

Rumblings from the Bunker

My Friends,

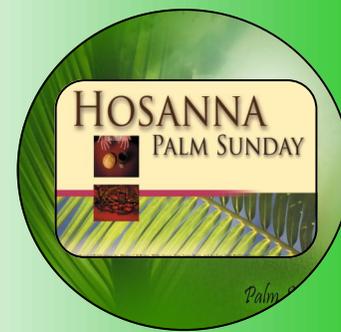
Welcome to our beautiful new newsletter, and welcome to the Bunker, and the first of the rumblings. What an exciting time. There is huge uncertainty politically and of course the slide into the post Christian Era continues apace. Somebody said the other day, that it was a very difficult time to be a priest, but I must disagree. In fact it is a very exciting, and rewarding, time to be a priest. This is directly connected with the encircling gloom. Aspects of the darkness that I have in mind include, the scandal of homelessness, the tyranny of addiction, new levels of disrespect for the human body and of course the creeping abandonment of the sacred. At times a priest, just like anyone else, could be over-awed by the task in hand. However, amidst all this darkness, my days are peppered with petals of hope. The kindness of people, and most especially their resilience, serve as reminders of the goodness in human nature, and God's presence in the world. I regularly meet people here in Ballyfermot, who have suffered greatly. Often these people, quite often women, display a level of heroic virtue, that both humbles and inspires me. Often they have buried one or more of their children. They are broken hearted. They carry a burden, oftentimes, more or less, on their own.

As we celebrate Palm Sunday we remember the sacred days, that remind us of God's love for us. We remember that he loved us so much that he became one of us, sending us Jesus, his only Son. If we are open, we are caught up in the Sacred Story. The ongoing drama that sees this world interface with God's Kingdom. I love this time of year. Yes, of course, the pain is there. We still have the ache, whether deep in our heart, or our wobbly knee or even our big toe, but it's a time of new life. This beautiful season bursts with Hope. Yes, it is so important to walk these days together, with Jesus, from the moment he goes down on his knees to wash our feet, (what a profound gesture of love!), through the horror of his brutal, undeserved torture and death. Of course it is essential we do not get stuck on Good Friday. The paralysis that can come with fear, doubt, sickness and suffering does not win out. This is the high point of the Good News, that Jesus wrestles Death and beats it, once and for all. Sadly some of us allow our faith to be divorced from the daily reality of our lives. We tend to leave it in the Church. Jesus left in the Tabernacle, and forgotten about, makes no sense. Jesus in the Eucharist, when brought to the street, the office, the kitchen and the pub makes perfect sense, and this is precisely what Jesus wants. He wants to be part of our lives. He does not want to be reduced to being little more than an ornament. So my friends I hope you will join me for that most moving moment, the Washing of the Feet, or perhaps you will walk the garden with us on Good Friday, remembering in a special way all those we love, and miss so deeply, who have gone from us too early. Perhaps you will join us in the darkness of the Easter Vigil and shout out with us when we take our light from the Easter Fire, "The Light of Christ, Thanks be to God". This is when we shout from the midst of our broken hearts, that we put our trust in the one Light that no darkness can put out, Jesus, our Saviour and our Brother, the Light of the World.

Until next weeks rumbling let's remember each other in prayer. JMCD 14.3.16



Date	Time	Mass Intentions		
Sat 19 Mar	6.30pm	Kathleen Harte Mary McCormack	Valerie Dunne Christy Cummins	Henry Doherty Karl Reilly
Sun 20 Mar	9.00am	Sarah West	James West	
Sun 20 Mar	10.30am	Annie Doyle	Matthew Doyle	
Sun 20 Mar	12.00	Stephen Monks William Buckley John Fleming	Joseph Monks Brigid Lowry	Annie Rochford John Lowry
Mon 21 Mar	10.00am	Annie McManus	James McManus	
Tue 22 Mar	10.00am	Phyllis Jones		
Tue 22 Mar	7.30pm	Tommy Griffin Francis Lynch	Peter Griffin	James Griffin



Easter Week [28 Mar — 1 Apr]

Masses at 10am each day

There will be no Evening Mass on Tuesday

**Holy Thursday
Special Collection**

A special collection for the **Heart to Hand Charity** will be taken up at Mass on Holy Thursday.

A basket will be placed near the altar to collect non-perishable food items

Specifically, we are asking for

- Long grain rice (white or brown)
- Pasta of any kind
- Tins of tuna fish and sardines
- Sugar
- Flour
- Cooking Oil
- Childcare items (Pampers etc.)



**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**

**The Offertory Collection
on Holy Thursday
will be in aid of
Pieta House,
the Suicide and
Self-Harm Crisis Centre**



**Lent is coming to an end
so gather up your Trócaire
boxes and leave them in at the
Sacristy as soon as possible.
Please wrap the boxes up
well. Thank you.**

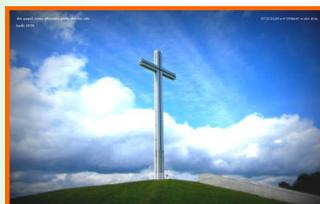


Eucharistic Adoration

Mon 10.30 – 4.00
Wed 10.30 – 9.00

Finishes for Easter

Resumes on Mon Apr 4



Way of the Cross --- Phoenix Park

The annual Way of the Cross Walk will take place on Good Friday, 25 March 2016 Begins at the Wellington Monument at 12.00 and proceeds to the Papal Cross. led by Archbishop Diarmuid Martin

**Parish Centre
Tea/Coffee & Chat
after 10am Mass
on weekdays**

**Parish Shop
Cards, Calendars,
Candles
and much more**



Parish Notes

**All items for inclusion in the Parish Notes should be
in at least 9 days before publication**

Parish Office: 6265695
Email: stmatthewsparishcentre@gmail.com
Please keep notices as short as possible



Advocate Sunday (St. Vincent De Paul Society)

The annual **Advocate** church gate collection will be taken up next Sunday after all the Masses in aid of Sunshine House, the children's holiday home



Reflection

Lent is a time to reflect on

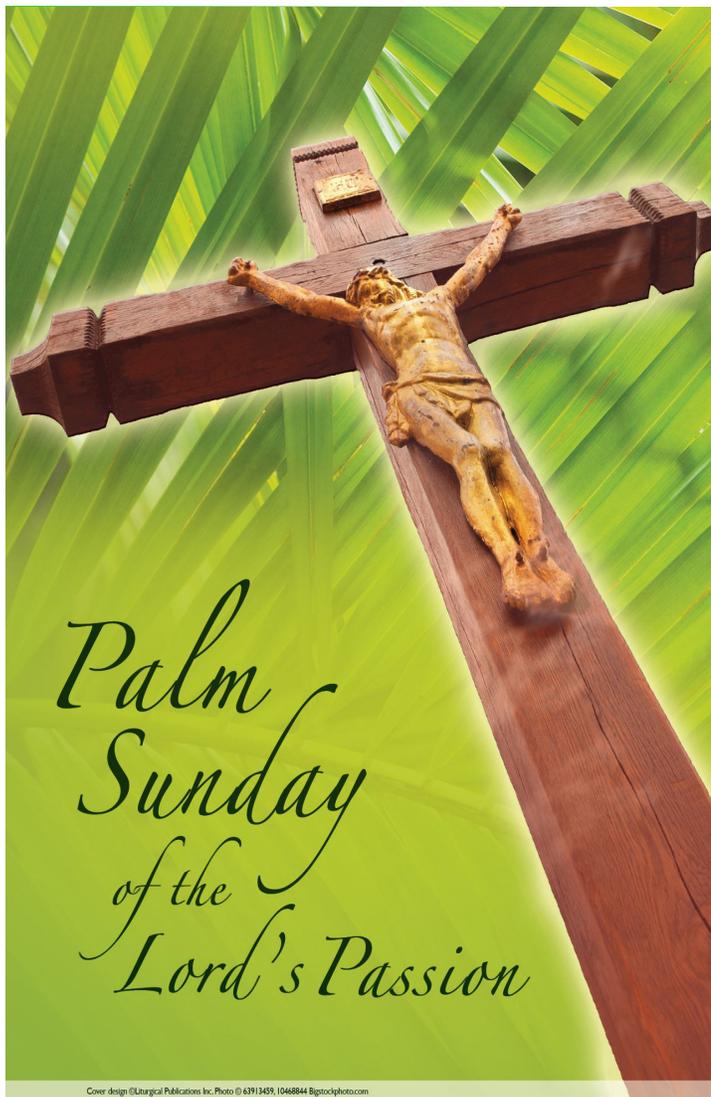
- Jesus Christ*
- His Suffering*
- His Sacrifice*
- His Life*
- His Death*
- His Resurrection*



**Reader Lists
for Holy Week
available in the Sacristy**

**Sacristy
Masses, Baptisms Arranged,
Certs Obtained
after all the Masses
(Mon – Fri)
Phone: 6264448**





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The Donkey

By G.K Chesterton

When fishes flew and forests walked
 And figs grew upon thorn,
 Some moment when the moon was blood
 Then surely I was born

With monstrous head and sickening cry
 And ears like errant wings,
 The devil's walking parody
 On all four-footed things.

The tattered outlaw of the earth,
 Of errant crooked will;
 Starve, scourge, deride me. I am dumb,
 I keep my secret still

Fools! For I also had my hour;
 One far fierce hour and sweet:
 There was a shout about my ears,
 And palms beneath my feet.

Program for Holy Week

Palm Sunday Procession

Weather permitting, a procession with palms
 will take place before 12.00 Mass.
 Please gather outside the Church
 a few minutes before Mass.

Tues 22 Mar Day of Reconciliation

10 am Mass
 10.30-11.30 Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)
 6.00 pm In Preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday
 DVD Presentation with Fr. Chris Alar MIC
 Taking place at the same time:
 Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)
 Prayer/Healing Ministry
 Blessing with a 1st Class Relic of St. Faustina
 7.30 pm Mass

Holy Week Ceremonies 2016

Thur 24 March: Holy Thursday:

10.00am Morning Prayer
8.00pm Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper
 with a Special Focus on the
The Washing of the Feet
 Procession to the Altar of Repose
 Followed by Silent Prayer & Private Adoration
Church closes at 12.00

Fri 25 March Good Friday:

10.00am Morning Prayer
Church Open for Private Stations until 1.00pm
3 pm THE PASSION OF THE LORD
 We assemble in silence in St. Matthew's.
 Our ceremony today will include a short procession
 around our garden. Those who wish may remain at
 the grotto or in the church.
**During our procession we will remember all those
 who have left us too early especially those for
 whom the darkness became too much.**
8 pm PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS
 Gentle, meditative reflections/prayers/music
 focussed on the Cross.

26 March: Holy Saturday:

10.00am Morning Prayer
9.00pm Come and Watch and Pray
Solemn Easter Vigil

27 March: Easter Sunday

Masses at 9.00 10.30 12.00

3 April

Divine Mercy Sunday
Devotions Start at 3.00pm

