

Midleton Parish Newsletter (Covid Times)

31st January 2021 – Fourth 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

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.

A minority of dog owners are disrespecting both Holy Rosary and Ballintotis cemeteries by allowing dogs to run free in them. All dogs must be kept on leads and owners must clean up after them. Failure to do this is to disrespect what is sacred ground and is highly offensive to those who have family buried in these cemeteries.

"Bible Corner" – in today's Gospel St. Mark places Jesus in Capernaum with his followers. He goes into the synagogue on the sabbath and he teaches them. His teaching impresses those present and Mark says 'he taught them with authority'. Jesus, when he teaches, does so with the authority of the Father – he is revealing God's message to us. What highlights that authority even more in today's passage is the reaction of the 'unclean spirit' – the unclean spirit knows exactly who Jesus is. In an authoritative way Jesus dismisses him. Two commands – 'Be quiet' and 'Come out of him' and the result is the freeing of the man from possession and the astonishment of those who saw and heard what happened. It is a very dramatic passage. It is something that we would not see but what it shows for us is the strength of the Lord and the power of his truth. His reputation, Mark tells us, spread everywhere, throughout all the surrounding Galilean countryside. Maybe we could ask ourselves a question here: do we share the words of Jesus with others and do so in a way that encourages others to reflect on them?

Feast Days in the week ahead

Monday 1st February, St. Brigid, Abbess, Secondary Patron of Ireland was renowned for her hospitality, almsgiving and care of the sick. Born around 454 she took the veil and spiritual formation from St. Mel and stayed for a period under his direction in Ardagh. Others followed her example and so she founded a double monastery in Kildare in association with Bishop Conleth. She died in 524 and is remembered not only in Ireland but in several European countries also. The St. Brigid's Cross is said to have been used by her explain the Christian faith and remains a popular sign of God's protection..

Tuesday February 2nd is the feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Candles will be blessed during the 10am Mass on parish TV and the internet. Anyone who has candles they would like blessed please leave them on the table by the Sacred Heart chapel before Tuesday and collect them afterwards. Please label your candles clearly. Donations of candles for church use are also very welcome.

Wednesday February 3rd is the feast of St Blaise. Due to the present restrictions the usual blessing of throats cannot take place in the church. We encourage people to bless other members of the household in the home. You do this by holding two crossed unlit candles at the person's throat and saying the following prayer:

Through the intercession of St Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from all ailments of the throat and from every other evil, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen'

(If you don't have two candles you can still do the blessing by just saying the prayer). The priest at the 10am Mass that morning will impart a blessing to all who are watching who live on their own.

Friday 5th St. Agatha. Died a martyr's death in Sicily in the third century. Patron of bell-founders.

Saturday 6th St. Paul Miki and Companions, martyred in Nagasaki, Japan in 1597. Six Franciscans, 17 Franciscan Tertiaries and three Jesuits died suspended on crosses.

Pope Francis' Intentions for the month of February: *"We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and may have their sufferings considered and heeded."*

Fratelli tutti: I am very conscious of the fact that there hasn't been anything on the newsletter regarding this in the last three weeks. It will recommence next week, please God, continuing with Chapter Two.

The publishing of anniversaries will also recommence next week. There were none published in January, so those who wish to have a January anniversary remembered please send it in to the parish office during the week and those who have an anniversary coming up in the first week of February, please do the same.

Quote for the Week: *"When you seek truth, you seek God whether you know it or not."*

- St. Teresa Benedict of the Cross