

The Church of the Three Patrons, Rathgar

Parish Newsletter

11th April 2021

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Pastoral Assistant: Cepta Lyons
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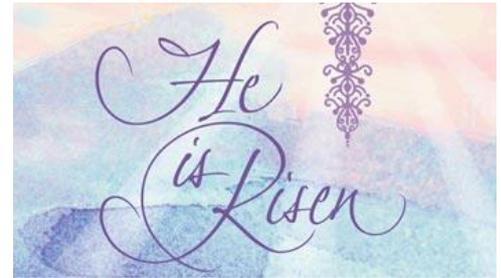
Please phone or email the parish office with your query.

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The Diocesan Child Safeguarding Policy is published on all notice boards in the Church and the Parish Centre, and copies of the document are available to read in the Parish Office and the Parish Centre. For further information please see www.csp.s.dublindiocese.ie

Excerpt from homily of Archbishop Dermot Farrell on Holy Thursday 2021

I extend a warm welcome all those priests and lay faithful who are participating by webcam with us in the celebration of our Chrism Mass. “The spirit of the Lord is given us ... to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken, to proclaim liberty to captives ... and comfort to all who mourn” (Isa 61:1–2). In this tumultuous year, these words of the prophet Isaiah, resonate not just with the charism of priesthood, but even more deeply with our people in this very difficult time—so filled with worry and threat, living—maybe trying to survive—in the shadow of death. This circumstance—with its weariness and lack of liberty, but also with the generosity, courage, and hope shown by so many—should not prevent us from being in communion with one another through God’s Word and Spirit. We may be at home, but we are not alone. Although we are physically separated from each other, we are one in Christ, as we join together in celebration of the deepest mysteries of our faith ... and indeed of the precious life God gives us

However, I will continue to emphasise to Government the importance of the earliest possible return to the public worship, and that the easing of restrictions must not be subordinated to powerful commercial interests, even those considered “non-essential.” There will be further direct engagement with Government to ensure that specific positive consideration is given to public worship by the end of April. The significant care with which any re-opening of churches for public worship will be approached by Church authorities is well attested. Furthermore, the vulnerability of many of those attending Mass is not lost upon those of us in ministry. My call for easing of restrictions on public worship is based on a fair process for the reopening of society as conditions permit.

We are sent out to heal and to comfort, to set free and to reconcile, to raise up and make glad, and to be a proclaimer of the Gospel, a minister of reconciliation and of liberation, in the world that is sometimes cynical, which in many respects is undergoing rapid and continual evolution.

When Jesus spoke, people who considered themselves authentically religious, forcefully rejected him. The same can happen when we are concerned by, and critique certain aspects of how life unfolds in our society and culture. And life is threatened in so many dimensions—from its most fragile and intimate, to its most global: we remember that the very survival of our planet is under increasing threat. To become effective ministers in the hands of the Lord for the sake of all, we must summon up the courage to confront our fear and speak the word of God to the culture as Jesus did in his day. Without the “hand-in-hand sacraments” of the Word and the Eucharist to nourish us and challenge us, what has the Church to offer our contemporaries?

Let us not forget that the Church throughout its 2,000-year history has always had to cope with new conditions and new challenges. Responding effectively to this rapidly changing culture is a new challenge for the Church in Dublin. While there are indeed many challenges facing us right now, we should not be despondent or lose hope as we pastorally respond to a much more culturally diverse society. However, only an effective exercise of synodality—and by this I mean a mode of being Church where people and clergy exercise collaborative leadership and co-responsibility by journeying together and gathering in assembly, listening to each other and to the Spirit—within the Church can help us read the signs of the times today and interpret them in the light of the gospel which is an essential task for the Church in a diocese at any particular time (See *Gaudium et spes*, 4)

**Excerpt from the 'Urbi et Orbi' message
of Pope Francis
Easter Sunday 2021**

*Today, throughout the world, the Church's
proclamation resounds:*

*"Jesus, who was crucified, has risen as he said.
Alleluia!"*

The Easter message does not offer us a mirage or reveal a magic formula. It does not point to an escape from the difficult situation we are experiencing. The pandemic is still spreading, while the social and economic crisis remains severe, especially for the poor. Nonetheless – and this is scandalous – armed conflicts have not ended and military arsenals are being strengthened. That is today's scandal.

In the face of, or better, in the midst of this complex reality, the Easter message speaks concisely of the event that gives us the hope that does not disappoint: "Jesus who was crucified has risen". It speaks to us not about angels or ghosts, but about a man, a man of flesh and bone, with a face and a name: Jesus. The Gospel testifies that this Jesus, crucified under Pontius Pilate for claiming he was the Christ, the Son of God, rose on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, just as he had foretold to his disciples.

Dear brothers and sisters, once again this year, in various places many Christians have celebrated Easter under severe restrictions and, at times, without being able to attend liturgical celebrations. We pray that those restrictions, as well as all restrictions on freedom of worship and religion worldwide, may be lifted and everyone be allowed to pray and praise God freely.

Amid the many hardships we are enduring, let us never forget that we have been healed by the wounds of Christ (cf. *1 Pet 2:24*). In the light of the Risen Lord, our sufferings are now transfigured. Where there was death, now there is life. Where there was mourning, now there is consolation. In embracing the cross, Jesus bestowed meaning on our sufferings and now we pray that the benefits of that healing will spread throughout the world. A good, happy and serene Easter to all of you!

The full text of this message is available on the website:
vatican.va

Regina Coeli

(replaces the *Angelus* from Holy Saturday to Pentecost)

Queen of Heaven, rejoice. *Alleluia.*
For He, whom thou was worthy to bear. *Alleluia.*
Has risen as He promised. *Alleluia.*
Pray for us to God. *Alleluia.*
Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary. *Alleluia.*
Because the Lord is truly risen, *Alleluia.*

Let us pray

O God, who by the resurrection of thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, has been pleased to give joy to the whole world, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, His mother, we may attain the joys of eternal life
Through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen

Collections on 4th April 2021

First Collection € not available yet
Second Collection € not available yet

Thank you for your support for these collections, and for your contributions to the Parish Fund each month. If you would like to contribute during the current lockdown, please use the envelopes at the back of the church, the **DONATE** button at rathgarparish.ie, or the new 'Tap and Pay' facility at the back of the church. *Thank you*

**We extend our sincere sympathy
to the family and friends of
Kathleen (Kay) Collins
whose funeral will take place in
Three Patrons this week.
May she rest in peace**



Divine Mercy Sunday Mass

will be held via the parish webcam today
Sunday 11th April at 3pm.

There will be Mass, Benediction, Chaplet, Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image, and Blessing with Relic of St. Faustina.

Please join us on the webcam at rathgarparish.ie

Trocaire Boxes

We did not have our usual collection of Trócaire boxes on Good Friday, so if you could

drop your boxes into the safe at the back of the church, we will arrange to have them delivered to Trócaire. *Thank you*



DUBLIN DIOCESAN VIRTUAL PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK

The Dublin Diocesan virtual Pilgrimage to Knock will take place on Saturday 24th April 2021.

The day will start with a programme of online workshops from Our Lady of Victories Church, Ballymun Road via webcam commencing at 12pm.

At 2.30pm, the camera will switch to the Knock Shrine webcam for the rosary; the pilgrimage Mass at 3pm; and then an opportunity for quiet time in the Apparition Chapel.

Thank you

A huge thank you to all who helped with the preparations for the Holy Week and Easter ceremonies: to our musicians and singers, flower arrangers, sacristans, readers, Easter garden builders, and especially all who assisted at the Easter Vigil Mass.

Easter Garden

Please visit, and bring your children to see our Easter garden.

It is situated on the left-hand aisle, and it is a beautifully quiet place for reflection during these difficult times.

