

Mallow and Mourneabbey Parish Newsletter

Sunday 8th November 2020

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A (World Day of the Poor)

Fourth World Day of the Poor

(Extracts from Pope Francis' letter)

"Stretch forth your hand to the poor" (Sir 7:32)

Age-old wisdom has proposed these words as a sacred rule to be followed in life. Today these words remain as timely as ever. They help us fix our gaze on what is essential and overcome the barriers of indifference. Poverty always appears in a variety of guises, and calls for attention to each particular situation. In all of these, we have an opportunity to encounter the Lord Jesus, who has revealed himself as present in the least of his brothers and sisters (cf. *Mt* 25:40).

Prayer to God and solidarity with the poor and suffering are inseparable. In order to perform an act of worship acceptable to the Lord, we have to recognize that each person, even the poorest and most contemptible, is made in the image of God. From this awareness comes the gift of God's blessing, drawn by the generosity we show to the poor. Time devoted to prayer can never become an alibi for neglecting our neighbour in need. In fact the very opposite is true: the Lord's blessing descends upon us and prayer attains its goal when accompanied by service to the poor.

3. How timely too, for ourselves, is this ancient teaching! Indeed, the word of God transcends space and time, religions and cultures. Generosity that supports the weak, consoles the afflicted, relieves suffering and restores dignity to those stripped of it, is a condition for a fully human life. The decision to care for the poor, for their many different needs, cannot be conditioned by the time available or by private interests, or by impersonal pastoral or social projects. The power of God's grace cannot be restrained by the selfish tendency to put ourselves always first.

Keeping our gaze fixed on the poor is difficult, but more necessary than ever if we are to give proper direction to our personal life and the life of society. It is not a matter of fine words but of a concrete commitment inspired by divine charity. Each year, on the World Day of the Poor, I reiterate this basic truth in the life of the Church, for the poor are and always will be with us to help us welcome Christ's presence into our daily lives (cf. *Jn* 12:8).

Prayers for those in our Cemeteries in November

Prayers will be offered **each Sunday in November** at 2pm for the faithful departed **online** for the deceased in each of the cemeteries in Mallow and Mourneabbey Parishes. Tune in on our parish website any Sunday.



Encountering the poor and those in need constantly challenges us and forces us to think. How can we help to eliminate or at least alleviate their marginalization and suffering? How can we help them in their spiritual need? Amid all these scenarios, "the excluded are still waiting. To sustain a lifestyle which excludes others, or to sustain enthusiasm for that selfish ideal, a globalization of indifference has developed. Almost without being aware of it, we end up being incapable of feeling compassion at the outcry of the poor, weeping for other people's pain, and feeling a need to help them, as though all this were someone else's responsibility and not our own" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 54). We cannot be happy until these hands that sow death are transformed into instruments of justice and peace for the whole world.

In this journey of daily encounter with the poor, the Mother of God is ever at our side. More than any other, she is the Mother of the Poor. The



The Virgin Mary knows well the difficulties and sufferings of the marginalized, for she herself gave birth to the Son of God in a stable. Due to the threat of Herod, she fled to another country with Joseph her spouse and the child Jesus. For several years, the Holy Family lived as refugees. May our prayer to Mary, Mother of the Poor, unite these, her beloved children, with all those who serve them in Christ's name. And may that prayer enable outstretched hands to become an embrace of shared and rediscovered fraternity.

Important Notice

**PLEASE NOTE:
LEVEL 5 RESTRICTIONS REMAIN
IN PLACE**

PLEASE VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE
FOR
UPDATES
CHURCHES REMAIN OPEN FOR
PRIVATE PRAYER

MASSES ON LINE AT ST MARY'S

**ADORATION AND
CONFESSIONS:**
FRIDAYS 5.00 - 6.00PM AT CHURCH
OF THE RESURRECTION

SATURDAYS 10.30 –11.30
AT ST MARY'S

SUNDAY NIGHT **HOLY HOUR**
ONLINE AT 7.30 PM AT ST MARY'S

FOR ALL OTHER QUERIES
PLEASE
CONTACT THE PRIESTS OF THE
PARISH





HOLY MASS

WILL BE STREAMED LIVE FROM
ST. MARY'S, MALLOW
NOVEMBER 17TH @10AM

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 **SAORVIEW**
TV Channel 210

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 **Freeview**

Priests of our Parish:

Msgr. Anthony O'Brien, P.P., V.G. 087 6834193.
Fr. James Greene, C.C. 085 8471249.
Fr. Andrew Carvill, C.C. 022 51606.
Fr. John McCarthy, C.C. 086 8212101.

Sick Calls:- Please call 022 21251

PARISH WEBSITE www.mallowparish.ie
Watch Masses live from St. Mary's Church
by logging on to churchservices.tv/mallow

**Can I continue to pray and gain indulgences
for the Faithful Departed?**

While Level 5 restrictions do make an allowance for a visit to a grave during this time, the Church - and the parish clergy - are keenly aware of difficulties people face in observing the customs associated with this time of year especially Masses for the Holy Souls and offering public prayers in cemeteries. This year there will be no official public prayers in the cemeteries themselves but prayer will be offered online at 2 pm this Sunday from St Mary's for the Faithful Departed of Mallow and Mourneabbey parishes. You may wish to visit the graves of loved ones in our own time on these Sundays.



The Vatican has recently published new guidelines that take into account the difficulties people are encountering in customarily visiting a cemetery and praying for the dead to gain the Indulgence from November 1st-8th. You may now offer your prayers **on any day of November** to gain the Plenary Indulgence applicable to the souls of the dead. If you are prevented from visiting a grave you can offer mental prayer and set prayers such as the Rosary or Divine Mercy chaplet of Morning or Evening Prayer of the Church from the Office of the Dead.

Confessions are available at the usual times in St Mary's on Saturdays and Church of the Resurrection on Fridays