

**Middleton Parish Newsletter (Covid Times)**

**25<sup>th</sup> October 2020, Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**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: Opening Hours (due to Covid Level 5) 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: [middletonparish.ie](http://middletonparish.ie) Parish e-mail: [middletonparishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:middletonparishoffice@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 televised)**

**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 7pm on weekdays and Sunday evening and at 5pm on Saturday evenings. (During Level 5).**

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday and Friday from 10.30am to 7pm**

**Funerals – As we move into Level 5 the following arrangements will apply to funerals in the parish: 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.***

**Laudato Si; Paragraphs 7 to 9 are under the sub-heading *United by the same concern*. In n.7 Pope Francis gives a list of those groups that influenced his predecessors: *These statements of the Popes echo the reflections of numerous scientists, philosophers, theologians and civic groups, all of which have enriched the Church's thinking on these questions. Outside the Catholic Church, other Churches and Christian communities – and other religions as well – have expressed deep concern and offered valuable reflections on issues which all of us find disturbing. Out of that list he presents in paragraphs 8 and 9 Patriarch Bartholomew as a great example of someone whose words can influence all of us. Pope Francis quotes Patriarch Bartholomew a number of times in the two paragraphs including these two in no. 8 that are very blunt and powerful: "For human beings... to destroy the biological diversity of God's creation; for human beings to degrade the integrity of the earth by causing changes in its climate, by stripping the earth of its natural forests or destroying its wetlands; for human beings to contaminate the earth's waters, its land, its air, and its life – these are sins".[15]***

***For "to commit a crime against the natural world is a sin against ourselves and a sin against God".[16]***



Holy Souls: All Saints is celebrated next Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup> and All Souls on Monday November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The envelopes for the Holy Souls containing the sheet for the names of the deceased you wish to remember during the month of November can be found at the back of the church.

Feast days this week:

Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>: Blessed Thaddeus MacCarthy: was born in 1455. His appointment as Bishop of Ross was opposed so Pope Innocent VIII then appointed him as Bishop of Cloyne and Cork. He set out as a humble pilgrim to Rome where he was confirmed as Bishop of Cloyne and Ross but on his return journey he died in Ivrea, Northern Italy in 1492.

Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>: Saints Simon and Jude, the Apostles. St. Jude is recognised as the Patron Saint of Hopeless Cases.

Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>: Blessed Dominic Collins, one of the Irish Martyrs, was born around 1566 in Youghal. In 1598, after a military career, he entered the Society of Jesus as a Brother. He returned to Ireland in 1601, but on the 17<sup>th</sup> June 1602 he was captured by the English who tried in vain to make him renounce his faith. Condemned to death, he was hanged in Youghal on 31<sup>st</sup> October 1602. (from *Liturgical Calendar for Ireland 2020*)

Pope's Intentions for October: *Prayer Intention for evangelization:* The Laity's Mission in the Church. "We pray that by the virtue of Baptism, the Laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church."

"Bible Corner" – In today's Gospel (from Matthew) we hear Jesus reply to being questioned about the greatest commandment of the law. He doesn't hesitate. He says 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' Then he goes on to speak of the second, 'You must love your neighbour as yourself'. The same question is posed in Mark's Gospel chapter 12 with the answer in verses 29 to 31 (12:29-31) except Mark has one more attribute attached to the first one; He adds strength to heart, soul and mind. It is present in Luke (Luke 10: 25-28) but the dynamic is different. In Luke a lawyer stands up and asks the question 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus answers the question with two questions: 'What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?' The lawyer's answer incorporates the two great commandments – 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.' The three synoptic Gospels share something important in the life of Jesus and there are little differences in the way they present the same thing. It happens regularly enough throughout the Gospels. They are linked as well to the Old Testament. We go back to Moses in the book of Deuteronomy. In chapter 5 we read an account of God giving the ten commandments. After that Moses tells the heads of tribes and elders what else the Lord had said to him and that God gave him laws and commandments for when they reached the Promised Land. In chapter 6 he tells them what he was told and in verses 4 and 5 we read: 'Listen, Israel: Yahweh our God is the one, the only Yahweh. You must love Yahweh your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let the words I enjoin on you today stay in your heart.' This is how Moses, who passes God's law to the people of Israel, begins his discourse on the Law and which Luke's lawyer recognises as the greatest law. In response to his answer Jesus says to him, 'You have answered right, do this and life is yours.'

This is one of the great examples of the connection of the Old and New, one completing the other and the essence present in both. Love God and our neighbour.