



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

**Sunday 23rd Jun '24**

**Sunday Mass**  
 Sun 11.00am &  
 12.30pm

 **DouglasRochestownParish**

[www.douglasrochestownparish.ie](http://www.douglasrochestownparish.ie)

**DEATHS**

The deaths took place of the following: **Helen Hennessy**, Rochestown, Margaret (Peggy Dearly beloved wife of the late Dan and loving sister of Kathleen, Nellie and Lizzie. **Christine Murphy**, beloved wife of the late John (Matthew), and loving mother of Mark, Seán and Johanne. **Frank McCarthy**, Rochestown, beloved husband and best friend of Phil, adored brother of Judy and much-loved son of late Michael and Maureen McCarthy and uncle of the late Stephen Long. *May they rest in peace. Ar dheis lámh Dé go raibh siad.*

**SYMPATHY**

The sympathy of the parish community is extended to: **Therese Crowley**, Delford & **Pat Crowley**, Lime Trees Road East on the recent death of their father, **Michael Crowley**, Ballinlough.

**NEWS DESK**

**FINANCE** The Offertory Collection last Sunday: St. Columba's: €2431, St. Patrick's: €1217. Many thanks for your generosity. 2nd Collection Next Weekend - **Peter's Pence**

**NOTICES**

**FEAST DAYS WEEK COMMENCING 24 JUNE '24**

**MON 24 JUN - THE NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST** - The Feast of the Birth 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! **St John's fire; summer solstice in Irish folklore**. 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". A similar feast with similar summer solstice themes called the Ivan Kupala Day is celebrated in Poland, Russia, Lithuania, Belarus and Ukraine. In Ireland the tradition was that all the people of the locality - from the smallest children to the oldest men and women - would gather around the fire which was prepared from weeds in the fields. As the sun set, an elder would light the fire with the traditional prayer: "In the honour of God and St. John, to the fruitfulness and profit of our planting and our work, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."

**SAT 29 JUN - SAINTS PETER & PAUL (1st Century) apostles**. Today is the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, twin founders of the Church in Rome. It is the day traditionally considered in pagan Rome to be its foundation day by Romulus. Although Paul had occasion to stand up to Peter because he would not eat with Gentiles - *'I opposed him to his face, since he was manifestly in the wrong'* (Gal 2:11) - they are both jointly honoured on this feast. Today is a day when the Pope confers the pallium on all the archbishops whom he has appointed in the previous year. The conversion of St Paul is celebrated on 25th January. The name, Simon who is called Peter appears at the top of every list of the apostles in the gospels. When Jesus asked, 'Who do you say I am?' Simon made the supreme confession of faith - *'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the son of the living God'* (Mt 10:2-4 and 16:15-16). In character, Peter is impulsive and enthusiastic - wanting to make three tents at the transfiguration on the mountain (Mt 17:4), attempting to walk on the waters and then has to be rescued by Jesus when he begins to sink (Mt 14:29-31). He denied Jesus three times, as Jesus had foretold he would (Mt 26:69-75). Jesus, however, takes special care to reinstate Peter as leader after the resurrection, asking three times *"Do you love me?"* and telling him, *"Feed my sheep"* (Jn 21:15-17). The mysterious and providential character of Peter's (and perhaps everybody's) life comes out in the words Jesus then spoke according to John's gospel: *"I tell you most solemnly, when you were young you put on your own belt and walked where you liked; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and somebody else will put a belt round you and take you where you would rather not go"* (Jn 21:18).

At Pentecost Peter surprised the people in Jerusalem with the power of the words he spoke about Jesus's resurrection (Acts 2:40-41). Later he was imprisoned by Herod Agrippa, but had a miraculous escape (Acts 12:1-11). At Antioch, however, Peter gave into racial prejudice, declining to eat with the pagans, but Paul boldly corrected him. He tells us: *'I opposed him to his face, since he was manifestly in the wrong'* (Gal 2:11). Tradition has it that Peter came to Rome and was martyred under Nero around 64AD. The emperor Constantine built a basilica to house his tomb. The present (16th century) basilica is now on that same site. 20th century excavations discovered the tomb of Peter, though it is impossible to say the bones are his.

**LENS OF THE GOSPEL**

• **Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 23 June 2024**

*'The image of a boat in a stormy sea is a symbol of life in difficult times and is an image of the inner turmoil, anxiety and high emotions we then experience. Has your faith in the presence of the risen Jesus been a help to you? Recall the memory and give thanks.*

*The image can also be applied to a family, a community, a parish, or any other group. Perhaps a 'Jesus-person' in the group came to your assistance and calmed you down? Remember people who have had a gift of bringing you peace in troubled situations.*

*The significance of miracles in the gospels is that they show Jesus as one who brings God's power to bear on human need and suffering. Have there been times when you have been a channel for this healing power of God, holding a crying child in your arms, calming the anxiety of a friend, or being a peacemaker in a group to which you belong? Intercom.*