

ST CANICE'S PARISH

31st January 2021

Praying for those who have died

Recently Deceased

Tom Walsh, Newtown, Newpark Upper

Paddy McDonald, Glendine Heights

Noel Doran, Kilkenny

Anniversaries

Sun 10 am Majella Meaney

Gretta Langton (1st Anniversary)

Mon 9.15am Mary Griffith

Tues 9.15am Br. Al O'Connor

Wed 9.15am Conor O'Brien

Thurs 9.15am Sheila Fitzgerald

We also remember

Patrick Byrne, Lily Deevy, Bernadette and Elizabeth Dolan, Catherine and Michael

Delaney, Tomás Hackett, Annie Moynihan, Maureen Wheldon

Next Weekend

Sun 10am Pauline Kenny (1st Anniv), Anne Kenny

Funerals

A maximum of 10 people are allowed to attend funeral ceremonies.

We ask people to strictly adhere to this number and to continue with social distancing to safeguard ourselves and one another.

Please use hand sanitiser before entering the church

Face Masks. Face coverings must be worn at all religious ceremonies.

Thanks to all who have contributed to the weekly offering via our new online Donate facility. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Letterbox in Church Porch

As we cannot have a letterbox in the Parish Centre door, we now have a secure letterbox in the door on the left hand side inside the Church Porch. If you wish, you may place any Envelopes, Anniversaries or notices for newsletter in this letterbox.

Donate Button

We now have a "Donate" facility on our Parish Website. This can be used for all Collections and Donations to the Parish. It is very user friendly. Just click on the Donate button, choose which collection you are contributing to and the amount you wish to give. This can be a once off donation or a regular payment. Thank you for your continued generosity.

The Annual St. Brigid's Day service will be live via webcam from St. Patrick's Parish Church on Monday, February 1st at 7.30 pm.

<https://www.stpatricksparishkilkenny.com> Click on webcam St. Patrick's Church. This year without a congregation the service will pray the protection of St. Brigid on all of us

Mass Schedule from 10th January 2021

The 10am Mass on Sundays and the daily Masses (Mon-Sat 9.15am) are now being celebrated in the church behind closed doors.

You can watch the Masses on the Parish Webcam www.stcanicesparish.ie or hear them on the Parish radio (108FM.)

The 10am Mass on Sundays will also be broadcast live from St. Canice's on Community Radio Kilkenny City (88.7fm)

Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel

1. In this first chapter Mark familiarizes his readers with the type of things Jesus did to proclaim the kingdom, the Reign of God. Our passage today touches on two of these, the first being that 'he taught as one having authority'. It makes a difference when you listen to someone who is clearly speaking from experience and personal knowledge. Remember people who impressed you in this way.
2. Jesus combined teaching with healing, and he drove the evil spirit out of the man. The power of God that worked is also at work in and through us today. When have you been freed from some bad habit?
3. The evil spirit convulsed the man before it left him. The path to liberation can be a painful struggle. If you have found it so, who was the Jesus person that helped you through the struggle to freedom?
4. It is not only individuals but groups that can be struggling with an evil spirit- jealousy, rivalry, malicious gossiping, abuse of power, etc. Sometime a Jesus person comes into the group and drives out that evil spirit. Have you experienced this? Perhaps you yourself have been this person on some occasion?

A story from Fr. Tom

Donal and his wife Aileen retired from work at the end of 2019. The lockdown following the arrival of Covid-19 last March was the beginning of an unexpected drama in their family and with their friends and neighbours. Donal and some of his friends decided to stay in touch by saying the Rosary together via zoom for victims of the virus. A few weeks later, Aileen, who is a nurse, measured his very low oxygen level and high temperature. He sent the group this message. 'Going into hospital for a blast of oxygen as level is extremely low. Will probably be in for a few days. It should help. Keep up the prayers.'

In intensive care, 'I was heavily sedated and kept on the ventilator for 32 days. I had developed pneumonia in both my lungs. For most of this time I was asleep and do not remember it.' Aileen wasn't allowed to visit but got scary updates.

Donal picks up the story. 'I didn't know what was going on at the time, but I learned later of the network of prayer that had started among the members of the group and many other people who knew me. Towards the end of my time on the ventilator I was on less sedation and was able to hear what was going on around me but unable to speak as I had a tube inserted in my throat. Aileen wrote letters which the nurse read to me. In these letters she was able to let me know about all the people who were praying for me.'

This ring of prayer eventually prevailed and Donal recovered. He was deeply touched by the unity and care among so many. Many people were inspired to turn to prayer even though they hadn't prayed for years and their faith was re-ignited when they saw that the prayers worked.

Sunday's Gospel is the story of Jesus liberating a man from an unclean spirit. Jesus continues to heal and bless and accompany, since he is the same yesterday, today and forever.

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