



## Parish of Killavullen and Annakisha

### Third Week of Easter (April 26-May 3, 2020)

20.16



#### **Third Sunday of Easter – Liturgy of the Word**

**First Reading:** Peter announces the Good News, with the added authority of the other apostles: God's love for us has been shown, once and for all, through raising Jesus from the dead. His resurrection is our hope that all that is dark and evil in our world can be overcome.

**Responsorial Psalm:** A prayer of trust in God's love. God shows us the "path of life", one that leads to true happiness.

**Second Reading:** The self-sacrifice of Jesus was the "ransom" that bought our freedom from sin and death.

**Gospel:** The story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus has three of the favourite themes from the Gospel of St. Luke.

1. *Pilgrimage:* Life is like a journey to a sacred destination (Christianity is known as "The Way" in the writings of St. Luke). It's a journey made with others. Jesus walks with us, a companion, though his presence is not easily recognised.

2. *Surprised by Joy:* Though we have every reason to feel "downcast", like the two disciples, our divine friend surprises us with joy. What seemed like a disappointment has actually turned out to be Good News. Like the woman with the lost coin (Lk 15:8-10) or the prodigal son who found his way home (Lk 15:21-24); or the poor shepherds in the fields (Lk 2:8-20), the hearts of those who have had their hopes dashed can once again burn with faith, hope and love. The Good News, once received, is meant to be shared with others.

3. *Table Fellowship:* Mealtime has a sacred significance in the Gospel of Luke, with at least ten stories concluding with a meal hosted by or for Jesus. Some of the episodes are unique to Luke such as that of Zacchaeus (Lk 19:1-8) It was when they gathered together for the "breaking of bread" that the disciples recognised the risen Lord, with them, though "vanished from our sight."

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**Bon Mot:** *At cool of day, with God I walk, my garden's grateful shade. I hear his voice among the trees and I am not afraid.*

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At this time Catholics are dispensed from the obligation to physically attend Sunday Mass. Masses are live-streamed from larger churches around the country, especially at, [www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv) including, St. Mary's Church, Mallow <https://www.churchservices.tv/mallow>

**Killavullen Church** is open for personal visits during daylight hours. The **parish office** at Ballygriffin is open. Contact details are printed in the footer below. **This newsletter**, together with other ideas for prayer and spirituality are emailed to parishioners each week. If you know of someone who would like to be added to the email database please let me know at: [parishofkillavullen@gmail.com](mailto:parishofkillavullen@gmail.com)

**Mass is celebrated** privately each day in the parish office or one of the parish's churches. Your intentions are united with my own in a spiritual communion around the Table of the Lord.

**May they rest in God's embrace:** *Anniversaries:* Marie Flynn.

**Cork County Council** is coordinating COVID19 service in our area.

If you have any need in relation to the crisis freephone: 1800 805 819 or email [covidsupport@corkcoco.ie](mailto:covidsupport@corkcoco.ie) or text (085) 8709010.

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*From the Covid19 diary of Séamus Aherne, an Augustinian priest:*

"Niall Murphy (Belfast solicitor in his forties) was on 'Morning Ireland' (Wednesday). He described his experience of Covid 19. He had spent 16 days in an induced coma. His prospects were 50/50. He has now got home. The reality is very striking. If a young man like that, was struck down; it can happen any of us. We have to take care of each other.

What has been good in these days? The weather. Living with quietness and silence. More exercise than I would ever take (2 hours daily). Hearing the birds. The flowers dancing. Leaving windows open. No alarm on. Tidying up the house. Seeing the helpers and the shoppers. A new respect for the front-line people. Reflection. Some reading. The value of work structure.

What has been rough? Eating alone for five weeks. (I know many have to). But I find that eating, needs companionship. Like Mass, it is social. It is community. It cannot be detached or passive. It cannot be solitary. The days seem endless. I begin to forget what day it is. Not meeting people in the homes or in the school. The aloneness. Everything that usually shaped my life has evaporated."