



Parish of Killavullen and Annakisha

Second Week of Ordinary Time (January 17-24, 2021)

21.3



Second Sunday of the Year: *Answering God's Call –each of us is called by name in the depths of our being.*

1st Reading: Young Samuel was assisting Eli at the Temple, when God spoke to him. But it took some time for Samuel to hear the voice of the Lord. God's voice only be heard if we care to listen.

Psalms 39: Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

2nd Reading: St Paul writes about the dignity of our bodies; they are temples of God's Spirit. We honour God by taking good care of ourselves and avoiding sin.

Gospel: Jesus calls the first disciples. Having taken up his invitation to "Come and see" they recognise him not just as another holy man but as the Messiah / Christ. He is able to recognise who they really are, beginning with Simon Peter. This process is known as *discernment* - finding our place in God's kingdom, by the everyday choices we make as well as the bigger decisions. May we have the courage of Samuel and the apostles in taking up the call to holiness.

Fallen asleep in the Lord: *Anniversaries:* Alice Tobin; David Mellerick (Gurranachole); Lena Mellerick (Killavullen).

Recent passing: Seán Hannon (Doneraile) – Seán will be fondly remembered for his kindness in his role as an undertaker in our area.

Fr Paddy O'Connell CSsR (Limerick and Annakisha) Fr Paddy was known for his pastoral work with Ireland's Filipino community and his parish missions.

Level 5 Restrictions have been imposed on Church activities until January 31, when a review of the situation is expected. In the meantime, Mass will continue to be offered privately for your intentions each day. Churches remain open for personal visits, but group worship is only permitted for Baptisms (immediate family only); Weddings (6 guests) and Funerals (ten mourners only).

When making a private or household visit to the church, please sanitize your hands on entering and exiting the building and wear a face mask at all times.

Mass is broadcast live every day at RTE NewsNow TV at 10.30am. On every second Sunday, Mass is broadcast at 11.00am on RTE TV One; on the other Sunday it is found on RTE NewsNow at 2.15pm. The readings of the day are found at the parish website: www.killavullenparish.ie

Bon Mot: *Forgiveness is better than revenge.*

Nano Nagle Birthplace is offering two new six-week programs online:

1. *Pondering on Life*, is based on Jan Richardson's writings on the idea of *Sanctuary*. Each session will be for 60-90 minutes on Thursdays at 7.30pm beginning on January 21.

2. *Mary of Nazareth perspectives on Our Lady* will be held for 40 minutes for each session from 2.30pm on Tuesdays beginning on January 26.

Both programs will be led by Sr Lois Greene pbvm, the new director of Nano Nagle Birthplace. Sr Lois is from Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada and has been involved in Campus Ministry and retreat and conference teams in Canada, Pakistan, USA and now in Ireland.

To register for either course please contact secretary@nanonaglebirthplace.ie and you will be sent the link for the Zoom connection. For further details see the notice on church notice-boards.

Parish Pastoral Council: If you are self-isolating and need help with picking up shopping, a friendly phone-call posting mail or urgent supplies then call the parish office (022-46578) and a local member of the pastoral council will contact you to assist.

Sincere thanks to all who have kept up their contributions to the parish in this time of hibernation. Weekly Offerings can be given at the Parish Office.

The mother and babies home report, published this week, provides shocking insight into a time when the dignity of human life was not respected in institutions funded by the State and, in most cases, organized by the Church. The social and religious outlook of the time was harsh and moralistic, lacking in the compassion that is at the heart of the Gospel. The report points to the economic poverty that was part of Irish life in the middle part of the 20th century. Families, Church and State did not have the means to honour their responsibilities to babies and their mothers. Thank God, we live in wealthier and more compassionate times. But in what respects might future generations question our shortcomings? The protection of life in the womb and the welcome for refugees in our society are just two areas in which we need to continue to examine our collective conscience. (GC)