

Fr Andrew O'Sullivan: Parish Priest
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Collections 24th April 2022

1st Collection : Common Fund €711
2nd Collection : Share €535

Dear Parishioner's

I would like thank all of you for your very generous contributions to the Easter Dues, and your on going generosity to the parish which is deeply appreciated .

Fr Andrew.



Diving Mercy Devotions will take place on Friday 6th May at 7pm to include Mass Benediction, chapel, and Blessing with the Relic of St Faustina Devotions will be followed by vigil



First Communion for the children of Kildare Place, Rathgar Junior and Rathgar National takes place on

Saturday the 7th of May at 11am

We ask for your prayers for the children their parents and teachers as they continue on their journey of preparation for first Holy Communion.



The Building Hope Prayer

Pilgrim God, we give you thanks and praise.
You constantly journey with us even in our darkness and doubts.
We seek your way of loving kindness to walk together as one family.
Open our eyes to recognise you in the faces of one another,
in the breaking of bread and in the splendour of creation.
May the risen Christ sow seeds of hope and new life deep within us.
May our hearts and minds be filled with your Word,
bringing forth truth, justice and peace.
May the Holy Spirit working in and through us do much more
than we can dare to imagine
as we live out our baptismal calling in humble and loving service.
We make this our prayer through Christ Our Lord.
Amen.

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.
St Laurence O'Toole, pray for us.
St Kevin, pray for us.
St Brigid, pray for us.

Rathmines & Rathgar Bethany Bereavement Support Service (incl. Milltown & Ranelagh)

Since last month Bethany services have resumed, offering monthly listening sessions for those of you who have suffered a bereavement or other significant loss.

Our service is confidential, non-judgmental and open to all who need to speak in a supportive setting. Our trained listeners are here to help.

Our May meetings will take place in:

Rathmines Parish Centre (to the left of the church entrance – please use intercom).

On: Wednesday, 4 May at 8.00 p.m.

Rathgar, St Patrick's Hall, access via rear of church (Leicester Avenue)

Homily 3rd Sunday of Easter 2022

By the time of the conversation presented in this Gospel reading, the meeting with the Risen Christ is fairly well along. The meal is finished and there is something of the notion that a kind of ease in the presence of Christ has been regained. An after-dinner conversation springs up.

Somewhere along the line in that conversation, Christ turns to Peter and asks simply: "Do you love me?" We can fairly easily picture Peter at that point answering spontaneously, gladly: "Yes, you know I do." Christ responds to that: "Then take care of my people, Feed my lambs."

At that moment, in that setting, to say 'yes', must have been an easy thing for Peter to do. With Christ so obviously alive, having so obviously overcome the worst that disbelief could do to him, even death itself, what further challenge to his kingdom could there possibly be? Faith must have been an easy thing immediately after the resurrection.

Too easy, really, the exchange doesn't end there. Twice more Christ repeats the question: "Do you love me?" And twice more, with what must have been a growing irritation, Peter answers: "Yes, I do. You know that. You know everything. You must know that as well." And twice more, the same response from Christ: "Take care of my people." We can almost feel the quiet persistence of Christ's questioning, of the demands that he makes of Peter. And we can feel as well, the temptation to impatience that faces Peter as he tries to respond to those demands: "I've already said that I love you. We've done this before. Why do we have to keep going over it again and again? What do I have to do to convince you?" Something like that must have been at the bottom of Peter's impatience.

And Christ's response to that is a sobering one: "This is what you have to do. Take care of my people. No matter what it might cost you. And as it always does, it will cost you a good deal. The enthusiasm of the moment is never enough."

For Peter, as for any disciple, faith was an easy thing when the Risen Christ was standing right in front of him and had only moments ago filled his stomach and calmed his fears. But it was not always to be so. If Peter was to carry out his mission successfully, he would need a patience far greater than that demanded by Christ's prolonged and repetitious questioning. He would need a patience great enough to enable him to persist in the face of the dullness, the disbelief, even the hostility of a world to whom the resurrection meant nothing at all.

In St. John's imagery, Peter, the Church, we ourselves, are sent out to care for God's people in the world. It really doesn't matter how successful we seem to be, how much sense it makes, how much approval we win. All that matters is that we keep going.

Fr Andrew

Affordable Live-in Homecare provides live-in carers for the elderly in your area. If you are looking for a live-in carer for your relative, please call Eileen or Tom