



St. Laurence O'Toole



St. Laurence O'Toole became Archbishop of Dublin in 1161

He reformed much of the administration and clerical life in his diocese. He worked to restore and rebuild Christ Church Cathedral.

As archbishop he accepted the imposition onto Ireland of the English form of liturgy in 1172.

Noted for his personal austerity, he wore a hair shirt under his ecclesiastical robes, made an annual 40 day retreat in Saint Kevin's cave, never ate meat, fasted every Friday, and never drank wine – though he would color his water to make it look like wine and not bring attention to himself at table.

He acted as peacemaker and mediator at the second siege of Dublin in 1170.

In 1171 he travelled to Canterbury, England on diocesan business. While preparing for Mass there he was attacked by a lunatic who wanted to make **Lawrence** another Saint Thomas Beckett. Everyone in the church thought Lawrence had been killed by the severe blow to the head. Instead he asked for water, blessed it, and washed the wound; the bleeding stopped, and the archbishop celebrated Mass.

He negotiated the 1175 Treaty of Windsor. which made Irish king Rory O'Connor a vassal of king Henry II of England, but ended combat.

He attended the General Lateran Council in Rome, Italy in 1179. He was made Papal legate to Ireland.

He died while travelling with King Henry II, a trip taken as a peacemaker and on behalf of Rory O'Connor. It resulted in his imprisonment and ill-treatment by the king who decided he had had his fill of meddling priests.

Readings for this Sunday

1st Reading: **Ezekiel 36: 24-28**

I shall put my spirit in you.

2nd Reading: **Colossians 3: 12-15**

You are God's chosen race

Gospel: **John 10: 11-18**

I am the Good Shepherd.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Catherine McMahon, Lily Kearney,

Bridget & Bernard Murphy,

Johnny & Maura Dwyer, Kay Curley,

John Roche, Patrick Murray,

John McCormack,

Mr. Devasagayan, Ossie & Noel Molloy



Gospel Readings for the Week

Mon 15/11 **Lk. 18: 35-43**

Tue 16/11 **Lk. 19: 1-10**

Wed 17/11 **Lk. 6: 27-38**

Thu 18/11 **Lk. 19: 41-44**

Fri 19/11 **Lk. 19: 45-48**

Sat 20/11 **Lk. 20: 17-40**

Albert the Great, Bishop, Doctor

He has gone to stay at a sinner's house

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

They will leave not one stone standing on another.

You have turned God's house into a den of thieves.

In God all men are alive.





Bishops of Ireland—Pilgrimage to Knock

The Covid-19 pandemic has been a particularly difficult time for those who have lost loved ones and have often had to cope with their grief without many of the usual spiritual and community supports.

To pastorally support everyone who has suffered the pain of bereavement during the pandemic, and in the context of the month of November as the traditional time when we remember our dead, **on next Sunday, 14 November at 3.00pm, the Bishops of Ireland will undertake a pilgrimage to the International Eucharistic and Marian Shrine in Knock.** The bishops will concelebrate Mass for all those who have died in our country during the pandemic, and for their families. At the Mass the bishops will also offer prayers of thanksgiving for all those who so selflessly sacrificed so much during the pandemic. This Mass will be live-streamed on **www.knockshrine.ie** and broadcast on the RTÉ News Now digital television channel and online. The bishops invite everyone to join with them in prayer on this solemn occasion.

November Masses for Deceased Parishioners.

As 84 funeral Masses were held in St Matthew's Church in the last year, in order to accommodate all who might wish to attend, we are having 3 masses for those of our families and friends who died during the year. The first Mass which will be on 16th November will be for those whose funerals took place here earlier in the year, those on 18th November for those whose funerals took place here later, and

only those friends and relations may come to these Masses.

These will be notified by letter.

The third Mass on 23rd November will then be for anyone else for whom a friend or family member died during the year and everyone is welcome to come to this Mass.

Easing Covid Restrictions

The Covid -19 pandemic sadly is still with us. Although many of the restrictions have been lifted, it seems that many are not coming to the Church for fear of catching the virus, and I understand that as many people still are. For this reason we would ask people to continue to sanitise their hands, wear masks in church and to observe social distancing as far as possible. We are now cautiously allowing people to fill each second seat and to sing, which is a step forward. Please God, the numbers will soon begin to fall and we will be able to relax a bit more. This should encourage people who have been joining us online to come to Mass again and to be able to receive Jesus in Holy Communion.

In receiving Jesus in Holy Communion we remember his great sacrifice on our behalf and our hearts are set afire by his love. Not everyone appreciates that unfortunately and they do not recognise his loving presence but regard receiving Holy Communion as a fairly meaningless ritual. On our part, we must then encourage people to receive reverently and to genuflect to Jesus in the tabernacle whenever they come into the Church.

We are sad to announce that one of our 3 sacristans, Anthony Flynn is retiring as sacristan from today. He has given great service to the parish over the last several years, conscientiously and methodically fulfilling all his duties and generously cooperating whenever he was called upon to do so. His technical abilities were of particular benefit to us and his production of the newsletter which he has agreed to continue. We are very grateful to him indeed and ask the Lord to bless him and his wife Rita with many more years of happiness together.

Fr. Piaras