

The Church of the Three Patrons, Rathgar Parish Newsletter

21st June 2020

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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.

Dear Parishioners

As we rejoice in the return of the public celebration of Mass and the Sacraments, we will continue to keep you up-to-date with the plans and preparations for re-opening on Monday, 29th June, and first Sunday Masses on 5th July.

A huge thank you to all of you who have volunteered as 'Sherpas' to assist with the implementation of the plans, and we will be in contact with you soon.

The number of people permitted in an indoor gathering has been limited by social distancing regulations, and this will represent a considerable reduction on our normal Sunday Mass attendance. The Archdiocese has recommended that some parishioners might choose instead to attend Mass during the week, and this will fulfil the Sunday Obligation.

The schedule in **Three Patrons** will be as follows: (Changes in **bold print**)

Sunday: 10.30am; 12 noon; **5.30pm.**
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 10.00am
Tuesday, Thursday: 5.30pm

Beechwood Parish

Saturday 5.30pm
Sunday 9.00am (as Gaeilge); **10.45am.**
Tuesday, Thursday: 10.00am.

On Sundays, our stewards will be on hand to help at the entrance, and to ensure as smooth a movement as possible before, during, and after Mass:

- We will enter the church by the centre (glass) doors, and exit by the side (wooden) doors.
- Hand sanitisers will be placed by the centre aisle.
- A one-way system will mean everybody moves up the church by the centre aisle and down by the side aisles.
- The markings on each pew will show seating positions which maintain the 2m distance.
- Holy Communion will be distributed row-by-row, and the stewards will be there to assist.
- There will be no collection baskets, but instead there will be two boxes at the rear of the church after Mass: (red) for the support of the priests of the diocese; and (blue) for the upkeep of the church.
- Toilet facilities will, unfortunately, not be available for the moment.

We hope these plans will help us to renew our relationship with our parish and with each other, and ensure that we all continue to stay safe and well.

Fr Paul Taylor,PP and
The Parish Pastoral Council

PEACE AND EASE IN MIND AND BODY

Spiritual Communion

*Prayer of St Teresa of Avila (1515-1582)
Carmelite, Author, and Doctor of the Church
when she could not take part in Mass because of
her travels.*

My Jesus, really present in the
most Holy Sacrament of the Altar,
since I cannot now receive you under the
Sacramental veil,
I ask You, with a heart full of love and longing,
to come spiritually into my soul
and abide with me forever. Amen

Three Minutes of Peace and Ease in Mind and Body

*Before and after receiving Holy Communion at Mass,
and at other times, say:*

Lord God, may our Holy Communion heal wounds and
bless us with high levels of peace and ease in mind and
body.

In the name and power of Jesus Christ, may it help us
to reject harmful excess temptations of all kinds.
May it help us to heed your call to be content with
enough, and to share * (1) time; (2) wise ideas; and
(3) other resources, generously. Amen

*For three minutes, invite the Holy Spirit to inspire you
as you repeat, very slowly and gently, the above three-
part prayer.*

Conclude by saying this 'free minutes' prayer:
Lord Jesus Christ, may we reject excess temptations,
be content with enough for mind and body ease,
and generously share in the three ways* to have high
peace levels today and in eternal life . Amen.
The *we* in the above prayer are the 8 million or so
persons on our planet. Let the Holy Spirit inspire you as
you repeat slowly, with *peace and ease for everyone in
mind*

For copies of this prayer, please contact:
3patrons@eircom.net

Sunday 21st June 2020

Addicted to *Breaking Bad*

Michael Commane

On one of the first days after the cocooning regulations had been lifted I was out walking with a parishioner.

During our walk we were talking about time spent watching screens during the pandemic. One thing led to another before he suggested I watch 'Breaking Bad'.

I'm an addict. Oops, no, not to drugs but to the series.

It aired between 2008 and 2013. It's made up of 62 episodes spread over five seasons.

The series finale was watched by over 10.3 million people in the US.

It's the story of fictional Walt White, a chemistry teacher, who has learned that he has lung cancer. He has a wife and a son with cerebral palsy. Early in the series his wife is pregnant.

He needs money to finance his cancer treatment and to support his family.

Walt sets out to do what he does best and manufactures methamphetamine. He makes the best crystal meth in Albuquerque. The series is about all that that entails, killings, crimes, wrong-doing of every shape and size. At times I have to turn away from the violence. There are also funny aspects to it and plenty of black humour. But a continuing theme right through the series is that of relationship.

On June 7, we celebrated the feast of the Trinity, which is about the mystery of three persons in one God. It might sound quite mad, especially to non-Christians, but once we try to say anything about God, language breaks down, almost. The Trinity is about relationship in God.

Has it ever crossed your mind that everything we do in our lives involves us in relationships? Our parents, our children, our spouses, our lovers. The place where we work involves us in relationships. Indeed, we have a relationship with the air we breathe. It really is extraordinary. Some relationships are more important than others. There are relationships that enhance our lives and there are those that damage and can indeed, destroy us.

Christianity offers us an insight into our own humanity.

And then to think that the ultimate living out of a perfect relationship is to be found in God, surely that has to set in front of us an extraordinary ideal, something to which each one of us can aspire?

Yes, everything about God is extraordinary. So what? Remember those lines from Oscar Wilde? 'Never love anybody who treats you like you are ordinary'.

Might it be that we have lost our sense for the extraordinary and dumbed down everything to the status of ordinary?

Parish Webcam

As the Government and health authorities have mandated a 'stay at home' policy, Mass will be celebrated in Three Patrons via our new webcam on the website:

rathgarparish.ie.

The following is the schedule:

Sunday 12 noon

Monday 11am

Wednesday 11am

Friday 11am

Saturday 11am

Mass on the **Beechwood Avenue webcam** is as follows:

Sunday 10.00am

Tuesday 10.00am

Thursday 10.00am

Our church will remain open on a daily basis for prayer and visitation, but will remain closed during Mass, and we also encourage everyone who visits the church to practice hand sanitisation and social distancing in order to protect each other's health.

Planning for the re-opening of Three Patrons

As we look forward to the eventual re-opening of our church on 29th June, we are sending an appeal to those parishioners who would be willing to act as stewards or 'Sherpas', in assisting with the implementation of Government guidelines with regard to social distancing and public safety, during our Sunday Masses here at Three Patrons.

Thank you to those who have already volunteered, and if you feel you would also like to volunteer, please contact the Parish Office by phone; 01 4972215, or email: 3patrons@eircom.net, and leave your name, your phone number and your email address, and we will contact you in the coming weeks.

Thank you
The Parish Pastoral Council

Online Course in Theology, Spirituality and Religious Experience

This course consists of 10 one-hour online lectures by Fr Pat Collins C.M. given over two weeks delivered entirely online. It is offered twice: 13 - 24 July and 10 - 21 August

For further information and to register, please visit: <https://prioryinstitute.com/events/summer-school-2020-theology,-spirituality-and-religious-experience>

An Appeal from Rathgar Society of St Vincent de Paul

During the current crisis, we are making every effort to continue to support those who need our assistance. There are envelopes at the back of the church, and you can leave your donation in the safe beside the Pieta shrine. *Thank You*