# St. Matthew's **Ballyfermot**

## PARISH NEWSLETTER

23 Oct 2016 (30th Sunday in Ordinary Time)



# The Luminous Mysteries

- 1. The Baptism of the Lord
- 2. The Wedding at Cana
- 3. The Proclamation of the Kingdom
- 4. The Transfiguration of the Lord
- 5. The Institution of the Eucharist

Month of the Rosary



#### **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

**Annual Mass for the Dead** Nov 10 2016 @ 7.30

# **World Mission Sunday** 21th October 2016

On Mission Sunday we are given the opportunity to express our unity with and support for Christian communities everywhere. "Together in Mission" we can all play an active role in helping over 1,096 dioceses and communities globally. This is the Church in action: communities supporting communities. The Special Collection replaces the **Share Collection** 

## **Mass Intentions** 6.30 Saturday

Anne Shepherd, Carol Gillen

### 9.00 Sunday

John Ward, Vera Rogers Kitty Moules

# **10.30 Sunday**

George, Jane Green

### **12.00 Sunday**

Anthony Williams, Peter Doyle, Andrew Quinn

# **Monday 10.00**

James Dunne

Tuesday 7.30 Kate Jaworska & Family

Wednesday 10.00

Derek Cahill





# AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED A SPECIAL EVENING IN ST. MATTHEW'S

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO WELCOME FR. EAMONN MULCAHY FR EAMONN'S ADDRESS WILL HELP US TO MARK IN A FITTING WAY THE END OF THE YEAR OF MERCY

### A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF FR. EAMONN

Fr. Eamonn Mulcahy is a Spiritan or Holy Ghost Father Missionary originally from Manchester. A priest since 1980, he has extensive missionary experience, working with young adults, teaching theology and giving retreats. From 2006-2013 Fr. Eamonn lectured in Systematic Theology at Tangaza University College, Nairobi, Kenya and at the same time was heavily involved in education projects in the infamous slum of Kibera in that same city. Back in Manchester as Parish Priest in the inner city since 2013, he was recently appointed Episcopal Vicar for Religious in his home diocese of Salford. Since September of last year Fr. Eamonn gives weekly lectures at Oscott College, the Inter-Diocesan Seminary near Birmingham.

FR EAMONN'S ADRESS IS ENTITLED:

A REVOLUTION OF TENDERNESS AND LOVE TRANSFORMATIVE ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS IN A YEAR OF MERCY

AND WILL TAKE PLACE IN ST. MATTHEW'S ON

WEDNESDAY 9TH NOVEMBER AT 7.30pm

WE ARE VERY MUCH LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS AND WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND AN INVITATION

# Church Collection Totals Week Beginning 9/10

First Collection 840 Share Collection 660 Family Offering 1195

### **Crosscare Collection**

Community & Homeless Services
Amount Collected:€1250

Thank you for your most generous contribution

#### Bethany Bereavement Support Group Living with Loss For Bereaved Adults

A Public Talk by Patrick Kavanagh MIACP West County Hotel Chapelizod, Dublin 20 Tue 25 Oct 2016 @ 8pm

#### FAITH MOMENT

The Holy Spirit strengthens and guides us to live the Christian moral life and take part in the mission of the Church.

## **Dublin Gospel Choir**

25 November @ 8.00pm St. Matthew's Church (Doors Open @ 6.30pm) With Special Guests Bro. Kevin Singers

Tickets €12 Contact Ken Byrne @ 086 236 52 88



### **ASIAM Charity**

Raising Awareness of Autism.

A bucket collection at the
Church gate will be taken up
this weekend

### A VERY WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW DEACON BILL O' SHAUGHNESSY

This week sees the arrival of a new member of the Parish Team. Reverend Bill O' Shaughnessy has been appointed by Archbishop Diarmuid Martin to serve as deacon here in St. Matthew's. Bill, a native of Castledermot, has recently successfully completed a License in Dogmatic Theology in Rome. He will be involved in all aspects of parish life. We hope and prayer that this begins a fulfilling chapter in Bill's life and in the life of our parish. We extend to him a warm welcome.

St, Vincent DePaul
Church Gate Collction
Next Sunday
after all the Masses

# **Gospel Readings for the Week**

Mon 24/10 Lk 13: 10-17 Was it not right to until her bonds on the sabbath day?

Tue 25/10 Lk 13: 18-21 What shall I compare the kingdom of God with?

Wed 26/10 Lk 13: 22-30 Sir, will there be only a few saved?

Thu 27/10 Lk 13: 31-35 Leave this place, because Herod means to kill you.

Fri 28/10 Lk 6: 12-19 SS SIMON AND JUDE, APOSTLES

and he spent the whole night in prayer

Sat 29/10 Lk 14: 1,7-11 For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled



# Rumblings from the Bunker



Did you ever feel fed up? Now I hasten to add I am not talking about when you are unwell, such as being tired or run down. I am of course not talking about depression, which is a clinical term which deserves both our respect and to be taken seriously. No, I mean that feeling of being fed up. The feeling of finding the daily grind draining. The feeling of being trapped in a routine that is far from life-giving. It's the feeling that leads to questions like, what's it all about, what's the point, surely there's more to life than this?

These feelings are often made worse by the myth or fable that everybody else, or at least most of them, are having a carefree life, bordering on the perfect. This notion of the 'perfect life' is often fed by Hollywood or in more recent times, by social media. We do not know how many shots were taken before the picture that is on Facebook was posted. I often hear people talk about their friends only to realise that they have never actually met them. They are friends on Facebook, which is lovely, but I wonder would it stand up to much, regarding actual friendship.

I think many fail to realise that the Lord does not want us to be fed up. I find it quite shocking that some people actually believe that the Lord sends us sickness or unhappiness in order to test us, or worse to punish us! This does not sit at all with God as revealed to us by Jesus in the Gospel. The essence of Jesus is that he wants to heal us. Jesus wants us to go free. Jesus wants us unbound, unfettered. Jesus has come that we might have life, and live it fully! So it follows then that the more fully we can live our lives, the more we give glory to God. In some ways life then is a bit like a cup of tea. It's how you make it. I don't know about you but I do not like a lukewarm or bitter cup of tea! Sometimes we forget that the person that is mainly responsible for our being fed up, is in fact ourselves. If we find ourselves regularly fed up we actually owe it to ourselves to at least ask the question, what am I doing to actively deal with this feeling?

I find it helpful to ask this question in three parts. If I am regularly fed up it might be interesting to ask how am I in relation to myself, others and God? Apparently many of us do not get enough fresh air, and fail to drink enough water on a daily basis. Imagine that, air and water, this is before we even go near our five a day! Many of us these days are conscious of trying to get our five a day and so keep an eye on our intake of fruit and vegetables. Imagine if that became ten a day! Imagine if beside the fruit and vegetable we put another five: fresh air, more water, one good laugh a day, a little period of prayerful silence and one good kind act for another. Surely it's worth a try?

# Air, Water, Laughter, Prayer and Kindness.

As you can see none of these, either individually or collectively, need put a strain on the bank account or our energy. Imagine if this were to banish the feeling of being fed up. These, what we might call the new five, or the other five, would very quickly impact on how we are with ourselves and each other. However perhaps there is no greater place to bring the feeling of being 'fed up', than to our relationship with God.

I wonder how many of us here in the faith community of St. Matthew stop and think about our lives in relation to God? How many of us stop and ask this question: when the Lord looks at the faith community of St. Matthew, of which by the way, dear reader you are a valuable welcome member, even if it's only by association through this column, what does he see? I mean does he get stuck on our age profile, our numbers, our wrinkles, our shortcomings? Could it be that he sees perseverance, courage and faithfulness? Does the Lord know our story, individual and collective? Does he know every step of our journey to date? In his knowledge is he given, like so many of us, to frown, or does the Lord smile on us? Can we believe that the Lord looks upon us with a warm smile? Imagine that the Lord looks upon us and sees our repeated determination to be people of heroic virtue. I believe this.

In time to come when a history of these days is being written, especially the history of the Church in Ireland today, it will be said that so many of you reading this column displayed heroic virtue. It will be remembered that in the waves of consumerism, in the new paganism, there were people who kept on praying. It will be noted that in the Ireland of the new millennium, with all its secularism there were people who remained devoted to the Eucharist, and against all the odds tried to live it, in all its richness.

J MC DONALD. 17.10.16