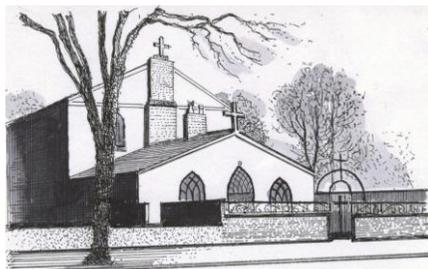


Our Lady

Help of Christians



Parish Priest: Fr David Melly

Deacons:

Rev Jim Davies

Rev Tom Simms

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23rd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR 6 SEPTEMBER 2020

(Prayer of the Church Week 1 Parish Mass Book Page 12)

MASSES THIS WEEK

Saturday	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday	10.00am	John Coughlan
Monday	7.00pm	Brian Gaskell
Tuesday	9.00am	Holy Souls
Wednesday	7.00pm	Maureen Colvin
Thursday	9.00am	Sheila O’Ryan
Friday	9.00am	Norah Platt

MASSES NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday	9.00am	Terry Riley
Sunday	10.00am	Genio Bonati

Novena	No novena this week
Confessions	No confessions this week
Meditation	No meditation this week

Counters team next Sunday

No counters needed

PURIFICATORS NEXT WEEK

I will do them

PROGRESS REPORT

I can't believe that it is over four months since I got out of hospital. In that time I've had endless blood tests, changes of medication and scans. Sadly, nothing has shown up that would indicate what is causing my health problems: I'm tired all the time, have no energy and have great difficulty walking. I get up in the morning, wash, pray, have breakfast and celebrate Mass. At the end of Mass I can't wait to get back on the bed. I have a siesta after lunch and have to go to bed early. I have two more important tests to come. If they can't get to the bottom of things I'm afraid I will have no choice but to retire. So, please get the prayer mats out. Retire is the last thing I want to do. Meanwhile, you have no idea how much I appreciate the support I am getting. Individuals contact me and the parish whatsapp is worth its weight in gold. And where would I be without the garden. It is a life-saver. If you have contacted me and got no reply please understand that it is not from lack of appreciation. It's just that everything is an effort at the moment.

FUNERAL

Margaret Gormon's funeral is in St Luke's on Wednesday 16th Sept at noon.

SEEK ME

Seek me with your whole being. I desire to be found by you, and I orchestrate the events of your life with that purpose in mind. When things go well and you are blessed, you can feel ME smiling on you. When you encounter rough patches along your life journey, trust that My Light is still shining upon you. My reasons for allowing these adversities may be shrouded in mystery, but My continual Presence with you is an absolute promise. Seek Me in good times; Seek Me in hard times. You will find me watching over you all the time.

DEUTERONOMY 4:29; HEBREWS 10:23; PSALM 145:20 (Things like this keep me going)

PERSECUTION

We may be inclined to believe that the age of martyrdom is an age of the past. When we think of Christian martyrs, we are likely to conjure images of the persecutions which took place in the first and second centuries. During the reign of the Roman emperor Decius, for example, an eighteen-month, empire-wide campaign led to the slaughter of some 3000-3500 Christians in AD 250 (as estimated by the English ecclesiastical historian WHC Frend). And yet the truth is perhaps more difficult to bear, for the twentieth century has produced more Christian martyrs than any other century in the history of our great faith. How should we respond? What should we do in the face of such evil? We must answer as the saints have always answered. We must counter violence and terror with love and forgiveness. It is our way. May the Lord Jesus—the Way, the Truth, and the Life—transform the world by the renewal of minds.