

Midleton Parish Newsletter (Covid Times)

24th January 2021 – Third Sunday of 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

Priest on Duty: 087-246 8234 (For emergencies and also arranging wedding bookings)

The Parish Office: Monday to Thursday – ring between 10.30 and 11.30am. Any documentation and Mass Cards or Mass Bouquets required can be ordered and then collected on Friday at the office between 10.30 - 11.30am. Phone 021-4636508.

Parish website: midletonparish.ie Parish e-mail: midletonparishoffice@gmail.com and to access the webcam for Masses log on to www.churchservices.tv and enter 'midleton' in the search box.

Mass times

Sunday, Saturday Vigil 6.10pm
Sunday Morning 8am, 10am and Noon

Weekday Masses: Monday to Saturday 10am in line with Covid19 Level 5 restrictions. No 8am Mass during the week until further notice. No Congregations for daily and Sunday Masses until further notice. All Masses will be televised on Saorview and on the internet. The Church will be opened after the 10am Mass for private prayer and closed at 5pm.

Night Prayer at 8pm every evening.

Feast days this week: Monday 25th January, The Conversion of St. Paul: Paul the persecutor was converted into the Paul of the letters, the Paul who preached the power of God at work in the lives of each one of us. Tuesday 26th, Ss. Timothy and Titus were followers of St. Paul. Tradition is that St. Timothy first bishop of Ephesus and Titus organised the Church in Crete; Wednesday 27th, St. Angela Merici, (1474-1540), founder of the Ursulines, and devoted herself to Christian education. Thursday 28th, St. Thomas Aquinas, 13th century Dominican who is considered one of the greatest theologians in the Church. Taught that Christian revelation and human knowledge are aspects of a single truth and cannot be in conflict with one another. Patron saint of schools, universities, students and booksellers. Saturday 30th, St. Aidan born in Co. Cavan c.550 and died in Ferns in 626. Studied in Wales and founded a monastery at Ferns in Wexford where he became bishop. Known for his generosity and kindness. Bl. Margaret Ball and Bl. Francis Taylor, two of the Irish martyrs. Margaret was imprisoned for teaching Catholicism and hiding priests in her home. Imprisoned in Dublin Castle she died there in the harsh conditions in 1584, and Francis was Mayor of Dublin, and due to his Catholic faith he ended up in prison for seven years and died of the hardships suffered there in 1621.

Quote: "To love is to will the good of the other" - St. Thomas Aquinas

The Pope's Intentions for January –. *“May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.”*

“Bible Corner” - Today, the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, was dedicated by Pope Francis on September 30th, 2019 to be the “Sunday of the Word of God”. Some points he makes are printed here:

7. *The Bible, as sacred Scripture... speaks of Christ and proclaims him as the one who had to endure suffering and then enter into his glory (cf. v. 26). Not simply a part, but the whole of Scripture speaks of Christ. Apart from the Scriptures, his death and resurrection cannot be rightly understood. That is why one of the most ancient confessions of faith stressed that “Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas” (1Cor15:3-5). Since the Scriptures everywhere speak of Christ, they enable us to believe that his death and resurrection are not myth but history, and are central to the faith of his disciples. A profound bond links sacred Scripture and the faith of believers. Since faith comes from hearing, and what is heard is based on the word of Christ (cf. Rom 10:17), believers are bound to listen attentively to the word of the Lord, both in the celebration of the liturgy and in their personal prayer and reflection.*

12. *When sacred Scripture is read in the light of the same Spirit by whom it was written, it remains ever new. The Old Testament is never old once it is part of the New, since all has been transformed thanks to the one Spirit who inspired it. The sacred text as a whole serves a prophetic function regarding not the future but the present of whoever is nourished by this word. Jesus himself clearly stated this at the beginning of his ministry: “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing” (Lk 4:21). Those who draw daily nourishment from God’s word become, like Jesus, a contemporary of all those whom they encounter: they are not tempted to fall into sterile nostalgia for the past, or to dream of ethereal utopias yet to come.*

15. *Along our path of welcoming God’s word into our hearts, the Mother of the Lord accompanies us. She is the one who was called blessed because she believed in the fulfilment of what the Lord had spoken to her (cf. Lk 1:45). Mary’s own beatitude is prior to all the beatitudes proclaimed by Jesus about the poor and those who mourn, the meek, the peacemakers and those who are persecuted, for it is the necessary condition for every other kind of beatitude. The poor are not blessed because they are poor; they become blessed if, like Mary, they believe in the fulfilment of God’s word. A great disciple and master of sacred Scripture, Saint Augustine, once wrote: “Someone in the midst of the crowd, seized with enthusiasm, cried out: ‘Blessed is the womb that bore you’ and Jesus replied, ‘Rather, blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it’. As if to say: My mother, whom you call blessed, is indeed blessed, because she keeps the word of God. Not because in her the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, but because she keeps that same word of God by which she was made and which, in her womb, became flesh” (Tractates on the Gospel of John, 10, 3). May the Sunday of the Word of God help his people to grow in religious and intimate familiarity with the sacred Scriptures. For as the sacred author taught of old: “This word is very near to you: it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance” (Dt 30:14).*

The Society of St. Vincent De Paul would like to thank all those who contributed to their Annual Collection. The amount raised was €7,700.00 a wonderful amount, for which The Society is very grateful and thankful.