



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

**Douglas/Rochestown
 Parish**

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



Sunday 19th Mar '23

Sunday Mass
 Sat Vigil 6.00pm
 Sun 9.30am & 11.00am

Sunday Mass
 Sun 11.00am &
 12.30pm

 **DouglasRochestownParish**

www.douglasrochestownparish.ie

BAPTISMS

We welcome to the Christian community the following who were baptised recently:

Alannah Fiona Lane, daughter of Danielle & Bert, Greenvalley, Donnybrook.

Patrick Jeremiah O'Brien, son of Úna, Belgard Downs

Orlaith Cora Corcoran, daughter of Emma & Eoghan, Broadale

Laoise May Conroy, daughter of Carol & John, Kilbrody

DEATHS

The death took place of: **Ann Horgan**, loving mother of David & Emma, Kiltegan.

May she rest in peace. Ar dheis lámh Dé go raibh sí.

NEWS DESK

Bishop Fintan has given approval for a **diocesan collection** to be taken up in support of people affected by the devastating **earthquakes in Turkey and Syria**. This will take place this weekend.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION DURING LENT: Thursdays, 7.30 to 8.30pm, 23rd, 30th March.
 6th April Holy Thursday, AFTER Mass of the Lord's Supper (MASS at 7.30pm).

NOTICES

MASS AND NOVENA PRAYERS for all who suffer from addictions, for the sick and for families begin at 7.30p.m. each Monday night in the Way of the Cross Church, Togher. Live streamed on www.churchservices.tv/togher

Speakers & Celebrants:

MON 20th MAR: Fr. Gerard Dunne O.P. Chaplain UCC; **MON 27th MAR:** Fr. Con Doherty MSC P.P Sacred Heart Parish; **MON 3rd APR:** Most Reverend Alphonsus Cullinan, Bishop Of Waterford and Lismore.

CORK FLOWER AND GARDEN CLUB would like to welcome Liam Grainger from Green Piece Nursery in Ballinhassig for a garden talk on **TUE 21st MAR** in [Garryduff Sports Centre](#) at 7.30. There will be a daffodil competition, and a selection of plants will be available for sale on the night. All visitors welcome.

LOURDES 2023 Launch & Information Evenings Wed 22nd MAR - 7.30pm SMA Community Centre Wilton Cork T12 AX94 Next to St Joseph's Church Wilton Fri March 24th 8.00pm email: lourdes@corkandcentre.org Tel. 085 25 25 040. Information evening will include a presentation about the diocesan pilgrimage including testimonies from young people who have already been to Lourdes with the diocesan pilgrimage and the experience of adults who have travelled as helpers.

NATIONAL COORDINATOR FOR MOTHERS PRAYERS ANNUAL WEEKEND - FRI 24th to SUN 26th MAR, St. John's Rest and Care Centre, Knock (No cover charge). You don't have to be a mother to attend and if you can come for a short time, please feel free to do so, this will bring many blessings. [Contact Marie 087 618 4110.](tel:0876184110)

FEAST DAYS WEEK COMMENCING 20 MARCH '23

MON 20th MAR '23 - ST. JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

The Blessing of St Joseph: *May the poverty of my sweet and suffering little Child be your riches. His sighs and His tears the consolation of your days. The love of His adorable Heart your earthly treasure, your all. And the clear vision of His adorable and glorified humanity be your eternal joy and recompense. Amen.*

Matthew describes Joseph as "a man of honour". When he learned of Mary's pregnancy, he had already chosen the option of mercy and compassion when he decided not to divorce her publicly, but following some kind of encounter with God ("the angel of the Lord") over the matter, he sensed God was asking him to take Mary into his home as wife, to treat the child as his own and to give him the divinely designated name, Jesus, thus indicating that "he would save his people from their sins" (Mt 1:18-21). Matthew's readers will understand this to mean that Jesus fulfils the function of the atonement sacrifices of the temple.

SAT 25th MAR '23 - THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD - The feast of the Annunciation, now recognized as a solemnity, was first celebrated in the fourth or fifth century. Its central focus is the Incarnation: God has become one of us. From all eternity God had decided that the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity should become human. Now, as Luke 1:26-38 tells us, the decision is being realized. The God-Man embraces all humanity, indeed all creation, to bring it to God in one great act of love. Because human beings have rejected God, Jesus will accept a life of suffering and an agonizing death: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13). Mary has an important role to play in God's plan. From all eternity, God destined her to be the mother of Jesus and closely related to him in the creation and redemption of the world. We could say that God's decrees of creation and redemption are joined in the decree of Incarnation. Because Mary is God's instrument in the Incarnation, she has a role to play with Jesus in creation and redemption. It is a God-given role. It is God's grace from beginning to end. Mary becomes the eminent figure she is only by God's grace. She is the empty space where God could act. Everything she is she owes to the Trinity. Mary is the virgin-mother who fulfills Isaiah 7:14 in a way that Isaiah could not have imagined. She is united with her son in carrying out the will of God (Psalm 40:8-9; Hebrews 10:7-9; Luke 1:38).

LENS OF THE GOSPEL

Fourth Sunday of Lent

• **Laetare Sunday**

A long story like the one we have today provides many different points of entry for prayer. Read the story and stay with what resonates with you. Some possible points of entry are:

The blind man was healed. Can you recall occasions when some blindness of yours was taken away and you could see in a new way? What was that experience like for you?

The Pharisees claimed to be the ones who could see, who knew where God was to be found, when in fact they were blind. It was the man born blind who showed himself open to see the hand of God at work in what happened. There can be some of each in us. What has helped you to be open to seeing the hand of God at work in your life? Who have been the Jesus people who have led you to this point?

The Pharisees seem to have had a collective blindness that blocked them from seeing what God was doing in Jesus. Perhaps in today's world you can see examples of collective blindness when people want to avoid an awkward truth, e.g. about the damage being done to our planet by human activity. There are many characters in the story: Jesus, the blind beggar, the disciples, the neighbours, the blind man's parents, and the Pharisees. Put yourself in the position of each one and see what you learn from identifying with them. Intercom.

To change the world we must be good to those who cannot repay us.

Pope Francis.