

CELEBRATING CHRIST: KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Jesus says solemnly of Himself. "I am the Resurrection and the Life. Those who believe in Me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who believes in Me will never die" (25-26). Those words dispel the darkness caused by the death of Lazarus. Martha declares "yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Son of God, the one coming into the world. Jesus' words make Martha's hope pass from the distant future into the present: the Resurrection is already close to her, present in the person of Christ. Today, Jesus' revelation also challenges us: we, too, are called to believe in the Resurrection, not as a kind of distant mirage but as an event already present and, even now, mysteriously at work in our lives.

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"Do you believe this?" (v 26). Once we have made this leap, our way of thinking and seeing things is changed. The eyes of faith, transcending things visible, see in a certain way invisible realities. Everything that happens is then assessed in the light of another dimension; the dimension of eternity.

As we pray for the deceased, we ask the Lord to help us consider aright the parable of their lives. We ask Him to dispel that unholy grief which we occasionally feel, thinking that death is the end of everything; a feeling far from faith, yet part of that human fear of death felt by everyone. For this reason, before the riddle of death, believers must be constantly converted. We are called daily to leave behind our instinctive image of death as the total destruction of a person. We are called to leave behind the visible world we take for granted our usual, commonplace ways of thinking, and to entrust ourselves entirely to the Lord.

These words make our prayer for our deceased brothers and sisters truly Christian. They enable us to have a truly realistic vision of the lives they lived, to understand the meaning and the value of the good they accomplished, their strength, their commitment and their generous and unselfish love.

Prayers for the faithful departed, offered in confident trust that they now live with God, also greatly benefit us on our earthly pilgrimage. They instil in us a true vision of life; they reveal to us the meaning of the trials we must endure to enter the Kingdom of God; they open our hearts to true freedom and inspire us unceasingly to seek eternal riches.

May the Lord continue to pour forth upon us His Spirit of wisdom, especially during times of trial especially when the journey becomes more difficult. He does not abandon us, but remains in our midst, ever faithful to His promise: "Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age"

Short Advent Reflections

By Fr. Niall Ahern. Available to listen @ www.elphindiocese.ie/advent-reflections and offer a gentle way of entering the forthcoming Advent season.

Parish of Ahamlish and Inishmurray

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Sunday 21st November 2021

Christ the King

As we come to the close of another liturgical year, and as we prepare to welcome Christ our Eternal King, we need to realise that our King can come only if we are willing to open our hearts and minds wide enough to receive Him.

Join us for every mass from Grange Church online through our Facebook Page

Adoration every Thursday, 7-9pm, Grange Church

Cliffoney Masses

Sunday 21st November	10:30am	Danny Warnock (18th Anniversary)
Friday 26th November	10:00am	John Hennessy
Sunday 28th November	10:30am	First Sunday of Advent Deceased of the Kenny Family
	1:30pm	Baptism
Collection: €253 Trocaire: €110		

Grange Masses

Saturday 20th November	11:00am	Charlie Lafferty Patrick & Elizabeth Gallagher
	8:00pm	Peter Meehan (28th Anniversary) & deceased family Rose Ellie & Amanda Evans
Sunday 21st November	12 noon	Una Gilmartin and parents Kathleen & Jim; siblings Tom, Jadel, Eileen, Maudie & Julianne.
Monday 22nd November	9:30am	For the People of the Parish Feast of St Cecilia
Tuesday 23rd November	9:30am	Feast of St Columban
Wednesday 24th November	9:30am	All Souls Feast of St Andrew Dun-Lac and companions
Thursday 25th November	9:30am	Fr Frank McGauren (1st Anniversary) Fr Raymond Browne (1st Anniversary)
Saturday 27th November	8:00pm	Feast of St Fergal Tom Leonard, Augharrow and parents Paddy & Mary Kate
Sunday 28th November	12 noon	First Sunday of Advent Maura Connolly, Tullaghan (née Brennan, Ballyconnell) (died 6th October)
Collection: €795 Trocaire: €340		

Prayers at our Cemeteries for The Dead during November

- **Drumcliffe** Sunday 21st November at 3:00pm
- **Ahamlish** Sunday 21st November at 1:00pm
- **Rathcormack** Sunday 28th November at 3:00pm

The Feast of Christ the King

The feast of Christ the Eternal King was introduced through the encyclical Quas Primas (“In the first”) of Pope Pius XI on 11 December 1925. One main purpose of the encyclical was to communicate hope to a world which seemed to be giving into despair. Another purpose was to give the world a whole new idea of kingship, dominion and authority. Jesus Christ, the servant king. This feast is celebrated every year on the last Sunday in Ordinary time (21 November 2021). It brings to a close the Ordinary time of the liturgical year and it begins the preparation for Advent and the coming of the Redeemer Child at Christmas.

Pope Francis on the Gospel

Reflecting on the story of Jesus’ stilling of the storm that frightened the disciples, Pope Francis said: “Faith begins when we realise we are in need of salvation. We are not self-sufficient. By ourselves we founder. We need the Lord, like ancient navigators needed the stars. Let us invite Jesus into the boats of our lives. Let us hand over our fears to him, so that he can conquer them. Like the disciples, we will experience that with him on board there will be no shipwreck. Because this is God’s strength; turning to the good everything that happens to us, even the bad things. He brings serenity into our storms, because with God life never dies.”

Divorce Referendum - 24 November 1995

Ireland voted to end its ban on divorce with a margin of less than 1%. At the time of the referendum, Ireland was the only country in Europe where divorce was still illegal. The Amendment was signed into law in 1996.

Leprosy

Leprosy is around since before the time of Jesus. Many medical missionaries are still providing health care in this area throughout the world, even in the USA. 80% of cases are in India and Brazil. Leprosy is also known as Hansen’s Disease, after Dr Gerhard Hansens (1841-1912), who did pioneering work on the disease, but effective care was not found until the 1980s.

Advent Talks - Knock Shrine and Online

With Fr Eamonn Conway, Head of Theology & Religious Studies, MIC, University of Limerick and Julie Kavanagh, member of the National Synodal Steering Committee, Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin. As the initial phase of the Synodal Pathway for the Catholic Church in Ireland is now underway, these talks will offer the opportunity for discussion and reflection to help deepen our understanding of this important subject. Thursday Evenings: 2nd, 9th & 16th December at 8.15pm Location: St John’s Rest & Care Centre and live on www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live