

Midleton Parish Newsletter (Covid Times)

1st November 2020, Feast of All Saints

Clergy in the Parish:

Priests: Rt. Rev. Msgr. Jim Killeen, P.P., V.G. 021-4631750
V. Rev. John Ryan, P.E., C.C. 086-2697503
Rev. Mark Hehir, C.C. 021-4621670
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Eamon Goold, P.E., 021-4633659
Deacon: Rev. Edward Mulhare

Mobile for the Priest on Duty: 087-246 8234 (Used for emergencies and also arranging wedding bookings)

Parish Office Hours: Monday to Thursday – ring between 10 and 11am. Any documentation (e.g. Baptismal certs) can be requested and will be posted. Anyone who wishes to get Mass Cards or Mass Bouquets can give the details and then collect them on Friday at the office between 10.30 - 11.30am. Phone 021-4636508

Parish website: midletonparish.ie Parish e-mail: midletonparishoffice@gmail.com

**Mass Times: Sundays Saturday Vigil 6.10pm
Sunday Morning 8am, 10am and Noon**

Weekdays: Monday to Saturday 10am and Monday to Friday 7.30pm (all the Masses are celebrated without congregation and televised)

'Prayers for our Dead' televised every Sunday evening at 5.15pm

The Church will be open for private prayers after the 10am Mass from Monday to Saturday and after the Noon Mass on Sunday. It will be closed at 5pm every evening.

Funerals –The following arrangements apply to funerals in the parish during Level 5: the priests cannot lead prayers in houses or funeral homes, the number attending the Funeral Mass is limited to 25 and the congregation cannot receive Holy Communion.

Weddings - the number able to attend a wedding is limited to 25 also.

Confessions: No Confessions during Level 5.

Pope's Intentions for November: *Universal prayer intention: Artificial Intelligence.*

"We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind."

The envelopes for the Holy Souls containing the sheet for the names of the deceased you wish to pray for are at the back of the church. They may be returned through the parish office or any of the priests houses.

Sunday, November 1st All Saints. "The ultimate object of veneration of the Saints is the glory of God and the sanctification of man conforming one's life fully to the divine will and by imitating the virtue of those who were pre-eminent disciples of the Lord. Catechesis and other forms of doctrinal instruction should therefore make known to the faithful that our relationship with the Saints must be seen in the light of the faith and should not obscure the cult of worship due to God the Father through Christ in the Holy Spirit but intensify it" (Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy, n.212)

Monday, November 2nd, The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day). "Indeed, the Church in its pilgrim members, from the very earliest days of the Christian religion, has honoured with great respect the memory of the dead, and 'because it is a holy and a wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they be loosed from their sins' (2 Maccabees 12: 46) she offers 'her suffrages for them. These consist, primarily, in the celebration of the holy sacrifice of the Eucharist, and in other pious exercises, such as prayers for the dead, alms deeds, works of mercy, and the application of indulgences to the souls of the faithful departed (Directory of Popular Piety and the Liturgy, n.251).

Because of Covid-19, by special mandate of Pope Francis, the Apostolic Penitentiary released last Friday some changes to the normal practice for indulgences for Holy Souls.

Plenary Indulgence during the month of November – Due to the coronavirus pandemic and the need to avoid large groups from forming where prohibited, the Plenary Indulgence applicable to the deceased by those who visit a cemetery has been extended beyond the normal dates of 1st to 8th November. This year, the indulgence can be obtained by anyone who visits a cemetery on any day in November, and devoutly prays for the faithful departed.

Plenary Indulgence for the Feast of All Souls' Day – Regarding the Plenary Indulgence attached to All Souls' Day, November 2nd, this year, it can be obtained not only on the preceding or succeeding Sunday, or on the actual Feast-day, but on any other day of the month chosen by each member of the faithful. In this case the indulgence is obtained by devoutly visiting a church or an oratory, along with the recitation of the Our Father and the Creed, and the other requirements associated with a Plenary Indulgence.

The Housebound – For anyone who cannot leave their home for various reasons, they too can obtain the Plenary Indulgence by uniting themselves spiritually to other members of the faithful. It is recommended to pray before a cross, or a picture or statue of Jesus or Mary. In this case, the condition of being 'completely detached from sin' and the intention of completing the other requirements for obtaining a Plenary Indulgence remain. These conditions are Sacramental Confession, reception of Holy Communion and a prayer for the Holy Father's Intentions.

This year, because reception of Sacramental Confession and the Eucharist are not available during Level 5 here in Ireland, those conditions can be taken on intention to avail of the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist at the earliest opportunity.

Feast days this week: - Tuesday 3rd November, St. Malachy; Wednesday 4th November, St. Charles Borromeo; Thursday 5th November, St. Martin de Porres; Friday 6th November, Feast of All the Saints of Ireland.

"Bible Corner" – In the piece above about All Souls' Day there is a reference to a passage from the Second Book of Maccabees (2 Maccabees 12: 46). It is one of the Historical Books in the Old Testament and the passage is seen as the scriptural foundation for our need to pray for the dead and for the existence of Purgatory. The books date from the late second century BC. The narrative of the first book covers about 40 years and the second about 15 years that overlap the timescale of the first. In the introduction to the books in the Jerusalem Bible it says this about 2 Maccabees: "The book is important for its affirmation of the resurrection of the dead (7: 9); sanctions in the afterlife (6: 26); prayer for the dead (12:38, 41-46), the spiritual fruits of martyrdom (6:18-7:41) the intercession of the saints (15:12-16). Other Old Testament writings had left these teachings vague; but these teachings justify the authority accorded to Second Maccabees by the Church."

PRAYING FOR OUR DECEASED LOVED ONES AT THIS TIME OF THE CORONAVIRUS/COVID 19.

(Can be said as you visit a cemetery during the month of November)

SIGN OF THE CROSS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE BEREAVED AND THE DECEASED

Lord Jesus,

You hold out a hand of love to so many who seek your help.

Take hold of our hands this day and see us through this time of sorrow and loss.

Renew our faith in your healing touch and help us to place our trust in your gentle care.

In these November days, keep us close to you, that we may find comfort and peace in the nearness of your unfailing love.

We pray for N. and commend him/her/them to your love and compassion.

Forgive N. his/her/their sins, and grant him/her/them a place of happiness, light and peace in the kingdom of your glory forever. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD JOHN 14:1-3

Jesus says: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am going now to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me, so that where I am you may be too.'

PAUSE FOR SILENT PRAYER FOR OUR DECEASED LOVED ONE

Family members may wish to share words with one another and say thanks to God for the person and the life of their loved one.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In baptism, N. died with Christ. May he/she/they now share the fullness of life with the Risen Lord. Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray that our family may find comfort through faith in Christ and the support of the Christian community. Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

May we live our lives in the love of God's presence. May we be reunited with N. some day when God calls us. Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for all who care for the sick and the dying and for all our healthcare workers. Keep them safe and free from harm. Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for all who have died, especially our relatives, friends and those who have no one to pray for them, that they may enjoy eternal life in heaven. Lord, hear us. Lord, graciously hear us.

OUR FATHER or A DECADE OF THE ROSARY – The Resurrection of the Lord

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord God, You listen to the voice of our pleading. Let us find in your Son, comfort in our sadness, certainty in our doubt, and courage to live through this hour. Make our faith strong through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONCLUSION

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

PRAYER OF ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

May the Lord support us all the day long,
till the shadows lengthen and the evening comes,
and the busy world is hushed,
and the fever of life is over and our work is done.
Then in His love and mercy may he give us and N. a safe lodging,
And eternal rest. Amen.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.