



St Sylvester's Parish Newsletter

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Solemnity of Christ the King

Website: www.malahideparish.ie

22nd November 2020

****WEBCAM:** At the request of the PPC, the Building Committee with the agreement of the Finance Committee are arranging to soon have a webcam in St Sylvester's church

A DIFFERENT SORT OF KING by Jane Mellett

Today's gospel leaves us in no doubt as to what Jesus expects of his followers. It is a gospel of contrasts. It begins with a scene of judgement, with Jesus in the role of king, sitting on the throne of glory. It would have been a familiar image to the people of the time, who were expecting a great Messianic king. In the time of Jesus, kings were powerful rulers, and some were tyrants. We know from earlier in Matthew's Gospel that kings like Herod were capable of brutal acts. It is an image that remains familiar to us today, thanks to popular fairy tales, movies and TV shows – the all-powerful ruler sitting on their throne, passing judgement on their subjects. But the king that Jesus talks about here turns these images upside down. He is not focused on riches or power, or inciting terror or fear. Instead, he is a fair judge, a shepherd who knows his flock. He invites all those who have acted with justice and generosity to take their place in his kingdom. He is in solidarity with the 'least' of his people – a king whose main concern is those who are hungry, displaced, sick or imprisoned. He refers to them as 'brothers'. Jesus' kingdom is centred around charity, compassion and forgiveness. He expects us to treat everyone we encounter with welcome. There are simple acts of kindness we can carry out each day. Such love for others is love for God: 'In so far as you did this to the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me.'

'In the evening of life, we shall be judged on love.' St John of the Cross

PARISH OFFICE can be contacted Mon - Fri 10:00am - 12:30pm. by phone 01 845 1244 or e-mail: stsylvesters@malahideparish.ie

MASS CARDS can be ordered by contacting the office by phone or e-mail. If you leave your name and contact number, we will call you back. We can take a card payment over the phone and post your Cards to you. Please allow a day or two for us to get back to you. Individual Mass Cards €10 (incl. postage). Shared Mass Cards €3 (plus €1 for postage). Other Mass Cards that are available include Anniversary, Birthday, Thank you, Get Well, Special Intention and Wedding Anniversary. Christmas Mass Cards are also available.

NEW PARISH WEBSITE IN JANUARY

SEE CURRENT WEBSITE FOR A PREVIEW OF THE NEW PARISH WEBSITE

Arrangements for Level 5 Covid-19 Directives

- **Sunday & Weekday Masses Suspended**
At Levels 3, 4 & 5 Covid-19 restrictions, all public Masses and Services of Worship are suspended except weddings and funerals.
- **Sunday Masses on Webcam in the Parish Cluster**
While Dublin is at Level 3, online Sunday Masses will be available locally in Yellow Walls Church on Saturdays at 6:00pm and on Sundays, a Family Mass, at 10:00am. Go to www.yellowwallsparish.ie. There is also Mass on Sundays at 11:00am in Portmarnock Parish. Go to www.portmarnockparish.ie.
- **Weekday Masses on Webcam in the Parish Cluster**
Online weekday Mass will **ALWAYS** happen at level 3 - 5 from Yellow Walls parish at 10:00am from Monday to Friday. Mass also at 10.00am Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri from Portmarnock. This online Mass may not always take place.
- **Other Online Weekday Masses**
Weekday Mass is available at 10:30am in the Pro-Cathedral www.procathedral.ie and on the RTÉ News Now channel **Thought for Thursdays*** at 2.30pm Mary Kirk will offer some reflections on Scripture and prayer by webcam from St. Anne's Portmarnock. Please join us by logging onto www.portmarnockparish.ie & click on webcam.
- **Church Opening Hours for Private Prayer**
Both morning and afternoon until at least 3.00pm when possible.

PARISH NOTICES

MASS INTENTIONS 22nd - 29th November 2020

Sun: Kathleen Barry (A); Robert Beirne (A); Bernard Caravine (A); Patrick & Brigid Coyle (A); Elaine Dixon (RIP); Sr. Emmanuel (RIP); Kathleen Fitzgerald (A); Deceased members of the Foy Family; John Furlong (A); Tony Gibbons (Month's Mind); Mary Gilloughley (A) & deceased members of the Gilloughley family; Deceased members of the Kenny Family; Nancy O'Halloran (RIP); George Mahon (A); Kathleen Mangan (A); Finbar O'Leary (1st A); Janice Reynolds (Get Well); Maureen & Jim Shorthall (A); Maura Timmins (A); Michael Tuite (A).

Next Sun: Barry Byrne (A); Thomas Craddock Junior (A); Maisie D'Arcy (A); Tom, Mary & John Haesy (A); John Lynch (A); Thomas Martin (A); Ellen Catherine Merrick (A); Garry & Sheila McShane (A); Stephen O'Reilly (A) & his father Michael O'Reilly & his grandparents Eddie & Máire Roche; Eileen O'Sullivan (A); Eileen Reburn (A).

Collections Via The Parish Office OR The Donate Button

November 15th: **1st COLLECTION:** €1,045 for the Diocesan Common Fund which supports priests of the Dublin diocese. **2nd COLLECTION:** €305 for developing parishes and diocesan administration. Envelopes for those who wish to contribute to the collection are available in the Church. For those who can afford to, you can donate by placing your contribution in the boxes at the back of the Church or by getting in touch with the Parish Office by phone (01 845 1244) or by e-mail (stsylvesters@malahideparish.ie) or else by using the **DONATE** button on the Parish homepage www.malahideparish.ie. In these times of uncertainty and financial difficulty, we thank all who have been in a position to continue their contributions to the Sunday Collections and to the running of the Parish. It is very much appreciated. Thank you

Parish Centre: Has great facilities for meetings, classes or training sessions. Contact Sharon O'Sullivan, Centre Manager at 086 049 2369 or e-mail: sharon@malahideparishcentre.com.



www.malahideparish.ie



stsylvesters@malahideparish.ie



[@malahideparish](https://twitter.com/malahideparish)

LAUNCH OF ST SYLVESTER'S PARISH DRAW FOR 2021

The Parish Draw was established in 2013 to provide funds for the repair, maintenance and future capital expenditure, as required, for the Parish Pastoral Centre and St Sylvester's Church. The Draw currently has 571 subscribers, and we express our sincere thanks to all of them and look forward to their continued support. Existing subscribers who pay by Standing Order need take no action to remain in the Parish Draw for the next Draw year (which runs from December 1st to November 30th). We would ask those who have received a renewal request (which they should have received via e-mail or in the post by the end of October) to kindly renew their subscription before November 30th (by standing order, credit/debit card, bank/credit transfer, cheque or cash) if they wish to remain in the Parish Draw next year.

We are now putting out an **Appeal for New Subscribers**. To enter the Draw will cost €120 per annum via a variety of payment options (e.g. €10 monthly Standing Order). Enquiries to draw@malahideparish.ie or download a registration form from www.malahideparish.ie. Registration forms are also available from the Parish Office.

There are very valuable monthly cash prizes of €1,000, €500 and €250, as well as end-of-year top prizes of €10,000 and €3,000. The total prize money each year is €32,250 and the chances of winning are much greater than in most other Draws. **Please support your Parish Draw**

ST SYLVESTER'S PARISH DRAW: INVITATION TO THE 2020 €10,000 DRAW!

The final Draw of the 2020 Draw Year will be held at 2:00pm on Wednesday, December 9th, in which there are prizes of €10,000 and €3,000 to be won. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, monthly Draws are being held via Zoom and we welcome interested parishioners to "attend" the end-of-year Draw on December 9th. Please send an e-mail message to draw@malahideparish.ie as soon as you can and, subject to capacity, we will confirm your attendance immediately and then issue you with a Zoom invitation closer to the date.

THE MALAHIDE BETHANY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP offers support to those who have been bereaved during the Covid-19 pandemic. Our weekly 10:30am Monday Bereavement Support Group has been conducted online since April and it will continue to be held online until we are ready to meet again safely in person. We welcome anyone who would like to join our on-line Monday morning group. Please contact us at 087 793 6189 to find out more. If you would prefer to chat to a trained Bethany volunteer, we are also available to provide listening support.

THE PARISH CAFÉ is open for take-away coffee and food 9:30am -1:00pm, Mon - Fri. If out on a walk or whatever your business and you wish to grab a take-away coffee and snack, we ask you to give the Parish Café your consideration.

ROSARY FROM YELLOW WALLS PARISH: For November at 8.00pm via webcam, www.yellowwallsparish.ie

BEREAVED CHILDREN'S AWARENESS WEEK 23RD -27TH NOVEMBER: The Irish Childhood Bereavement Network organises a series of events to highlight bereaved children's needs and a voice for them to be heard. This is to help raise awareness of the fact that children express grief differently, they feel the impact but may not have words to express it, so it often shows in their behaviour. For more information, visit: www.childhoodbereavement.ie

CROSSCARE needs donations of toiletries – soaps, shampoo, toothpaste, hand soap, baby hygiene products - in their original packaging please. Community Food Bank, Brackenstown Rd, Swords, St. Cronan's Parish. Wed 9th and 16th Dec. Time:1-2pm. To support Crosscare at this difficult time you can donate online at www.dublindiocese.ie.

THE APOSTOLATE OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION invites you to **ADORATION, PRAYER & FASTING** on the **FOUR FRIDAYS** in **NOVEMBER**. Full details at www.eucharisticadoration.ie

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Some extracts from a communication we received recently from the Office of Financial Development in the Diocese. (underlined is not an extract)

'The Common Fund and Share collections during Sunday Masses have decreased dramatically with the Common Fund down 68% between March to September and the Share Collection down 75% for the same period. The current lockdown will exasperate matters further. Even after the reopening of Churches for public worship, numbers who will be able to attend Masses will be remain well below normal levels.

As a Diocese we rely financially, principally, on the generosity of parishioners, especially Mass-going parishioners. That generosity has always been extraordinary. We know how, even in the current pandemic, many parishioners are willing to give - supporting their priests and the charitable activities of the diocese. The generosity of parishioners is exemplary and heartening.

At the same time, we are all acutely aware that the reduction in parish income and in the remuneration of priests is taking place when families are undergoing similar, if not even more dramatic, reductions in income.'

The Diocesan Office for Financial Development is of the opinion that 'an innovative and urgent look needs to be taken at shaping a new infrastructure for the diocese to generate sustainable income'. For those who may wish to avail of it, the Financial Development Office is asking us to make available a monthly Standing Order form for parishioners 'which would replace the cash gifts People would ordinarily make at Mass each Sunday. We are aware that, for some people, avoiding cash collections is now also a public health priority. The Standing Order amount will be divided into 60% for the Common Fund and 40% for Share, which reflects the current provision'. The Financial Development Office appreciates that many parishioners may already have an existing Standing Order for the parish itself and also that many parishioners already have a box of envelopes for the Sunday Mass collections. We are not asking people to stop using envelopes or to cease contributing as normal to the collections again when Masses resume but if there is anybody who wishes to avail of this suggestion, please contact the parish office and we will be happy to facilitate you.

Please send news items to newsletter@malahideparish.ie to reach us before 12:00 noon on Wednesdays