



Parish of Killavullen and Annakisha

Sixth Week of Easter (May 17-23, 2020)

20.19



Sixth Sunday of Easter – Liturgy of the Word

1st Reading: Philip, one of the Twelve Apostles, goes to a town in Samaria to share the Good News. There is a telling line in this reading: the people believed in Jesus not so much because of Philip's preaching, but on the basis of their own experience. Faith should be based on our own sight of God's love rather than the words of others.

Psalms: It is natural to praise God when we see great things happening.

Second Reading: Peter asks that we should be able to give reasons for our hope. Then, as now, the Christian faith faces many hostile forces: always be courteous to those who do not share your beliefs.

Gospel: Today's Gospel prepares us for the next weeks' feasts of the Ascension and Pentecost. Jesus tells his disciples that he would no longer be physically present. Instead, his Spirit would remind us of his real-but-invisible presence and be our *advocate*. That same relationship with the Father that Jesus had because of their Spirit, we now possess in the same Spirit. Advocates are those who speak up for others: as disciples of Jesus we are invited to stand up for the poor and the sick and to act on their behalf? The Spirit is also our *comforter*, who never abandons us, but reassures us of God's presence. We ask God to comfort the sick, give strength to their advocates and to support us all in our daily lives as we manage the long-road of the Covid-19 crisis.

May they rest in God's embrace: *Anniversaries:* Catherine Hegarty;

Church Reopening: Both Annakisha and Killavullen Churches are open during daytime hours for private visits. Group gatherings will begin again from mid-July (according to government's roadmap). Please observe best hygiene practices before and after visiting the churches and its grounds and keep physical distance from anyone you happen to meet.

The **parish office** at Ballygriffin is open. **Mass is celebrated** privately each day at the parish office or in one of the parish's churches and includes your intentions. **This newsletter**, together with other reflections are emailed to parishioners each week. Contact parishofkillavullen@gmail.com if you know of someone who would like to be included on the list.

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

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 or text (085) 8709010.

Accord, the Catholic Marriage Support agency, has opened a relationships support phone-line, for this time when family tensions have been made worse by the Covid-19 restrictions. If you would like to speak to someone in confidence call: 01-5313331 or 01-9059555

Give us this Day is resource for personal prayer published by Liturgical Press, Collegeville, Minnesota. It contains texts for a Morning and Evening Prayer, for Mass with daily reflections, a commentary on Scriptures, as well as prayers, hymns and colour images. The GUTD app is available by searching for *Give Us This Day* at the Apple and Google stores in you Apple/Android device. These beautifully presented resources for daily prayer and reflection are normally (in non-pandemic times) available as a printed booklet. The app is currently available free of charge for a 60-day trial. To download a PDF version of the current booklet: visit www.giveusthisday.org or GUTD.net and select 'Digital' in the upper right hand corner of the screen. Then download the full PDF colour edition on the right-hand side of the browser.

Maintenance Issues: Work will shortly commence on the sacristy and meeting room window at Killavullen Church. The timber sashes will be removed for repair and replacement with clear and insulated glazing. At Annakisha the window openings will be housed in stainless-steel mesh frames to prevent avian intruders. Sorry, swallows, you will soon have to say your prayers outdoors!

Bon Mot: Vitality shows in not only the ability to persist, but the ability to start over.