

Midleton Parish Newsletter

26th November 2023 - Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

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: Open from Monday to Thursday 10.30am to 1pm and Friday 10.30am to Noon. Phone Number 021-4636508.

Parish website: midletonparish.ie **Parish e-mail:** midletonparishoffice@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 this week: Monday to Friday 8am and 10am; Saturday 10am. Friday, the 1st December, is the First Friday of the Month, there will be Mass that evening at 7.30pm.

Next Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent.

On this Sunday 26th November, the Feast of Christ the King, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in Holy Rosary Church beginning at 2pm and continuing until prayers and Benediction at 5pm.

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

Confessions: Saturdays from Noon to 1pm.

Anniversaries: Billy O'Regan, John Moreen, Maurice & Helena Carroll, May Lynch, Eileen Hegarty, Eileen O'Mahony, Breda Fitzgerald, Jack Scannell, Vincent Maher, Máiread Williams (nee Sheehan), Frank Motherway, John Whyte.

Closing Time of the Church: Closing time for the winter will be 5pm unless there is an evening liturgy scheduled for after that time.

Cemetery Prayers during the month of November: The Cemetery Prayers this Sunday 26th November, Ballyoughtera, 3pm.

The Annual St Vincent De Paul Collection will be held this weekend after all Masses.

Youth 2000 Ireland are having their annual Christmas retreat in Dominican College, Newbridge, Co Kildare on the 8th -10th of December for ages 16-35. This promises to be a special retreat!! Excellent Speakers, Inspiring Talks & Workshops, Fantastic music, Group activities, Youth Masses, Adoration, Reconciliation, prayer, Drama, Games & plenty of time to chill out, meet new people and find out what it means to be young & Catholic today!! There are free buses leaving from all over the country to the retreat. Donation only. Find out more and register now on www.youth2000.ie"

The Pope's Intentions for December 2023: For Persons with Disabilities- *"We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programmes which value their active participation."*

Lectio Divina: Lectio Divina, which translates from the Latin to mean 'Divine Reading', is an ancient form of prayer in the Church which involves reading, listening to, responding to and resting in the Word of God. It has its origins from the early monastic communities and is still very relevant and very much encouraged today as a way of communicating with God through the Scriptures. Vatican II's Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation (Dei Verbum) encourages us to continue renewing the Church through the Word of God and Lectio Divina is a powerful means to renew our relationship with God through the Scriptures.

It's important to note that Lectio Divina isn't the same as a Bible study or a bible course, where there is normally a focus on a large section of the bible or on the bible as a whole, Lectio Divina on the other hand asks us to intentionally focus and pray with a short passage of Scripture, reading, reflecting and allowing it to speak into our lives and circumstances. It is a wonderful way to deepen our prayer life and grow in our personal relationship with the Lord.

For the season of Advent there will be an opportunity to experience the practice and prayer of Lectio Divina as a group, which will begin on Wednesday 29th November, 7.30 to 8.30pm, upstairs in the Parish office. If you would like to deepen your prayer life and grow in your love of the Scriptures, please do join us.

Feast Days: Monday 27th, *St. Fergal*, bishop and missionary, lived first in France and then in Bavaria, where he founded the monastery of Chiemsee. He was appointed Bishop of Salzburg around 754 and died in 784, leaving a reputation for learning and holiness.

Thursday 30th, *St. Andrew*, Apostle, from Bethsaida was a disciple of John the Baptist when he was called by Jesus. He in turn brought his brother Peter to Jesus. He is said to have suffered martyrdom by crucifixion on this date, but the tradition of an X-shaped cross is much later. Patron of Scotland, Russia and fishermen.

End of the Church's Year: This week is the last week in the Church's year. The New Year begins with the Vigil Mass of the First Sunday of Advent. From this last year we could pick out a number of things that are important and significant for the parish – first and foremost we continue to pray for all who were, and who still are suffering from the floods. A major disaster that needs to have its roots properly investigated and the correct solutions to be found and taken to sort out what has to be done. Half-hearted attempts won't work.

The second thing in relation to parish is the work that has been done so far on the new Parish Pastoral Centre. At the moment on schedule and within budget and hopefully will continue so.

Thirdly, the new Pastoral Council is beginning to find its feet and in the New Year we will be able to give an update on what it will be working on over the next three years. We ask you all to keep all the members of the Council in your prayers and may we be guided by the Spirit in all we do.

Quote for the Week: *"A dying man asked a dying man for eternal life; a man without possessions asked a poor man for a Kingdom; a thief at the door of death asked to die like a thief and steal Paradise. One would have thought a saint would have been the first soul purchased over the counter of Calvary by the red coins of Redemption, but in the Divine plan it was a thief who was the escort of the King of kings into Paradise."*

- Fulton J. Sheen