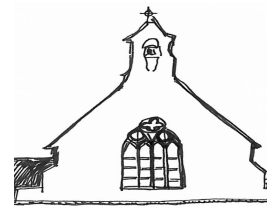


## Parish of Killavullen and Annakisha

### Fourth Week of Lent (March 14-20, 2021)

21.11



#### **Fourth Sunday of Lent:** *Christ the Redeemer.*

*1<sup>st</sup> Reading:* The Book of Chronicles links the destruction of Jerusalem and Judah in 587BC to the people's abandoning God and the teaching of the prophets. The entire population of Jerusalem was deported to Babylon where they became slaves. In 538 the Persians conquered Babylon. The Persian ruler, Cyrus allowed the people to return to Israel and rebuild the temple.

*Psalms 136:* A song of lament and sorrow from the captivity in Babylon.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:* God's love has been revealed to us in Christ. He was sent to repair our broken world.

*Gospel:* The cross expresses our suffering and death; but, because of Christ's resurrection it has become a symbol of hope to all who believe in him. The followers of Jesus are, like him, people of light and truth.

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**Fallen asleep in the Lord:** *Died this week:* Billy Magner (Main street, Killavullen); *Anniversaries:* Michael Foley.

**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.

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**Sunday Mass from the Parish Office at Ballygriffin is live-cast via Zoom each Sunday at 10.00am.** A link to the Zoom meeting has been sent to all parishioners who are on the parish email list. It is also available in the "Events" or "Calendar" section of [www.killavullenparish.ie](http://www.killavullenparish.ie). The call is hosted by Paul Murray. Fiona Hannon, the director of the parish choir, is the soloist.

**Beidh aifreann Lá fhéile Pádraig craolta (Céadaoin, 17ú Márta) via Zoom ag 10.00am.** Mass for the feast of our national patron will be celebrated over a Zoom call next Wednesday. The link will be found in the parish website

**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](http://www.killavullenparish.ie)

**BonMot:** The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn.

**At their online Spring meeting, the Catholic Bishops** issued a statement (9.3.21) asking the government that people's freedom to worship publicly should be restored as soon as the current restrictions begin to be eased. "It is particularly painful for Christians to be deprived, for the second year running, of the public expression of our faith during the most sacred time of Holy Week and Easter. This is especially true given that it has been clearly demonstrated that church buildings are among the safest places for people to gather. We also re-emphasise that the ongoing severe restrictions on attendance at Funeral Masses (currently limited to ten) are causing untold grief to many families."

"Throughout this time of pandemic the approach of the Church has been firmly grounded in the protection of health and life and in the promotion of the Common Good. We recognise that strong restrictions are necessary in times of grave threat to public health. However, such restrictions on personal freedom should be proportionate and for the shortest time possible. Consideration must also be given to people's mental, spiritual and emotional wellbeing. For people of faith, gathering for worship is fundamental to their identity and to their spiritual lives."

The bishops argue for a reopening of Churches for Easter "albeit in a limited and safe way". This "would contribute greatly to giving a sense of hope and consolation to many in the Church – in line with the central message of Easter. These measures would be a substantial support to the wellbeing of individuals and parish communities, and ultimately serve the Common Good of all."

**Parish Finances:** Weekly Offerings, Lent Station Offerings and donations to the Parish Buildings' Fund can be given at the Parish Office at your convenience. Please consider becoming a registered household if you have not already taken this step. Registration forms are available from the parish office or at church doors. Thank you.

#### **Morning Prayer:**

Éirim suas le Dia, go n-éirí Dia liom.

Lámh Dé i mo thimpeall,

ag suí, is ag luí, is ag éirí dom. Áiméan.