

THE NUTS & BOLTS

Weekend Mass Intentions 11am Mass on the webcam will be for the following: James O' Hagan, Jessica O' Hagan Murphy, Denise Noonan, Ned Noonan, Breda Doyle, Ann & Charles Dennehy, Bill Behan, Tom & Ester Dignam, Lesley McAteer, Thomas Walsh, Liam Hyde.

Planned Giving Envelopes: Following inquiries from parishioners with regard to the church envelope collection we would suggest A) a standing order B) a once off contribution C) Bank transfer. It would be important to include donor's name or envelope number in the transaction. Bank details available from parish office on 0858662255 or email celbridgeparishoffice@gmail.com

And people stayed home
and read books and listened
and rested and exercised
and made art and played
and learned new ways of being
and stopped
and listened deeper
someone meditated
someone prayed
someone danced
someone met their shadow
and people began to think differently
and people healed
and in the absence of people who lived in ignorant ways,
dangerous, meaningless and heartless,
even the earth began to heal
and when the danger ended
and people found each other
grieved for the dead people
and they made new choices
and dreamed of new visions
and created new ways of life
and healed the earth completely
just as they were healed themselves.

Kathleen O' Meara
'And People Stayed Home'
Written in 1869,
after the Great Starvation in Ireland

Weekday Mass Intentions

Mon 6th Apr 10am: Maureen & Andy Greene,
Noreen O' Sullivan,

Tues 7th Apr 10am: Timmy Slaughter, Michael Harmon

Wed 8th Apr 10am: Jack Quinan, Peggie Webster

Thur 9th Apr 10am: Noleen Harkins, Vic Murphy

Fri 10th Apr 10am: Noleen Harkins

Sat 11th Apr 10am: Special intention

TO NOTE: Marc Connolly is my name, I am the Community Garda attached to Celbridge Garda Station.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Community Gardaí across the country are offering their assistance to vulnerable and elderly people who cannot leave their homes due to self-isolation and cocooning. This assistance can take many forms, for instance, help with collecting groceries/medications/pensions etc.

We encourage anybody who needs assistance or is concerned for someone else to make contact with Leixlip Garda Station on 01 6667800 with their request.

ARRANGEMENTS ST. PATRICK & ST. BRIGID'S CELBRIDGE AND STRAFFAN

* DAILY MASS AT 10am AND SPECIAL PRAYER AT 3pm will be streamed live via our webcam.

It is important that you choose **MOBILE CAMERA**
SUNDAY MASS will also be streamed live at 11am
(These services can be accessed through our own website
at celstra.ie OR ([mcn media](http://mcn.media))

* With regard to Confession, the Holy See reminds us of the tradition that were accessing Confession is difficult the making of an act of perfect contrition with the desire to receive the sacrament is sufficient for the forgiveness of all sins even mortal sins.

PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Arrangements regarding Holy Week and the Celebration of Holy Week to follow.

Both Churches will be open for private prayer Mon - Sat 10.30am - 7.30pm Sunday 12noon - 7.30pm

Let us continue to carry each other in our hearts in prayer.

St. Brigid Pray for Us. St. Patrick Pray for Us.
Our Lady of Knock Pray for Us.

The Parish Community of St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's



CROSSROADS AHEAD!

I think we are all still a little shocked at where we find ourselves.

The fight with the virus continues. Where we are in the fight is difficult to say and yet we are so blessed in this country in the courage and dedication of so many who have shown nothing short of heroic virtue in their selfless giving for others. We have also seen leadership that has been firm and compassionate, wise and prudent.

It is indeed heartening to see how the world is responding. Globally and nationally the initial shock and disarray subsides and gives way to the rolling up of sleeves, to imaginative and creative ways of responding, the move from gin to hand sanitiser to name but one of many. We can be sure the best of women and men all over the world are working frantically both in the area of treatment and ultimately of vaccine.

Here in Ireland there are valiant efforts medically, socially, economically and politically to do anything that will help people in these most challenging of days. The world, and indeed we as a nation are in the thick of the fight, but the fight will not last forever. We will come out of this and I firmly and genuinely believe we will come out of it, changed yes, but changed for the better.

Aside from what is the battle with the virus, much has been said about the economic fallout of the present crisis. There is no doubt that the financial cost will be enormous but again the evidence suggests that again we will weather this, not without pain, but with a degree of robustness that should not be taken for granted.

What is of much greater concern to me is the emotional fall out, the impact on mental health and unashamedly I am primarily focused on the impact of the coronavirus outbreak on the spirit.

I trust you will not mind my directness. It seems clear to me that once we look at what's happening as pilgrim followers of Jesus, in other week when we reflect on these days with the eyes of faith, it begins to become obvious where the Lord is in all this.

My friends let's remind ourselves that whilst of course this horrible life threatening virus does not come from our Father in Heaven who loves us but let us not miss that he is in the middle of this pandemic with us.

Not only is the Lord in the midst of this battle with us, he wants us to be engaged with him. No doubt these days present us with a myriad of opportunities to be better sisters and brothers to one another.

That said I think there is something more. Here's a question that comes up and I ask it of myself before I offer to you:

When these dark days give way to the brighter dawn, and we find ourselves once again in the garden with the Risen Jesus, will be closer to him or further away?

In other words these difficult days provide us with the grace of deeper conversion. There is a crossroads up ahead. What direction shall we take?

Will we look back and say the Corona outbreak frightened and undermined me so much that it damaged my faith or will we look back and say that it was during the Corona outbreak that I came closer to Jesus?

In this choice that we can all make, which one will the Lord delight in, which one will give him honour and glory? Indeed which one will bring us true joy?

Fraternally, JoeMcD

The Parish Office can be contacted by phone 0858662255 celbridgeparishoffice@gmail.com
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