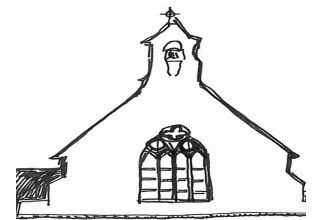


Parish of Killavullen and Annakisha

Fifth Week of Lent (March 21-27, 2021)

21.12



Fifth Sunday of Lent: *The Lord's comes to our help.*

1st Reading: The Book of Jeremiah was written just before the destruction of Jerusalem in the Sixth Century BC. Despite the appeal of the prophet, the people had turned their back on God and would pay the consequences. Jeremiah anticipated a new covenant when God would reach out to help people keep their promises. God's love is planted within us, prompting us to on our spiritual path.

Psalms 50: We ask God for sincerity of heart.

2nd Reading: Our prayers are heard because Christ stands besides us.

Gospel: Jesus compares himself to the grain of wheat planted in the earth that itself dies so that there can be new life. His self-sacrifice made a new covenant with God and brought new life to all people and forever. We follow his example by remembering not to become excessively attached to this world.

Level 5 Restrictions have been imposed on Church activities, with a possible limited reopening expected after April 5. Mass is offered privately for your intentions each day. Churches remain open for personal visits, but group worship is only permitted with limited numbers 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.

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. The call is hosted by Paul Murray. Fiona Hannon, the director of the parish choir, is the soloist.

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

Mass for today (March 21) will be broadcast from the RTE studios at 11.00am with the prior of Lough Derg, Msgr La Flynn along with the Lough Derg pastoral and music teams.

Parish Finances: Weekly Offerings, Lent Station Offerings and donations to the Parish Buildings' Fund can be given at the Parish Office at your convenience.

BonMot: Open your ears before you open your mouth.

(seanfhocal equivalent- *is minic a bhris béal duine a shrón.*)

2021 – Dedicated to St Joseph, guardian of the Holy Family.

On December 8 last Pope Francis announced that 2021 would be a Year of Saint Joseph, in honor of the 150th anniversary of the saint's proclamation as patron of the Universal Church on December 8, 1870. Pope Francis said the coronavirus pandemic has heightened his desire to reflect on Saint Joseph, as so many people during the pandemic have made **hidden sacrifices to protect others**, just as Saint Joseph **quietly** protected and cared for Mary and Jesus. "Each of us can discover in Joseph — the man who goes **unnoticed**, a daily, discreet and hidden presence — an intercessor, a support and **a guide in times of trouble**," the pope wrote.

He also said he wanted to highlight St. Joseph's role as a father who **served** his family with **charity** and **humility**, adding, "Our world today needs fathers."

Pope Francis said he was establishing the year so that "every member of the faithful, following St Joseph's example, may **strengthen** their life of faith **daily** in the complete fulfilment of God's will."

On the desk of his modest apartment at the Vatican, Pope Francis has a small statue of St Joseph asleep - the same statue he has had with him for decades. The figure reminds him, each night at bedtime, to hand over his responsibilities to the grace and mercy of God. The Gospel of Matthew tells us that it was while he slept that St Joseph was most open to the Lord's guidance and direction.

Prayer of Pope Francis to St Joseph

Hail Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
In you Mary placed her trust;
With you Christ became man
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
Show yourself a father
And guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace,
mercy and courage,
And defend us from every evil. Amen.



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

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