



The Catholic Parish
of
Celbridge
and
Straffan



Priests of the Parish:

Fr. Paul Taylor P.P. tel 6275874
Fr. Kevin Doherty C.C. tel: 5031429
Fr. Brian McKittrick C.C. tel: 6274971
Fr. Douglas Zaggi P.C. tel: 6012303

Parish Office 01 6288827, Office hours Mon - Fri 9am - 3.30pm.

Sacristy 01 6275942 (Closed Wednesday) 10am - 1pm

Parish Pastoral Worker: Christina 0858519110
Information about Baptisms please ring 085 8519110

Parish website: www.celstra.ie
email :celbridgeparishoffice@gmail.com

Queen of the May

Bring flow'rs of the fairest,
Bring flow'rs of the rarest,
From garden and woodland
And hillside and vale;
Our full hearts are swelling,
Our Glad voices telling
The praise of the loveliest Rose of the vale.

Chorus:

O Mary! we crown thee with blossoms today,
Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May,
O Mary! we crown thee with blossoms today,
Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May

PLANNED GIVING: Weekly Envelope Collection: €1402. Your continued support is very much appreciated. Thanks also to the collectors.

The Rosary will be recited at the Grotto, Celbridge on Friday evenings after the 7 p.m. Mass for the month of May. Please answer Our Lady's call to pray the Rosary.

We welcome into our faith community the children recently baptised:

Adam Claffey, Finn Cafferkey, Rhys Morgan, Molly Lyons,
Penny O'Brien, Daniel O'Sullivan, Zoe George, Sarah Shanley,
Victoria Kudlaite, James Kudla. Congratulations.



The Annual Lourdes Pilgrimage will take place from 2nd August and returning on 7th Aug (5 nights). **Please note the change in dates.**

Staying at the Hotel Solitude, the all in cost is €710 per person

We will be accompanied by Fr. Brian McKittrick as Spiritual Director.



A special appeal is underway to renovate St. Brigid's Church Straffan and the Presbytery. The Church was opened in 1786 and is one of the oldest functioning Churches in the Archdiocese.

The target figure is €70,000.

We hope to repaint the Church internally and externally, re - centre the Altar and Tabernacle.

A special appeal letter & envelope is available in Straffan Church.

Your support would be appreciated with this project.

Advance Notice

The Annual Mass at Donaghcumper Cemetery will take place on **Sunday the 9th of June.**

The Mass in Straffan Cemetery will take place on the **17th of July at 7.30pm.**

Mass Times

St. Patrick's Church, Celbridge

Saturday (Vigil) 6.30 pm,
Sunday: 8.30am, 9.30am,
11am (Family Mass) 12.30pm & 7pm.

Weekday Mass: 10am & 7pm

Holy Days: 7pm (vigil), 10am, 7pm.

Bank Holidays: 11am.

Confessions: Saturday after 10am Mass

Mass Times

St Brigid's Church, Straffan

Saturday (Vigil) 6pm.

Sunday 11am.

Weekday Mass 9.15am.

Holy Days 10am.

Bank Holidays: 10am.

Confessions: Saturday after 6pm Mass

Baptism:

St Patrick's Church: Sunday 2pm

St Brigid's Church: Last Sunday of the month at 12pm

To organise your baptism contact the Parish Baptismal Team 085 8519110.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament :

St Patrick's Church: Friday morning before 10am Mass (9am - 9.50am).

St. Brigid's Church Friday morning after Mass.

Weekend Mass Intentions

St. Brigid's Church

Saturday 6pm John Cully

Sunday 11am Aloysius & Ignatius Cribbin

St. Patrick's Church

Saturday

6.30 pm Peter Horace

Sunday

8.30am Sheila O'Connor

9.30am Sophie Kinsella

11am Josephine Moran

12.30pm Claire Foley, Paul O'Reilly

7pm Jim & Emmet Brady

Regina Coeli (Recited instead of the Angelus from Easter 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 our God. Alleluia.
Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary. Alleluia.
For the Lord has risen indeed. Alleluia.

Straffan-Ardclough Community Games

Athletics heats for County Finals
Saturday, May 25th
Ardclough GAA club.
Races for U8s to U16s.
Registration on the day at 10am.
€2 per child. All welcome.

Weekday Mass Intentions St. Patrick's Church

Monday 13th 10am Maureen Molloy, Breda Cummins **7pm** Mary Greene

Tuesday 14th 10am Daniel Meehan **7pm** Anne Greene, Evelyn, Patrick, Sean, Peter, Michael & Bill McDermott

Wednesday 15th 10am Maureen Molloy **7pm** Diarmuid O'Brien

Thursday 16th 10am Deceased O'Brien & Maher families **7pm** Graham O' Loughlin

Friday 17th 10am James Michael Byrne **7pm** Sheila & Oliver Noonan

Saturday 18th 10am Brendan Harpur.

St Joseph's Young Priests Society Monthly meeting will take place on Wednesday 15th May in the meeting room beside the Sacristy, directly after the 7pm evening Mass. New members very welcome.

Congratulations to the girls from Scoil Bríd and the boys and girls from the Glebe Montessori who celebrated their First Holy Communion this Saturday. We thank the parents who facilitated the parish programme "Do this in Memory of Me". We thank the teachers and the parents for the good work in preparing the children for the memorable day.

Prayer for the Child in the Womb

Lord Jesus, you are the source and lover of life.
Reawaken in us respect for every human life.
Help us to see in each child the marvellous work of our Creator.
Open our hearts to welcome every child as a unique and wonderful gift.
Guide the work of doctors, nurses and midwives.
May the life of a mother and her baby in the womb be equally cherished and respected.
Help those who make our laws to uphold the uniqueness and sacredness of every human life, from the first moment of conception to natural death.
Give us wisdom and generosity to build a society that cares for all.
Together with Mary, your Mother, in whose womb you took on our human nature,
Help us to choose life in every decision we take.
We ask this in the joyful hope of eternal life with you, and in the communion of the Blessed Trinity. Amen.

'The prisoner had discovered you could pray anywhere, even in the worst conditions'

One of the worst things about prison, he told me, was the time-wasting. We were standing in a huge, barren hall, where we had just participated in meditative prayer with a large group of his fellow prisoners. After the profound, shared, sweet silence of the meditation we had a lively discussion about what the inner life on the inside was like and how it could be cultivated. This had graced me with the strange feeling I have often had in prisons, of being very close to the Kingdom, which Jesus says is always "very close to you" wherever and however you find yourself serving your life term.

The ugliness of the space we were standing in reminded me of some men's religious houses I have stayed in, which reveal more than anything else how a community can lose hope in the spiritual life and in themselves. It would be hard to keep faith in God or yourself in such an aesthetic inferno. But the prisoners on the whole did not complain about the lack of beauty, maybe because they had discovered that complaining about things that you can't change doesn't make anything better; maybe because it didn't seem the main problem they were facing. They all agreed, however, that the great enemy of prayer in prison is the noise, the continuous sounds of metal gates clanging, or the rasping noise of anger or hollow laughter.

It is bad enough to know that many years of your life will be wasted in incarceration. It becomes surreal when you realise that you have become a different and better person than the one who was condemned and excluded from society. Worse still is to fill that wasted time with routines that rob you of what meaning or creativity you might be able to cultivate. Meditation, the prisoner I was talking to told me, had helped him to transform this experience of lost time, as in the hours spent standing in line to be counted. Like monks anywhere, he had discovered you could pray anywhere and continuously, even in the worst of conditions, by releasing the prayer already within you. As he stood for his number to be called, he let go of his thoughts and his resentment and sadness.

Continued next week