St. Columba's Church	Douglas/Rochestown	St. Patrick's Church
Douglas	Parish	Rochestown
021-489 4128 (Office)		021-489 6797
087-261 7143		(Office)
	Sunday 18th Jun '23	
Sunday Mass		**Sunday Mass**
Sat Vigil 6.00pm		Sun 11.00am &
Sun 9.30am & 11.00am		12.30pm
f DouglasRochestownParish	www.douglasrochestownparish.ie	

BAPTISMS

LENS OF THE GOSPEL

We welcome to the Christian community the following who were baptised recently:
Beau James Lynch, son of Shannon & Gerald, Australia & Mt. Oval, **Fionn John Freeley,** son of Ciara & David, Carmen Lawn, **Daithí Matt Moloney,** son of Margaret & David, Foxwood, **Cillian John O'Mahoney,** son of Elmagh & Thomas, Foxwood, **Ruby Margaret Devilly,** daughter of Hazel & Eoghan Yewlands, **Mila Elena Mikic,** daughter of Marko & Zuliane, Elm Drive.

NEWS DESK

DAY FOR LIFE 2023 - Ireland, England, Wales and Scotland Sunday 18th June 2023 Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Day for Life is celebrated this year on Sunday 18 June. The theme is 'Listen to Her' and focuses on the experience of one Catholic woman in the aftermath of abortion. It tells of her journey towards healing. The hope is that this will help people to listen, to understand and to respond with compassion.

The theme is **'Listen to Her'** and focuses on the experience of one Catholic woman in the aftermath of abortion. It tells of her journey towards healing. The hope is that this will help people to listen, to understand and to respond with compassion. You can read the message in full on www.councilforlife.ie

PAPAL MESSAGE FOR THE DAY FOR LIFE 2023 - *Pope Francis has kindly sent a message of encouragement for all who participate in the Day for Life. The message is as follows:*

The Holy Father Francis was informed of the **celebration of the 2023 Day for Life in Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales under the theme "Listen to Her"** and sends his greetings and good wishes to all the participants. In listening to Mary, our Mother, and following her example, he invites us to discover our personal call from God who is the source of our existence, reminding us that, "Each human being is called by God to enjoy the fullness of life; and, is entrusted to the maternal care of the Church. Every threat to human dignity and life cannot but have an effect on her heart, on her maternal 'womb'. To defend life is not an ideology for the Church. It is a reality; a human reality which involves all Christians, precisely because they are Christian and because they are human". (General Audience, 25 March 2020). With these sentiments in mind, I assure all who participate in this year's Day for Life of Pope Francis' prayers, particularly for all expectant mothers and their families. Through the intercession of the Mother of God, the Holy Father cordially imparts his Apostolic Blessing to all participants and invokes an abundance of Divine graces.

NOTICES

FEAST DAYS WEEK COMMENCING 19 JUN '23

MON 19th JUN - ST ROMUALD OF RAVENNA (950-1027), had a somewhat prickly temperament and seems to have found it hard to settle in a community. Perhaps that is what pushed him to combine the life of a hermit with that of a monastic community. Romuald was born into a noble family and seems to have lived a rather dissolute life until he saw his own father kill a relative in a dispute over property. He then entered the Benedictine monastery of the Cluniac reform at Sant'Apollinare-in-Classe near Ravenna and after studying the Desert Fathers he proposed a more austere way of life for the monks. Although not all were in agreement with him he was elected abbot, and his correction of less zealous monks was not always welcomed. So he himself soon left the monastery. He put himself under the direction of a hermit near Venice. From there he moved on to set up hermitages in different places in northern Italy and southern France.

SAT 24th JUN - THE NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST - This feast was observed on this date in the fourth century. It celebrates the birth of "the greatest of all the prophets, " the one who leapt for joy in his mother's womb, who prepared the way for, announced his presence of, and baptised Jesus in the Jordan River – And how Ireland, commemorates it! As the feast of Christmas christianised the celebration of the winter solstice with the theme of the "unconquered sun", so it would seem does the feast of the birth of John the Baptist – six months earlier – christianise the summer solstice celebration from traditional religions. Celtic folklore associated the themes of fire and water with this feast. There are many indications in Irish folklore that this feast, Féile Naomh Eoin, was until recently the occasion for a wide range of ritual practices and merrymaking beginning on the previous evening – St John's Eve. This was Oíche an Tine Chnáimh, "bonfire night", or Tine Féile Eoin, "St John's fire".

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus allowed himself to be touched by the needs of the crowd. When you are with people, what difference does it make to the way you relate to them when you have empathy with them? The commission Jesus gave the twelve 'to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness' is a reminder to us that we all have the capacity to be an influence for good in the lives of others. In this we continue the mission of Jesus (cf. St Teresa's Prayer). When have you experienced yourself as having a healing or life-giving influence on another person? Who has had that influence on you? At a first glance it might seem that Jesus made some bad choices in his twelve apostles. One will deny Jesus, another will betray him and others are only interested in who will be first. All of them will run away in the end. This reminds us that all kinds can share in the mission of Jesus, no matter how we see ourselves. The instructions Jesus gave the disciples before he sent them out have a note of urgency about them. What difference does it make for you when you approach a task with a sense of urgency? He also tells them their service should be 'without charge', keeping in mind what they have received without charge from God. Remember when you have received generous and undemanding love from another. **Intercom**.