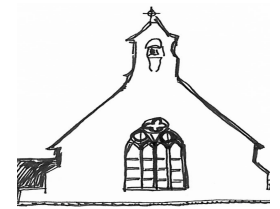


Parish of Killavullen and Annakisha

Second Week of Lent (February 28 – March 6, 2021)

21.9



Second Sunday of Lent: *The mystery of God.*

1st Reading: The Bible usually imagines God as loving and kind, but the demand that Abraham sacrifice Isaac, his only son, seems vindictive and cruel. The request reflects the belief the “God’s ways are beyond our ways.” (The traditional term for this is the *inscrutability* of God). We cannot understand God, but we can appreciate Abraham’s strong faith, even in the face of personal disaster. The story highlights his acceptance of God’s will, even if its demands are tough and unreasonable. The outcome is a new covenant between God and humanity.

Psalms 115: A prayer that we put our trust in the Lord at all times.

2nd Reading: “God did not spare his own Son.” In the Jesus-story, God is in the role of Abraham, allowing the self-offering of his only Son. God allowed this to happen to bring about a new covenant with all of creation.

Gospel: Jesus climbs a high mountain with the three disciples (Peter, James and John) who would be with him in the Garden of Gethsemane. His unique role in the history of salvation is affirmed by the presence of Moses and Elijah, twin pillars of the Old Testament. The light of God’s glory shines from within Jesus. Those who suffer with Jesus in his agony will also see his glory.

Fallen asleep in the Lord: *Anniversaries:* Anne Flynn (Monanimy and Rahan). Gerard Owens (Monanimy).

Level 5 Restrictions have been imposed on Church activities, with a reopening not expected until early April. Mass is offered privately for your intentions each day. Churches remain open for personal visits, but group worship is only permitted with limited groups for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. 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 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

Sincere thanks to all who have kept up their contributions to the parish in this time of restricted activity for the Church. Weekly Offerings and donations to the Buildings Fund can be given at the Parish Office.

Trócaire Lenten Boxes are available at church doors. This year’s campaign features the story of South Sudan, and of two courageous and generous women, Awut and Ajax, who helped each other in time of war.

Visit: www.killavullenparish.ie Fr. Gerard Condon PP. Tel.: 022-46578; Email: parishofkillavullen@gmail.com

“Lent is a humble descent both inwards and towards others. It is about realizing that salvation is not an ascent to glory, but a descent in love.” - Pope Francis, Ash Wednesday 2021

Catholic Bishops welcome the Roll-Out of Vaccines against Covid 19.

In a statement issued last Thursday, the Bishops’ Council for Healthcare said that “safe and effective vaccination is an essential aspect of the prevention of disease”. They encouraged Catholics to support the programme of vaccination “not only for their own good, but for the protection of life and the health of those who are vulnerable and for the common good of humanity”. The Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith made a similar call to all Catholics in its Note on the morality of Covid-19 vaccines (21 December 2020). The Bishops urge “everyone to support the vaccination programmes currently in place” on the island of Ireland. They said, “The development and provision of the vaccines is already providing reassurance for those who are most vulnerable to the virus and will help us to return to normality in terms of work, education, religious practice, and sporting and leisure activities as soon as possible.” “We note that many people both North and South have already received the vaccine and we particularly welcome the fact that all residents and staff of nursing care facilities have been vaccinated at this stage.”

Tax Refund (CHY3) Scheme: This week I will write to parishioners who contributed more than €250 to the parish in 2020 (through the boxes of mini-envelopes), inviting them to take part in the Tax Rebate Scheme of the Revenue Commissioners. This allows the parish to claim any taxes paid on donations to our parish, which is registered as a charity. Any benefit from the scheme is for the maintenance and repairs to our churches. *Those who have previously signed the CHY3 form need not do so again as it is valid for five years.* Thank you for your generosity to your parish.

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Bon Mot: Seventy percent of success in life is showing up. (Eritrean proverb)

please take this bulletin home.