

Bible is a trove of great stories

Michael Commane

I am no Scripture scholar or Exegesis expert but I can say over the years that I have been dipping in and out of the Bible, Old and New Testament. I regret not knowing more about it. To get one's head around the Bible it helps to know about the history of the times in which it is written.

Whenever I'm asked to pray with a hospital patient I read from the Psalter or the Book of Psalms.

The Psalms are wonderful Jewish prayers written as poetry. Maybe more accurately said, most of them are, as some of them can sound nasty and tough. But there are always ones among the 150 to suit the particular moment or situation.

Last Monday week's Gospel (Matthew 25: 31 - 46) was an amazing story. The gist of it was that when we serve one another we are serving God. It's when we feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, care for the sick, cloth the naked and support the prisoner that we are showing our real respect for God. It's then that we are truly worshipping God.

Imagine if we lived this? There would be no question of a billion people in the world not having enough food to eat, no homeless people living on the pavements of our streets.

The stories that we read about Jesus in the New Testament could not be more radical.

Jesus spends his time questioning the authority of the day and has no trouble criticising them for feathering their own nests.

Breastplate of St Patrick

Christ with me,
Christ before me,
Christ behind me,
Christ in me,
Christ beneath me,
Christ above me,
Christ on my right,
Christ on my left,
Christ when I lie down,
Christ when I sit down,
Christ when I arise,
Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.

Collections 8th March 2020

Offertory Collection: €956
Share Collection: €806

Thank you for your support for these collections, and for your contributions to the Parish Fund each month.

The Children's Lenten Programme will be cancelled due to the current crisis and in accordance with Government guidelines.

Christian Meditation takes place every Thursday morning after 10.00 am Mass and will now gather in the new meeting room in the left hand aisle. Meditation is the quiet prayer of faith, silence, stillness and simplicity handed on to us by the Benedictine Monk, John Main O.S.B. All are welcome.

Sunday and Monday Morning Coffee are cancelled until further notice.

Lenten Series of Talks 2020

in

St Columba's Room

Sr Therese Fitzgerald's Lenten Series of talks on the subject of '*Finding meaning during Lent*'

has been cancelled.

CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION

In accordance with the Government guidelines during the current crisis, all are dispensed from the obligation to physically attend Sunday Mass.

There will be **no Sunday Masses** until further notice but

the Church will remain open

from 9.30am to 6.00pm

for personal prayer and visitation

▪ **Mon to Sat Masses**

will continue as at present until further notice

and the Church will remain open

from 7.30am to 6.00 pm

For those unable to attend Mass, a webcam showing live coverage of the Mass is available at:

Crumlinparish.ie

at the following times:

Saturday: 7.00pm;

Sunday 9.30am; 11.00am; 12.30pm; 7.00pm.

Weekdays: 9.00am; 10.00am; 7.00pm.

As a community of faith, we need to take proper care of ourselves.

We must take care of each other's wellbeing.

We must take care not to spread viruses.

Be safe and well.

Beannachtaí na Féile Padraig!