



## Quiet in the Church

Does Christ not enjoy a bit of crack? Do we need to be quiet in the Church all the time? Some say, "Yes! We come to the Church to meet Jesus and to pray, and we cannot do that if people are talking." They have a point, but it is not the whole story.

If we think about when Jesus went about Galilee preaching the Good News, those who accompanied him and those whom he addressed talked to one another in the company of Jesus. Jesus didn't stop them. In fact he encouraged people to talk to one another. He said, "If one of you has a dispute with his neighbour, settle this dispute before coming to offer your gift at the altar. If our prayer doesn't lead to greater love and reconciliation with our neighbour, there is something wrong with our prayer."

Mass is about being drawn into the love of Jesus Christ for his heavenly father AND for each other. That is what holy communion is. Now, talking to each other before Mass may not help to bring this about. We may be coming from a very stressful, exciting or trying experience in our homes or elsewhere. We may need time to reflect on why we have come to be together in Church. However, when you come into the Church, you may see someone whom you haven't seen for a week, or more if it is an anniversary. Or you may see someone who was sick and for whom you have been praying. Naturally you must exchange some words with these people, but you should do so in a way that acknowledges that Jesus is the one we all need to meet and to hear. After Mass you can catch up on all the latest news.

Jesus is not only in the Blessed Sacrament. He is also present in the people who believe in him and come for Mass. Loving and greeting each other can then be a way of greeting Jesus. Failure to do so is ignoring Jesus. What makes the Church different from other buildings is that it is the place where followers of Christ, the Christian community, gather to support one another by celebrating the Mass. It is where holy communion is established and sustained. The presence of the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle is a reminder of this, though many people don't understand this. People who only come to Mass on special occasions certainly don't understand and may make a lot of noise. Their motivation for coming may not be all that we would hope for, but let us remember that Jesus never turned anybody away. So let us not judge these people, but ensure that we ourselves behave as we should so that they may learn something from our loving and prayerful example and may be drawn to come more often to participate in the Mass.

Finally, I would like to encourage people to find time to go into the quiet of the adoration room where they can deepen their understanding of what God does for us in the Mass by contemplating in front of the Blessed Sacrament and praying for the needs of the community.

**Fr. Piaras**

### Mass Times St. Matthew's Weekends:

**Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.30pm**

**Sunday: 10.30am, 12.00**

### Weekdays:

**Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri: 10.00am**

**Tue: Morning Prayer 10.00am**

### Holyday of Obligation

**Vigil Mass: 6.30pm**

**Holyday: 10.30am**

**Confessions: 6.00pm—6.30pm Saturday**

**Mass in Cherry Orchard Hospital**

**@ 8.15pm every Saturday**

**St. Vincent DePaul  
Church Gate Collection  
after all the Masses  
this Sunday**



## Take Home a Trócaire Box for Lent

### **Prayer Room**

#### **Eucharistic Adoration**

Mon 10.30 – 9.00

Wed 10.30 – 9.00

Fri 10.30 – 9.00

#### **Divine Mercy Meeting**

Wed 8.00—9.00pm



## **Candle Week Cherry Orchard Church**

Everyone is Welcome

Monday February 24 to

Wednesday February 26

Every Night @ 7.30pm

**Please take the newsletter home with you.**



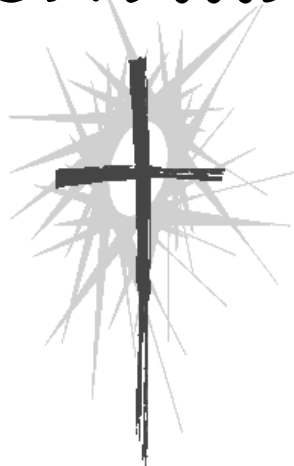
**St. Francis Xavier**

**Family Mass**  
**Sunday March 1 @ 10.30am**  
All Welcome!! Music, Song, Story, and Drama in the Presence of Jesus. This is a really good experience of Mass for families/young children.

**Mass Intentions**  
**Saturday 6.30pm:** Liam Canning, Liam Dunne, Brigid & James Higgins, John Jordan, Michael Lee  
**Sunday 12.00:** Camillus Murray, Alicia Wielogorska  
**Wednesday: 10.00am** People of the Parish

**Novena of Grace**  
**March 4 - 12**  
**Various Speakers**  
**Mass Times**  
**Weekdays: 10.00am and 7.00pm**  
**Saturday: 10.00am and 6.30pm**  
**Sunday: 12.00 only**

**LENT....**



**Pray**  
**Act**  
**Give**



**Ash Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020**  
Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a Day of Fast and Abstinence. Ashes will be blessed and distributed during the 10am Mass

**Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages**  
**April—October 2020**  
7 night stay and airport shuttle service from Dubrovnik or Split for €266 per person sharing. Book any flight— any time and we provide a guaranteed airport shuttle service. Call us for further info and book the dates that suit you.  
**Telephone: 01 443 4510 or**  
**Email: [reservations@med-irishcentre.com](mailto:reservations@med-irishcentre.com)**  
**Website: [www.med-irishcentre.com](http://www.med-irishcentre.com)**

<b>GOSPEL READINGS FOR THE WEEK</b>		
Mon 24/02	<b>Mk. 9: 14-29</b>	'Help the little faith that I have'
Tue 25/02	<b>Mk. 9: 30-37</b>	'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last'
Wed 26/02	<b>Mk. Mt. 6: 1-6, 16-18</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>
Thu 27/02	<b>Lk. 9: 22-25</b>	'Whoever loses his life for my sake will save it'
Fri 28/02	<b>Mt. 9: 14-15</b>	'When the bridegroom is taken from them, then they will fast'
Sat 29/02	<b>Lk. 5: 27-32</b>	'Why do you eat with tax collectors and sinners'

