

**Middleton Parish Newsletter**  
**24<sup>th</sup> September 2023 - Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**World Day of Migrants and Refugees**

**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)

**Parish Office:** Monday to Thursday 10.30am to 1pm and Friday 10.30am to Noon.  
Phone Number 021-4636508.

**Parish website:** [middletonparish.ie](http://middletonparish.ie) **Parish e-mail:** [middletonparishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:middletonparishoffice@gmail.com) and to access the webcam for Masses, log on to the parish website.

**Mass Times:** Vigil Mass: 6.10pm; Sunday 8am, 10am and 12 Noon. Ballintotis 10.30am.  
Weekday Masses: Monday to Friday 8 and 10am. Saturday 10am

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** 9am to 10pm Monday to Friday.

**Confessions:** Saturdays from Noon to 1pm.

**Anniversaries:** Ciarán Walsh, Maurice Cunningham, Maureen Dennis, James O'Brien, Buddy Stack (nee Motyer).

**Feast Days:** Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September, *St. Finbarr*, came to Loch Irce (Gougane Bara) and lived there as a hermit. When disciples gathered round him, he moved to Cork at the mouth of the Lee where he founded a monastery which became a centre of learning.

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September, *Ss. Cosmas and Damian*, martyrs. Early martyrs in Syria, patrons of physicians. They were known as 'the holy moneyless ones' in the East, since they never took money for their medical services.

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September, *St. Vincent de Paul*, 1581-1660, priest, who founded the Congregation of the Mission (the Vincentians) and the Daughters of Charity (1633), the first sisters to work outside their convents in active service. He is the patron of all charitable works.

*Thank you to all who contributed to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's collection in the parish last weekend.*

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September, *St. Wenceslaus*, 907-929, Prince of Bohemia, killed by his brother. Patron of brewers.

*Ss. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions.* During the period 1633-37 these sixteen martyrs shed their blood out of love for Christ in the city of Nagasaki, Japan.

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September, *Ss. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael*, Archangels. Gabriel brought the message to Mary at the Annunciation. Raphael was guide to Tobias. Michael has been venerated as protector of Christians in general and soldiers in particular.

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September, *St. Jerome*, 340-420, priest and doctor of the Church. He translated the Bible into Latin, known as the Vulgate, and wrote commentaries on scripture. Patron of librarians.



**Autumn Stations:** The Autumn Town Stations will begin on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October and the Rural Stations on the 9<sup>th</sup> October. More detail in relation to the stations will follow.

The **Season of Creation** continues until the Feast of St. Francis on October 4<sup>th</sup>. This week we read paragraph 16 of Laudato Si: *Although each chapter will have its own subject and specific approach, it will also take up and re-examine important questions previously dealt with. This is particularly with a number of themes which will reappear as the Encyclical unfolds. As examples, I will point to the intimate relationship between the poor and the fragility of the planet, the conviction that everything in the world is connected, the critique of new paradigms and forms of power derived from technology, the call to seek other ways of understanding the economy and progress, the value proper to each creature, the human meaning of ecology, the need for forthright and honest debate, the serious responsibility of international and local policy, the throwaway culture and the proposal of a new lifestyle. These questions will not be dealt with once and for all, but reframed and enriched again and again.*

**Teams of Our Lady Ireland:** Information Evening. "The aim of the information evening is to give some details about our movement and, most of all, an opportunity to share testimonies about what Teams' experience means to couples. It will take about 45 minutes. We hope to meet many interested new couples. Kind regards, Paola & Paolo. Paola & Paolo are inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Topic: Introduction to Teams of Our Lady; Time: Sep 24, 2023 08:30 PM Dublin. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88571374468?pwd=Q1JhZFJkRHBLZFpoNUhYQTR1aUpMZz09> Meeting ID: 885 7137 4468; Passcode: 240923

**Presbyterorum Ordinis:** The relationship between bishop and priest works both ways from the point of view that: *"by reason of the gift of the Holy Spirit which is given to priests in Holy Orders, bishops regard them as necessary helpers and counsellors in the ministry and in their role of teaching, sanctifying and nourishing the People of God."* Also due to the communion that exists, bishops should *'regard priests as their brothers and friends'*. When we take into consideration that Vatican II, due to its pastoral rather than canonical nature, deals with ideas connected to all areas of the Church for the first time in writing, it is interesting to see the relationship described as we have just seen. N.7 speaks as well about the responsibility of the bishops in relation to the sanctity and to the continual formation of their priests. They should, it says, *"gladly listen to their priests, indeed consult them and engage in dialogue with them in those matters which concern the necessities of pastoral work and welfare of the diocese."* This is fulfilled through the Council of Priests which has regular meetings with the bishop.

Along with this we are called to remember that: *Priests, never losing sight of the fullness of the priesthood which the bishops enjoy, must respect in them the authority of Christ, the Supreme Shepherd. They must therefore stand by their bishops in sincere charity and obedience. This priestly obedience, imbued with a spirit of cooperation is based on the very sharing in the episcopal ministry which is conferred on priests both through the Sacrament of Orders and the canonical mission. Some people focus on one of the promises priests take and forget that there are two more. Celibacy is the one we are usually asked about. Obedience is the second and is mentioned here and the third one is ...?*

**Quote for the Week:** *"All beginnings are somewhat strange; but we must have patience, and little by little, we shall find things, which at first were obscure, becoming clearer."*

- St. Vincent de Paul