



**St. Columba's Church
Douglas**
021-489 4128 (Office)
087-261 7143

Sunday Mass
6 pm Vigil, Sun 9.30,
11.00



Douglas/Rochestown Parish

Sunday 8th November
2020

www.douglasrochestownparish.ie

**St. Patrick's Church
Rochestown**
021-489 6797
(Office)

Sunday Mass
Sun 11.00 and
12.30



DEATHS

The death took place of: **Anna Higgins**, Grange Park, beloved wife of the late James (Blondie) and loving mother of Edward, Anne, William, James, Catherine, Denis, Mary, Pauline, David and the late Margaret. May she rest in peace. Ar dheis lámh Dé go raibh sí.

News Desk

Lens of the Gospel 8 November 2020 • Prisoners' Sunday

1. While the parable has clear end-of-time applications it can also be applied to any moment of grace. It reminds us that moments of grace come unexpectedly, and we need to be awake to receive them. Recall times when you were alert for such a moment. What were the consequences for you?
2. Grace can also be disturbing. We can be coasting along in life and suddenly an opportunity or a graced moment arrives and we are shaken out of our routine in order to respond. Perhaps you can recall both moments when you were unprepared, and moments when you were able to respond. What lessons have you learned from such experiences?
3. We may be tempted to judge the wise virgins as being selfish for not sharing with the others, but perhaps Jesus is teaching us that there are some things that other people cannot provide for us. We have to acquire them ourselves. What qualities in life do you see as the essential oil that you must provide for yourself? **Intercom**

The Deep End 8 November 2020 • Prisoners' Sunday

The time is now

I am a procrastinator. If a task is awkward or unpleasant, I am likely to put it off till another day. In any given week, I have a 'to-do' list I need to get through. The most important items always get done – things that can't be avoided, like work deadlines or paying bills. But bigger projects often get put on the long finger and I find myself transferring items to the following week's list. It is part of life to learn how to prioritise, and to be prepared to tackle the important things. Even when we are not ready to face a certain situation, sometimes we need to push ourselves to just dive in.

Among the wedding customs in Jesus' time was a night-time procession from the bride's home to the grooms. The bridesmaids would go out with torches lit to welcome the groom and his entourage. The parable in today's gospel sets two groups in contrast – the 'foolish' bridesmaids who run out of oil because they have failed to prepare, and the 'sensible' ones who are ready with their lamps and oil, who recognise the importance of the task. Only one group was ready when the groom approached.

This parable encourages us to focus on the here and now, to nurture our relationship with God in the present and to live well. There is no point in procrastinating, or waiting until the bridegroom is at the door. As well as having the light of faith, we need the fuel – the actions – to keep it lit so we are ready when the Lord comes.

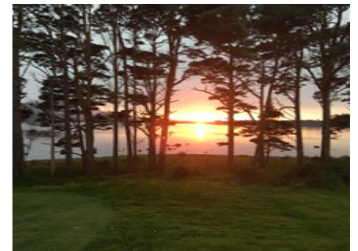
'It's a terrible thing, I think, in life to wait until you're ready. I have this feeling now that actually no one is ever ready to do anything. There is almost no such thing as ready. There is only now. And you may as well do it now. Generally speaking, now is as good a time as any.'
Hugh Laurie **Intercom**

Notices

PEOPLE'S BLESSING OF THEIR GRAVES

The month of November is nearly upon us and sadly due to Covid restrictions, our priests will not be able to hold the usual ceremonies of blessing of graves in the parish. However, the diocese has prepared a short prayer service for people who wish to visit and bless the graves of relatives or friends. Please see the link below.

<http://douglasrochestownparish.ie/.../Peoples-blessing-of...>



REMEMBERING

Everybody loves to be remembered. **But** if we want to be remembered, **We** have a duty also to remember.

Memory is a powerful thing. **Wrongly** used it can bring death rather than life.

Rightly used it is a form of immortality. It keeps the past alive. **Those** we remember never die. **They** continue to walk and talk with us. **Their** influence is still felt among us. There is nothing stronger or more helpful than a good remembrance.

Dear departed friends, We want you to know we haven't forgotten you.

We remember you. And your memory most definitely brings life to us today. **May** it also assure us of life for you, That eternal life Christ came on earth to give us.