# **ST CANICE'S PARISH**

# 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2022

#### Praying for those who have died Recently Deceased

Sr. Clare Feeley, St. John of God Convent, Wexford Catherine Brannigan, Granges Rd Vera Larkin, St Rioch's St

#### Anniversaries

Sat 7.30pmPaddy and Mary BuggySun 10amJoe Slattery (Months Mind)Sun 11.30amJohn Prendergast. Anne KennyMon 9.15amJim CodyTues 9.15amJimmy GahanWe also rememberThomas Casey, Seamus Culleton, Martin Dermody, Philip Egan,Brendan O'Mara, Tom Murphy, Sadie and Therese McGrath, Margaret Rowe, Peggy ShanahanNext WeekendSat 7.30pmSadie Delehanty. Kitty O'DonoghueSun 11.30 amTerry Meaney

#### **Sunday Collection**

The Collection Bags are now back in use. In order to protect everybody, they have a long pole attached to enable the collectors to reach into the pew without the need to pass the bags from one person to another.

We also have the **Donate** button on the website for those of you who wish to contribute online. The collection last Sunday amounted to €1385. Thank you for your generosity.

## **Covid 19 Update**

The Irish Bishops Conference have asked that to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the vulnerable or anxious members of our congregation, we continue to be respectful of each other by: Keeping your distance....leaving a space between you and a person from a different household

Wearing a facemask at all Church ceremonies,

Using the hand sanitizer before entering the Church

Taking your copy of the newsletter home with you,

Following the one way system for Communion, (up the centre aisle and down the sides) The Stewards will guide you. Communion will be given in the hand only The Bishop's Conference will meet again in March to review this situation.

# 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Sisters of St. John of God

A liturgical celebration is planned to mark the 150th anniversary of the foundation of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. John of God and to enable us to give thanks for the service and ministry the Sisters and their collaborators have provided in the Diocese of Ossory. Throughout the years the Sisters have ministered in a number of parishes in our diocese and have provided all parishes and religious houses with Altar Breads. The celebration will take place at St. Fiacre's Church, at 5.30pm on Thursday, 10th March and will be followed by refreshments in the adjoining Parish Centre. All those who would like to recognise and give thanks for the work of the Sisters are invited to attend. Former staff members are especially invited to attend.

## **Getting ready for a Listening Lent**

Over the last couple of weeks you will have seen the news items on the Synod and plans for a Listening Lent this spring. Pope Francis has decided that the next Synod will be a Synod on synodality. As he has said synodality is a mutual listening in which everyone has something to learn, the lay faithful, the bishops, the Pope, all listening to one another, and all listening to the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth, in order to know what the Spirit is saying to the Church. This Synod is unprecedented because instead of being a one- month gathering of bishops in Rome it is a two-year synodal process for the entire People of God. All are invited and no one is to be excluded. It aims at giving the entire Church an experience of synodality. It's not about just filling in a questionnaire but gathering the fruits of what the Holy Spirit is saying to us here and now. The aim of the Synod is not just to talk about synodality but to put it into practice, starting now in every diocese, parish and country across the whole world. This week Bishop Nulty wrote to all the primary schools in the diocese and created an animated video for each class from 1st to 6th with a view to raising awareness and getting children involved in the process. Contact will be made with the schools again soon asking children lots of simple age appropriate questions about their faith, their parishes and the Church we are all part of. You can view the videos and find out more at www.ossorv.ie

**St Vincent De Paul Collection** will be taken up after all Masses this weekend, 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> February. Your kind donations will be greatly appreciated. **World Day of Prayer** on Fri 4<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in St Fiacre's Church. All welcome **Pastoral Council Meeting** will take place on Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre

# **Spring Cleaning**

During the storm raging on this Fri morning, I decided to spend time putting order on my papers and tried to tidy the table which was becoming like a little mountain. It took me ages! Coming across articles in magazines I hadn't read; trying to decide what to throw out and what to keep. I came across photos and these led me to reminisce and remember years that have passed. Needless to say, I found many things that I thought I had lost. You should see all the biros I have, and little notebooks. There is no excuse for me to forget anything. As time passes we accumulate and become hoarders. One of my friends threatens to come and sort my socks! Can you identify with this?

When the tidying is done it is like being able to see the wood from the trees. It is a good feeling to see some order on one's desk. Hopefully I will spring clean more often. Every day we priests read a prayer book called the Breviary. It contains Readings from Scripture and the Fathers of the Church and the psalms for morning, mid-day and evening prayer. The day is ended with Compline or Night Prayer. This way of praying each day is a wonderful help to keeping focused on the Lord and being aware of His presence. It enables me declutter my days so that I may remain focused on what is important and what is not. I wish you patience and perseverance in your Spring cleaning.

May it lead to more freedom, more space, more focus on the graces and blessings of each day, which we can miss or not be aware of because of our cluttered and busy lives. Lord, help me to live more simply in a more ordered and uncluttered life so that I may be better able to serve you, and my brothers and sisters. – *Fr Jim*