

## **‘A Thought for Thursdays’ – Scripture Readings, Reflection and Prayers**

**(Starting Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> November at 2.30pm Online from**

**[www.portmarnockparish.ie](http://www.portmarnockparish.ie))**

### **Welcome**

### **Introductory Prayer**

Spirit of life and love,  
we gather together in different ways this morning/afternoon/evening,  
from computer screens, from tablets, from telephones;  
we gather, reaching out across the wires, waving from a safe distance,  
to come together in religious community.  
From living room to front porch to car seat,  
we gather as we are able,  
ready to be of service to each other, to the world,  
ready to build the community of hope and of love,  
as we face this morning/afternoon/evening.  
We are apart, but we are together,  
offering our love, our commitment,  
our hope and our prayers  
in service to one another and this world.  
It is a new way, but an old way,  
that we come together in worship today.

(Rev. Dr. Cynthia Landrum)

### **Scripture Readings and Reflection**

**(including A Thought to Take with us)**

#### **Pope Francis Prayer to Mary for Protection against Corona Virus**

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee,  
joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will  
and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself,  
and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the

Resurrection. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – but deliver us from every  
danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

### **(For the Month of November only)**

O Lord, we praise and thank you for the gift of our loved ones who have died and whom we remember during this month of November. In particular, we bring to mind those who have died during these past eight months; those who died from COVID-19, those who died from other natural causes and those who died tragically.

We thank you, compassionate God for walking with us in all the dark moments of our grief and loneliness. Even when we find it hard to see you, we know and trust that you walk beside us, and in the Resurrection of Christ, Your Son, the victory of love in Jesus Our Lord, you give us a reason for living; a reason for hoping. Lord, continue to be a light for us, giving us direction and courage in this difficult time.

May we live our lives treasuring the memories of those precious ones we have known and loved. We trust Lord that you are treasuring them with us. Help us, Lord, to bring light and hope to others. We make this our prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

**Blessing.**