



**The Annunciation of
the Angel
to Mary**

1.

**The Visitation
of Mary
to St. Elizabeth**

2.

**The Nativity
of Jesus
in Bethlehem**

3.

**The Presentation
of Jesus
in the Temple**

4.

**The Finding
of Jesus
in the Temple**

5.

*The Joyful
Mysteries*

The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary Friday Oct 7

PLEASE TAKE THIS HOME WITH YOU TO SPREAD THE WORD

BOOK OF THE WEEK

ST. LOUIS MARIE DE MONTFORT'S CONSECRATION

Compiled by John Pridmore
with Niall Slattery

Morning Star Publications
Carrick on Shannon 2014 pp 98

The idea of consecration of our heart to Jesus through Mary is one which many people, including St. Therese of Lisieux and John Paul II, record as the turning point in their lives. This is a thirty three day consecration. John Pridmore, the former gangster who shares his conversion experience in talks and retreats believes that God has used him more powerfully and completely than he thought possible after completing this consecration.

Church Collection Totals

Week Beginning 18/9

First Collection 720
Crosscare 1250
Family Offering 1000

PARISH SHOP

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

Parish Team

Fr. Joe McDonald,
Moya Doyle
Tony Flynn,
Sr. Anne-Marie
Stephanie Williams
Bill O'Shaughnessy

Parish Centre

Phone: 626 56 95

FAITH MOMENT

Did you know that there are five
Marian Feast Days in October?

- 1st Holy Protection of the Mother of God
- 7th Our Lady of the Rosary
- 8th Our Lady of Good Remedy
- 11th Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 16th Purity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

St. Matthew's Church Bethany Support Group

will be having their first meeting
on Tuesday 11th. October
in the Parish Centre
between 7 and 8pm.

If **at any time** you feel the
need for support or a listening
ear after the loss of a loved
one we would be glad to help.

CONTACT PHONE

087 9411628

For Your Diary

25 November @ 8.00pm
St. Matthew's Church
(Doors Open @ 6.30pm)

Dublin Gospel Choir With Special Guests Bro. Kevin Singers

Tickets €12
Contact Ken Byrne
@ 086 236 52 88



Rest in Peace

Leona Crawford
Mary Hill

*Blessings and Sympathy
to the Families*



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

Eucharistic Adoration

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



Divine Mercy Meeting

Every Wed Evening @ 8.00pm
in the Prayer Room

Mass Intentions

6.30 Saturday

Frank McGlone, Michael Maxwell
Brendan Cordell, Paul James

10.30 Sunday

Paddy Doyle, Doyle Family

12.00 Sunday

Nancy McPhilips, Mary Gunnery
Brid Gannon, Gannon Family

10.00 Monday

Johnny Higgins

10.00 Friday

Altar List of the Dead
James, John Bradley



7.30 Friday

Prayer Around the Cross

It is intended to relaunch a family
based initiative in the parish called the
**The Pilgrim Shrine of Our Lady
of the Miraculous Medal**

A number of shrines have been
prepared and these will be taken to
family homes. A family will keep the
pilgrim shrine for a month. There will
be a prayer booklet accompanying
the shrine with prayers suitable for
families. If you would like to
participate please leave your name
in the sacristy.

Gospel Readings for the Week

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------|---|
| Mon 03/10 | Lk 10: 25-37 | Go and do likewise! BLESSED COLUMBA MARMION |
| Tue 04/10 | Lk 10: 38-42 | FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS |
| Wed 05/10 | Lk 11: 1-4 | When you pray, say Our Father |
| Thu 06/10 | Lk 11: 5-13 | Seek and you will find |
| Fri 07/10 | Lk 1: 26-38 | OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY Do not be afraid Mary, you have found favour with God |
| Sat 08/10 | Lk 11: 27-28 | Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it |



Rumblings from the Bunker



THE CELTIC TWILIGHT ZONE

Recently I have become very aware of labels. I mean there is a big drive at the moment to have more information available on our food packaging. Part of the government's plan to combat the nationwide problem with obesity is to write into law that all food, including fast food, will have the calorie information clearly displayed. It is hoped that misleading terms like 'sugar-free' and 'low -fat' will be properly explained. Indeed sometimes there is a question mark over whether labels can be trusted. This gives rise to the catchphrase, 'it does what it says on the tin'!

Of course the desire to label is not confined to our food stuff, and it has become very much part of our everyday conversation about each other. Terms that in the past were confined to the world of politics are now used regularly such as: liberal, conservative, traditionalist, right wing, left wing, even progressive. I am amazed how often I am asked am a liberal or traditionalist priest? Actually people are more inclined now not to ask at all, but simply just to slap a label on you regardless of its accuracy.

One of the ways that I cope with this is to remind myself that I am richer than any label. In God's eyes we are reminded that we are his children, He is our Father. No label matters much after that. Labels are so weak, unimaginative, limiting. Is it possible to admire the communication skills of Ronald Reagan and the passion and courage of Che Guevara? Well, yes. Is it possible to acknowledge that the Queen of England has shown an extraordinary dedication to duty and at the same time be moved by the poetry of Bobby Sands? Why yes again! Why do we have this desire to pigeon-hole people? It seems that I label you because I need to know where you are coming from. We need to be ready for each other's liberalism or radicalism. I think our desire to label, is a desire to box, to limit, to control. Fundamentally our need to label comes from fear.

I think when we move outside the box we can frighten people. Our diversity, our complexity, and our grey all present a challenge in a way that our extremes do not. I think we have become even a little more panicky in our need for labels. This panic may well come with the crumbling of what was previously certain, or at least reliable. The State and the Church both have their fair share of examples of this. The old absolutes have gone. We scream about our rights but drag our heels when it comes to responsibilities. Perhaps in the past, nearly everything was a sin, whereas now many believe there is no such thing as sin. There is a real challenge for the Church in this. If the Irish Church does not find a way of speaking prophetically to the new reality in which it finds itself then it at least loses relevance, and worse faces death. The new reality I am speaking of is the new multi-ethnic society, and I include where we are in relation to our understanding of sexuality, and beginning and end of life issues. How might the Church position itself in this new reality?

I think most people would acknowledge the former position of the Church was at the top. The Church was in charge. Perhaps it could be argued that the Church was influencing society from the centre. Whether it was at the top or the centre I believe it holds neither position now. People will not be told what to do, nor is the Church at the heart of many people's lives. I believe the Church needs to move to the shadowlands. I believe the Church needs to move into the Celtic Twilight Zone. This will be an uncomfortable shift. The certainty and power of sunshine, and the thunderous authority of the storm are both in a strange way easy to cope with.

To live in the mists and uncertainty of the Shadowlands, the Celtic Twilight Zone is a real challenge. Did you ever notice the special nature of dawn and dusk? It's good to 'hang around' a little at dawn and at dusk. Dawn and dusk are packed with potential and also uncertainty. There is great expectation in both. At dawn a new day beckons, and at dusk another night rolls in. This is a place of uncertainty, of powerlessness yet it's potential is hopeful. I think this would be a rich place for the Church to take up. The Celtic Twilight Zone does not ooze authority. Actually it is a place of poverty. It is here the Church could renew its friendship with the homeless, naked and starving. Here in the Shadowlands it might lead by example.

A Church that is on the edge, in the mist, might be more easily got to by those who live on the margins than if the Church is at the top, or even at the centre of society. The Church itself might benefit enormously from this new, albeit uncomfortable, position. It might find itself more easily hearing the whisper of the Holy Spirit as she constantly empowers and renews the Church. Maybe here in the Celtic Twilight Zone the Church will rediscover the Servant-King, the Suffering Messiah who beautifully proclaims the ideal but never fails to be Mercy to those who mess up!