

Reflection ..

One of the moving images that stays with me from the recent papal visit to Iraq is of Pope Francis sitting in his car quietly contemplating the ruins of a church near Mosul, where Christian minorities had been attacked by Islamic State in 2014. It gives us a tiny glimpse of what it must have meant to the people described in this Sunday's first reading to see their city of Jerusalem overrun by the Babylonians, their Temple defiled and destroyed, and their civic and religious leaders carried off to captivity. It must have seemed as if their whole world had ended, and yet this time in captivity led to a deepening of their faith. Our whole social, cultural, political and religious life has suffered its own form of captivity to an invisible virus for exactly twelve months now, and we know that people are 'tired'. We have been compliant, patient and resilient, and that will stand to us. After all they have been through in recent years, we can only imagine what it must have meant to the Christian communities and to the people of Iraq as a whole to have the Pope visit the original home of Abraham at this time. Lent is a journey towards Easter, which we travel in faith, hope and solidarity.

.... Fr. Richard

Mass Intentions for the coming week

Sat.	13th	6.00pm	Joanna Heslin (A) William & Nellie Scott (A)
Sun.	14th	11.00am	John McGuill (A)
Wed.	17th	10.30am	St Patrick's Day

Pray for Recently deceased ,,,
Isabel Quinn Glasnevin/ Finglas

We thank parishioners for your generous contributions to the **First and Second Collections** and to the **Family Offering**. A 'Donate' button on the parish website www.ionaroadparish.ie can also be used for regular contributions.

Boxes of envelopes have gone out in the past few weeks to households who support the **Family Offering** (the only collection which directly funds the work of the parish). If you have not received a box and would like to support the parish in this way, please contact Sheila in the parish office, and she will get a box of envelopes delivered to you.

Items for the Parish Link can be e-mailed to parishlink@gmail.com or dropped into the Parish Office. A contact name and phone number is required for each item.

Ph: 8308257 or email ionaroadparish@gmail.com
St. Columba's Parish website : www.ionaroadparish.ie



PARISH



LINK

Issue No 28/10

Parish of St. Columba

14th March 2021

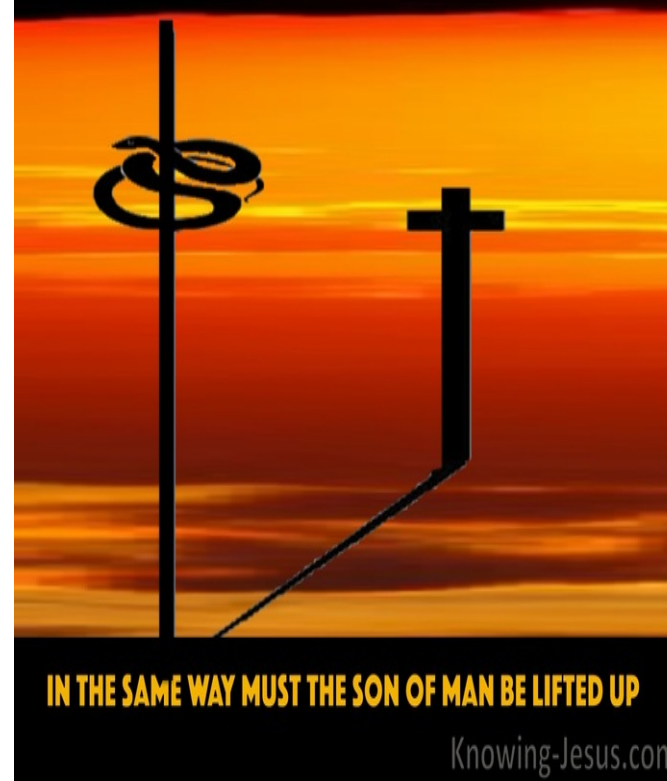
God sent his Son into the world so that through him the world might be saved.

The fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called *Laetare* Sunday.

Laetare is a Latin word that means "rejoice."

Traditionally, Sundays are named after the first word of the liturgy's opening antiphon. On this Sunday, the antiphon is taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 66:10-11). Even as we observe our Lenten sacrifices, we rejoice in anticipation of the joy that will be ours at Easter.

AS MOSES LIFTED UP THE SERPENT IN THE WILDERNESS



Mission Statement: St. Columba's parish is a vibrant and welcoming community of faith, continuing to give practical witness to the Good News of Christ, through worship and reflection, and through Christian service to the community.

The Glasnevin Grouping of Parishes presents:

'Living in Unsettling Times: Reflections for the Time and Season'.

A series of online reflections by Fr. Paddy Sweeney each Thursday at 7.30pm.

The weekly reflections can be accessed on webcam from each of the five parishes in turn.

Thursday 18th March:

St. Columba's, Iona Road: www.ionaroadparish.ie

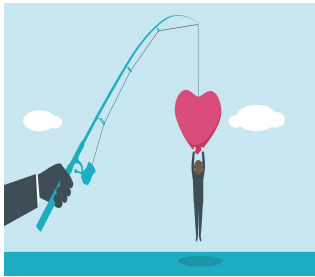
'Will we get back to normal?'

Thursday 25th March:

Corpus Christi, Drumcondra:

www.corpuschristidrumcondra.ie

'I haven't much to offer!'



A number of worthwhile initiatives for Lent can be accessed online from the Lent 2021 section of the diocesan website www.dublindiocese.ie including:

LET'S LIVE LENT - BRINGING THE LENTEN GOSPELS TO LIFE

Join us for Pastoral Conversations

March 16th - Seeds of Hope

Presented by a team from the Office for Evangelisation and the Liturgy Resource

Centre. To book, email lisia.cashen@dublindiocese.ie



Acts of Love for Lent – a practical suggestion for each day of Lent from Bonnybrook parish

Lent on Line (LOL) – on each day of Lent, families from around the diocese, including our parish, offer a two minute reflection on what Lent means to them, posted at 8am each day.



**GARDINER STREET PARISH -
NOVENA OF GRACE 2021: LET US DREAM**

The Novena of Grace is going ahead as usual from 4th March 2021. This year we will have one evening Mass online at 7.30pm. During Lockdown Pope Francis has invited us to dream ...what have we learned from this pandemic and what kind of people can we be after it? Our

preachers; Fr. John Callanan SJ, Dr. Jessie Rogers and Fr. Ashley Evans SJ, will help us understand our lockdown experience and prepare us for the future. To join the Novena: Connect to online Masses at 7.30pm nightly via our website: www.gardinerstparish.ie A booklet with the readings for each day, the Novena prayer and hymn, available in the Parish Office. To order a copy, Tel. 01-836 3411 or email: SFXgardinerstreetparish@outlook.com

Sunday and weekday Masses are accessible on webcam (accessed through the front page of the parish website: www.ionaroadparish.ie and are recorded for later viewing. The church remains open each day from 11.00am-3.00pm for private prayer.

The website for each of the churches in the Glasnevin Grouping is as follows:

Iona Rd. webcam (www.ionaroadparish.ie)

Monastery of St Alphonsus webcam (www.rednuns.com)

Our Lady of Victories Ballymun Rd webcam (www.olv.ie)

Our Lady of Dolour's Glasnevin webcam (www.glasnevinparish.ie)

Out Mother of Divine Grace Ballygall webcam (www.ballygallparish.ie)

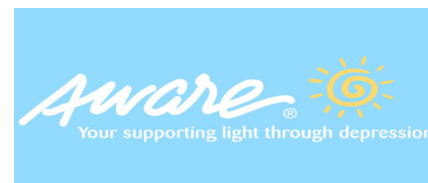
Corpus Christi, Drumcondra (www.corpuschristidrumcondra.ie.)

Our weekly Zoom meeting to read and reflect together on the readings for the following Sunday is now on Fridays at 7.30pm to facilitate parishioners participating in Fr. Paddy Sweeney's reflections on Thursday evenings. Our shared reading of the Sunday readings may be of particular interest to Ministers of the Word or members of parish liturgy groups. Provide the parish with your email address, and a link to the meeting will be sent to you each week.

Ministers of the Word or members of parish liturgy groups. Provide the parish with your email address, and a link to the meeting will be sent to you each week.

Aware - Support & Self Care Groups

If you, or those with whom you work wish to connect with people in relation to your mental wellbeing, please consider using the Phone In and Zoom of our services on www.aware.ie



Trocaire Lenten Campaign 2021

This year Trocaire's Lenten Campaign will focus on exploring the Impact of Conflict on Families in South Sudan. This Lent, we learn more about the suffering of people who have lost their homes and loved ones to war, and how they are rebuilding their lives through love, friendship and solidarity. Parish resources are now available at Parishes - Resources | Trocaire (trocaire.org)

Trocaire's Lenten Campaign BOXES are available

at the back of the church

The **Office of Evangelisation and Ecumenism** is offering two spring webinars.

1. The relationship between **spirituality and work**, which is aimed at all those who are getting used to new ways of working in these Covid times on 18th March at 7.00pm.

2. An opportunity for **Parish Pastoral Councils** to explore what are the needs and concerns emerging in parish life and ways to appropriately pastorally respond by walking together in these changing times. Ideal for new members on 25th March at 7.00pm.

These webinars will be led by the Pastoral Coordinators Patricia Carroll and Gerard Gallagher
To book email evangelisation@dublindiocese.ie and indicate which you will attend, or both.