



WEBCAM in our parish churches can be accessed by WWW.CELSTRA.IE or MCN Media then choose the Church

Weekend Mass Intentions St. Patrick's Church
Sat: 6.30pm: Billy Behan (m.m.), Kevin Galvin, Anne Swayne, Mary Gannon, Kieran Dolan, Peter Byrne.
Sun 8.30am: Joe Affeney, Maud Dempsey,
9.30am: Kathleen O' Connor, Brigid Fitzpatrick, Sue Dunne
11am: Mick Keating, Niall Doran,
12.30pm: Emer Farrell, Aislinn Wickham, Evelyn Brannigan
7pm: Kitty & Mick Carton, James & Carmel Mangan, John O' Sullivan

Masses Ash Wednesday 26th February there will be Mass at 7am 10am and 7pm in St. Patrick's and 9.15am in St. Brigid's.

Weekend Mass Intentions St. Brigid's Church
Sat 6pm: John Lawlor
Sun 11am: Mary, Kate & Jerry Bradley

Weekdays; St. Brigid's Church
Mon 9.15am: Tom Durkan
Tue 9.15am: Gerry Sweeney
Fri Adoration after 9.15am Mass

Planned Giving-amount was 1083.80.
 Thanks to all who contributed through the standing orders and the Planned Giving.
 Thanks also to the collectors and counters.

Weekday Mass Intentions St. Patrick's Church
Mon 24th 10am: Michael Lynch, Patricia Campion
Tues 25th 10am: Sheila McDonald, John & Julia Tallon, Margaret (Peg) Redmond
Wed 26th 10am: Ciaran McDonnell, Elizabeth & Patrick Kelly & deceased family, John & Rose Boylan, **7pm:** Special intention
Thur 27th 10am: Michael Lynch, Moira Barker, Rosa Marinoni, Margherita Marinoni
Fri 28th 10am: Patty O' Rourke (1st anniv), Michael Lynch, Patrick, Brigid, John & Betty White
Sat 29th 10am: George Nolan Jnr, Noreen O' Sullivan

ANOINTING OF THE SICK ST PATRICK'S, CELBRIDGE
TUESDAY FEB 25 at 7.30pm
 'Jesus asked him "What do you want me to do for you?" "Lord I want to see" he replied. Jesus said to him "Receive your sight; your faith has healed you".
 WE ALL NEED HEALING.
 (All welcome - those who are sick to receive the sacrament and those who are with them, to accompany them, pray for them.)

Please Support our Weekly Parish Lotto
 The prize fund is now at €3600.
 You pick four numbers between 1 - 30.
 One line just €2, 3 lines €5.
 This week 1st draw: 17, 5, 11, 12 2nd draw: 3, 9, 6, 21.
 3 consolation prize winners:
 Jim Stephens., Carmel O' Brien, Nancy Walsh
 Prizes can be collected in the Sacristy at weekend Mass times.
 Prizes have to be collected within 30 days of the draw.
 Our next draw will take place on Monday afternoon.

FORMS OF FRIDAY PENANCE
 The following are suggested as ways of fulfilling Friday penance:

- ◆ Abstaining from meat or some other food
- ◆ Abstaining from alcoholic drink or smoking
- ◆ Making a special effort at involvement in family prayer
- ◆ Making a special effort to participate in Mass on Fridays
- ◆ Visiting the Blessed Sacrament
- ◆ Making the Stations of the Cross
- ◆ Fasting from all food for a longer period than usual and perhaps giving what is saved to the needy.
- ◆ Helping the poor, sick, old or lonely

Painting for pleasure in St. Eustace Centre Mondays 10am - 12 noon. All levels welcome. Contact Margaret 087 6799104

Parish Office hours Mon - Fri 9am - 1pm. (Closed Wednesday)
Contact Details: 01 6288827 / 0858662255
Email: celbridgeparishoffice@gmail.com
Parish website: www.celstra.ie
Sacristy: 6275942 (Mass times)

Mass Times: St. Patrick's Church, Celbridge
 Saturday (Vigil) 6.30 pm, Sunday: 8.30am, 9.30am, 11am, 12.30pm 7pm. Weekday Mass: 10am Holy Days: 10am, 7pm.
 Bank Holidays: 10am.
 Confessions: Saturday after 10am Mass

Mass Times St Brigid's Church, Straffan
 Saturday (Vigil) 6pm. Sunday 11am
 Weekday Mass 9.15am.
 Confession before Mass Saturday at 6pm

RONCALLI 22 I THINK I'LL GIVE UP APPLES FOR LENT!

I think I'll give up apples for Lent! I guess to most people this immediately sounds a bit wacky.
 I mean if I loved apples such a statement might have some merit. The truth of the matter is I rarely eat an apple. I know I should. I mean we all know, myself included, eating apples would be a lot more healthy than eating...say... pancakes. A lot less fun. More healthy, but less fun. Yes when it comes to apples I am pretty clear, in my opinion, apples belong in three places. Crumble, sponge or tart! So yes I think I'll give up apples for Lent....

...I hope you realise at this stage that I am joking. For me to say that I intend to give up apples for Lent is not only silly, but more importantly, it could show a lack of respect for one of the most sacred seasons in the Church year. There's no doubt though people approach Lent in a variety of ways: smokers might see Lent as a time to try and 'break the habit' others as a time to lose weight. I actually heard it the other day, 'thank God it's Lent next week and hopefully I'll lose a few pounds!'

Now look, we can get a little spiritually snooty about these things. There's no point making a fuss that those engaged in the battle of the bulge or trying to quit smoking or give up the 'demon drink' are not taking Lent seriously. They may well be. That's not for us to judge. It's far more important to think through our own plans for Lent.

The point here is, a little bit like my gradual learning of the importance of having the plan, I now also realise that how I live Lent, or indeed how I fail to live Lent has a direct bearing on how well I celebrate Easter. My logic is as follows: Easter is clearly the greatest of all our celebrations. Easter is when we remember, and give God thanks, that He loved us so much that he sent his only Son, Jesus, that we might be saved. It's a great and beautiful feast. It follows that it is a time of grace. However we need to be receptive to this grace. We need to be open. We need to have prepared the soil. Lent is the sowing and Easter the harvest. Lent is the investment and Easter is the dividend, the legacy. With this in mind I can honestly say the years I lived Lent well were the years that I experienced the most Easter joy. (I am sure I do not need to remind you not to confuse that beautiful gift of the Holy Spirit with it's more glitzy cousin, happiness.)

So back to Lent, the plan, and the significance of it, mindful of the great opportunity it affords. I favour a two fold approach. Let me put it in the form of a statement, or perhaps as a resolve or promise. It's my Lenten Contract. It might sound like this:

'By Spy Wednesday this year I will be closer to Jesus, by which I mean I will be better acquainted with him than I am now AND I will be a less sinful person'.

Now that's not bad as an aim, or a goal or objective or intention, but the next step is crucial. So we have the 'what of our Lent' now we need it's 'how'. So now it might look like this:

'By Spy Wednesday I will become closer to Jesus through a weekly slow meditative Scripture rosary and my daily ten minutes reading from my favourite gospel or psalm followed by ten minutes sacred silence listening for the Lord. I will be less sinful through depriving myself of alcohol or dessert and matching this with a kind comment or good turn for a couple of people I am not that keen on. The money I will save on the drink or the desserts throughout Lent, I will give to Peter McVerry or St. Vincent de Paul'.

Corny? Not for you? What's your plan? Whatever it is my friends, don't fail to live Lent this year.
 It's too good an opportunity to miss. You'll know the benefit of it come Easter.
 Fraternally, JoeMcD



Pizza & Poetry
ASH WEDNESDAY from TS Eliot,

Because I do not hope to turn again
 Because I do not hope
 Because I do not hope to turn
 Desiring this man's gift and that man's scope
 I no longer strive to strive towards such things
 (Why should the aged eagle stretch its wings?)
 Why should I mourn
 The vanished power of the usual reign?
 Because I do not hope to know again
 The infirm glory of the positive hour
 Because I do not think
 Because I know I shall not know
 The one veritable transitory power
 Because I cannot drink
 There, where trees flower, and springs flow,
 for there is nothing again
 Because I know that time is always time
 And place is always and only place
 And what is actual is actual only for one time
 And only for one place
 I rejoice that things are as they are and
 I renounce the blessed face
 And renounce the voice
 Because I cannot hope to turn again
 Consequently I rejoice, having to construct
 something
 Upon which to rejoice
 And pray to God to have mercy upon us
 And pray that I may forget
 These matters that with myself I too much
 discuss
 Too much explain
 Because I do not hope to turn again
 Let these words answer
 For what is done, not to be done again
 May the judgment not be too heavy upon us
 Because these wings are no longer wings to fly
 But merely vans to beat the air
 The air which is now thoroughly small and dry
 Smaller and dryer than the will
 Teach us to care and not to care
 Teach us to sit still.
 Pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our
 death
 Pray for us now and at the hour of our death.