOMENT

Understood through Scripture, the 'Sacred Heart of Jesus', summarises the entire mystery of Christ, as the means of both the sanctification and salvation of humanity.

BOOK OF THE WEEK

IN THE SECRET OF MY HEART:
 MOMENTS OF STILLNESS IN THE
 HEART OF CHRIST
 BY ANNA BURKE, VERITAS 2011 pp128
 Great little book for the
 Month of the Sacred Heart.
 Very readable. Food for the soul.
 Limited copies available in Parish Shop.

Bone Marrow for Leukaemia Trust
The Annual Church Gate Collection
 will take place next Sat/Sun
 after all the Masses

Church Collection Totals

Week Beginning	22/5
First Collection	776
Share Collection	610
Family Offering	1130
Special Collection	1137

St. Vincent DePaul

Monthly Collection for May:
 €455

Mass Intentions

Sat 4 Jun	6.30	Rosaleen Smith
Sun 5	12.00	Joseph Fagan
Tue 7	7.30	Eddie Kelly

MINI FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Original amount of loan.....	24 th February 2009	€650,000.00
First monthly repayment 1	8 th March 2009	€6,125.83
Remaining amount of loan on	21 st April 2016	€20,612.89

€75,000 was paid off this loan after the sale of Presbytery No.3
 and the repayments were reduced to €3,000 per month from €6,125.83 per month.

The last payment of €3,000 is due 18th December 2016

The money given to the first collection is for the support of the priests of the parish and the sick and retired priests of the diocese.

The second collection is usually for SHARE, though it is often replaced by a Special Collection. Recent example of this would be your great generosity to Trocaire, €2,558.15

The only way to contribute to the running of St. Matthew's is through the

- Family Offering Envelopes,
- Lighting Candles at the various Shrines in the church and
- Donations specifically given to help us

The account for the upkeep of the church, as of 28th April 2016, is **€23,365** overdrawn.

This is largely due to recent significant expenditure on, among other things, a new alarm system and a new phone system.

**SINCERE THANKS TO ALL OF YOU
 FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROUS SUPPORT OF ST. MATTHEW'S.**

SACRED HEART....DATED, SPOOKY IMAGE, OR HOPE FOR THE FUTURE?

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I was in a house recently, and the granny, who lived with the family, had asked me to bless a very old picture of the Sacred Heart, which she had brought with her, as one of a few prized possessions. She had come to live with her daughter, and her family. It was obvious to me that most of them in the house were not too keen on this old picture. Clearly the daughter and son-in-law were going to tolerate this picture out of respect for the old lady. There was a teenage girl in the house, called Cathy, and whilst I have no doubt she loves her granny very much she just could not hide her feelings about the picture. 'It's scary, Fr. Joe, I don't like it!', she blurted. 'What do you mean it's scary?', I asked. 'Well for a start I don't like the way the eyes are sort of flickering upwards, and you can see the whites of them, and the worst bit, is the way you can see the heart, it's a bit gory, like spooky'. I could hear how sincere she was and I got what she said. Just then she gave me an opportunity, 'Do you not think so?', she asked.

I think Cathy was a bit surprised, when I answered her question, with another question. "Do you like the locket your Mum is wearing?", 'Oh yes', she said, 'it's beautiful, my Dad bought it for her, years ago'. 'Why?' I asked rather bluntly. 'Because he's mad about her!' she offered equally bluntly. We all smiled, as her Mum rubbed her finger and thumb over the lovely heart shaped locket. 'And tell me Cathy, do you like chocolate?', I asked. At this stage Mum, Dad, Granny and Cathy are all looking at me very strangely. What followed was a very interesting conversation on cards, and St. Valentine's Day, and heart shaped boxes of chocolates. Once we got to the popular, soft, and cuddly heart I gently brought it back to the heart in the picture. As you know it's a heart on fire, and if you look closely it's entwined with thorns. What's this all about?

As I reflect on my almost fifty-five years of life, I have much to give God thanks for. This includes both being in love, and being loved, and of course loving in many different ways. It has been a great joy to know the fire of human love, both as giver and receiver. The excitement and the thrill of this, is one of the most enjoyable experiences, of being human. Right beside this, of course, is the pain of the thorns, we encounter, when we dare to love, and allow ourselves to be loved. It is as difficult to over-estimate the intense joy of love, as it is, to over-estimate the severe pain of loss or betrayal. The famous song reminds us though,

'better to have loved, and lost, than never to have loved at all'

Whatever about the great joys, or the deep vicissitudes, of human love, coming back to the picture in question, that of the Sacred Heart, we are brought face to face with something very different.

In the picture of the Sacred Heart, the fire in the heart is unique. Unlike the fire of love in the human heart, which can be dampened down, if not extinguished, through betrayal or loss, the flame of divine love never goes out. This picture reminds us we are loved, We are loved, beyond measure, unconditionally. The love Jesus has for us, is passionate. Jesus is mad about us. Jesus delights in us. The great joy of Jesus is, when we turn towards him. The thorns of love are also something we know about. I am sure you have experienced the pain of unrequited love. No one can hurt us, cut us more deeply, than the beloved. Many of the thorns we encounter, we bring on ourselves. Despite our best efforts, we love conditionally, failing in basic communication, falling back into selfish paranoia. At this stage, we can often, make a bad situation worse, by playing games, checking each other's motivation, and setting each other little tests.

The thorns around the heart of Jesus in the picture, under discussion, are of course, not deserved. These are the thorns of indifference, neglect and direct hostility. The heart of Jesus, the Sacred Heart, is bound by the thorns of a world that turns its back on divine love. Here in Ireland, as we slide into the New Pagan Age, the thorns abound and tighten. Violence stalks the city, ruthless and remorseless. The country fails to provide the basics of a home, and meaningful work, for thousands of its citizens. Suicide rates continue to rise. The crucial issue of mental health is under funded and fails to get the priority it deserves. The tyranny of addiction continues to wreak havoc not only on individuals but on whole communities.

Many use the word 'empty' to describe their recurring mood. In addition, we as individuals, in our natural desire to feel loved and fulfilled, often chase rainbows and travel down many cul de sacs. It will probably take a long time, but eventually Ireland will return to Jesus. It would be nice to think the Irish Church will play a relevant, if not a key part, in this return. I believe this will only happen if the Church can manage to embark on an extensive programme of reform and renewal. Meanwhile the fire that never goes out is there for us all. It is the fire of love, most specifically the fire of divine love. So is the Sacred Heart picture, a spooky, gory, dated image? No, rather for me, it is a beautiful, and timely reminder that no matter how many, how sharp or how long the thorns we encounter, the love of Jesus will triumph. Perhaps as never before, we need to turn towards the loving and living heart of Jesus.



'O Sacred Heart of Jesus we place all our trust in Thee'

J MC DONALD 30.05.16