



Mass Times

Saturday: 6.30 (Vigil Mass)

Sunday: 9.00, 9.45(Convent),
10.30,12.00

Weekdays:

10.00 Monday – Friday



Parish Staff

Fr. Joe McDonald P.P. Tel 6 265 119

Fr John Atoh 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

Baptised in Christ

The Parish Community warmly welcomes
Jaiden Maguire Arlo Murphy Riley Linehan
who were baptised recently in our church.

Congratulations to their
Parents, Grandparents, God-Parents
and extended family

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

FAITH MOMENT

THE CALL TO A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

We believe in the dignity of all human beings. This dignity rests on the fact that we not only seek God but that God, out of divine love, invites us to enter into a personal relationship with him.

BOOK OF THE WEEK

THE BEAUTY OF THE EUCHARIST BY
DENNIS BILLY, C.Ss.R.
NEW CITY PRESS NEW YORK 2010 pp 252

It is probably fair to say that this book is demanding. It is not what is popularly referred to as an easy read.

This book is about the Church Fathers, by which I mean Ambrose, Augustine, Clement, Justin Martyr and so on. Actually it is really about what these and others say about the Eucharist. It is solid and reliable and if you put in the work it is inspirational.

After reading this you will have a renewed sense of the awesomeness of the mystery that we call the Eucharist. One to be consulted, or maybe worked through by chapter, at one's own pace.
Not light bedtime reading.

Church Collection Totals

Week Beginning 10/7

First Collection	722
Share Collection	557
Family Offering	840

Mass Intentions

Sat 23/7	6.30	Daniel McGann	James McGuirk	Dermot Casey
		Catherine Nolan	Brigid Wynne	Patrick Wynne
Sun 24/7	12.00	Frank Ward	Tommy Ward	Mary Lynch
Mon 25/7	10.00	Alice Whelan		



Ballyfermot Library

“My House”

with Artist Jane Groves

Wednesday 3 August
at
10.30am and 12.00pm

During this programme, very young children and their families will be led through a space which looks at and explores the environment space where both you and other creatures can live.

With little cardboard houses and work stations, explore themes and ideas such as webs, nests, houses and burrows.

Family event suitable for children aged from 3 to 5 years.
Parents are asked to engage with their child during the workshops.
The event is free. Booking is essential

Children's Art
in Libraries
Summer
Programme
2016

Ballyfermot Library. T. 01 626 9324 or
E. ballyfermotlibrary@dublincity.ie



Notice

Entries for inclusion in the Newsletter must be in by 12.30pm on Friday. The Newsletter goes to the printers on the following Tuesday at 1pm. They will be included only if space permits.

Please keep the entries as short as possible.

Entries to the Parish Centre at
stmatthewsparishcentre@gmail.com or
phone 626 56 95



Gospel Readings for the Week

Mon 25/7	Matt 20: 20-28	St. James, Apostle
Tue 26/7	Matt 13: 36-43	Ss Joachim and Anne
Wed 27/7	Matt 13: 44-46	St. Declan of Ardmore
Thu 28/7	Matt 13: 47-53	
Fri 29/7	Lk 10: 38-42	St. Martha
Sat 30/7	Matt 14: 1-12	
Sun 31/7	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time.	

Not to be served but to serve'
Whoever has ears ought to hear'
The pearl of great price'
Do you understand all these things?'
You are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing'
They regarded him as a prophet'

Rumblings from the Bunker

DID YOU GET YOUR PRESENT?

As you read this, it is 24th July. This is a very special day for me. On this day thirty-five years ago I left home. Thus began an adventure that has taken many twists and turns. I have been a Brother, a teacher, a retreat giver, and now a priest. It has been very exciting and I have really enjoyed it. Of course there have been sad times and even a few dark days. The road has at times been quite rocky. Now and again I hit not only a pot hole but a few craters. In these times the love of family and good friends has been invaluable. That said, I have been wondering about my inner world because whatever about the outer physical journey that has taken me to the United States, Africa, Japan and other places there has of course been another journey evolving all the time. This is the journey of the heart. It includes the myriad of life experiences, and all the different relationships that have shaped me. Some of it is about, what the psychologists refer to as the maturation process: getting older. However there is a faith-filled question that needs to be asked here. In other words when we reflect on our inner journey is it simply about all that has happened to us and the people we meet? Is it not here that we encounter the Spirit within us? God's Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit within us that makes us restless. It makes us hungry. It nudges us forward towards something more, encourages us to move towards God

I am smiling as I recall the passage from Cider With Rosie, when the young Laurie Lee comes home from his first day at school and tells his family of his annoyance at not receiving a 'promised present.' Here he tells them about his disappointing day:

"They never gave me the present!"

"Present? What present?"

"They said they'd give me a present."

"Well, now, I'm sure they did'nt."

"They did! They said: 'You're Laurie Lee, ain't you? Well, just you sit there for the present.'

I sat there all day but I never got it. I ain't going back there again!"

It strikes me that this is a real danger for all of us. We could be sitting all day waiting on the present. Did you get your present? Or are you still waiting? Have you unwrapped it? What is it? Maybe you are still unpacking it? What is this present, this gift I am speaking of? The young Laurie Lee sat there waiting all day. If you have not yet found it, where might you look? One thing is for sure, and that is that people the world over, from time began, have been looking for it. Many cannot name, or explain the search but still have been driven by it. Sometimes I think of it as life's riddle, almost a conundrum to be grappled with. It might go something like this:

This 'present' we seek is in the past and the future but is most alive in the present. It is often confused with 'presents', and whilst it can be there, it is most essentially found in the Presence.

To many this will appear mumbo-jumbo but in reality it is at the centre of our longing. When we understand this, to the extent that understanding it is possible, it can give us a much clearer sense of life's meaning. On those occasions when we might find ourselves asking 'what is it all about?' this riddle or conundrum is the key. We will only be able to see how this 'present' was in our past, if we reflect and earnestly try to see it. This can be difficult. In terms of the future, and the notion of this 'present' or gift being there, when we get there ourselves, is also very difficult, perhaps more so. Yet, if we believed this, it could eradicate worry and anxiety from our lives. The big mistake of course, that we all make, is to think we will find it in 'presents'. The latest gadget, the new house, or car will all trigger good feelings that will allow us to feel we have got it! We have arrived! However as we know it is not long before we are again looking, looking for something more, the next new thing, the next thrill, the next fix! Perhaps the greatest mistake is to think that the end of the search, the end of the inner hunger can be found in another. When someone says to us 'you are everything to me', or 'you are my world', it can be very flattering. It can also be huge pressure, and quite daunting. This is not to deny the great joy of human love, in all its forms.

My friends, I am putting before you, that the greatest 'present' available to us, is in fact the Presence, the divine Presence. This Presence has been there in our past, and will be in our future but the very exciting truth is that this Presence is present now. This moment, this day is imbued, infused with the divine. Yes it is true that this Presence is in the beautiful dawn, or sunset, or spectacularly in the new born, but another very exciting truth is that this Presence is alive and active in the very centre of your being. It is here at our core, where we are alone with God. It is here that he is uniquely present to us. The most important unwrapping, or unpacking, that we do, is gradually to grow into the beautiful person the Lord dreams us to be. I am happy to give the final word to St. Augustine,

'You have made us for yourself Lord, and our heart is restless, until it finds rest in you.'