

# Culmore Parish Newsletter

Easter Day of the Lord's Resurrection

Sunday, 4th April 2021

## Early on the first day of the week

Today we celebrate the highpoint of the Christian calendar, Easter. The Gospel tells us that Mary Magdalen is the first witness to the Resurrection, she is the first to bring this *Good News* to others, the first preacher of the Resurrection. *'It was still dark...'* when Mary went to the tomb but it was also the *'first day of the week'*, a new beginning, like the first warm day of Spring. We can all recall situations in our lives which seemed so dark, where we felt that there was no light at the end of the tunnel. But the Easter story shows us that transformation is always possible. There comes a point during dark times that we realise something has changed, the stone has rolled away.

Let the linen wrappings in this text today represent all that keeps us from being free; all that keeps us captive, emotionally, physically, spiritually, in our broken relationships and struggling communities. As we continue to deal with the effects of the COVID-19 crisis, many people are longing for this situation to ease, to lift. The Easter Gospel shows us that even the most difficult of situations can bring transformation. A question we can ask today, is where have we seen the Risen Christ during this crisis? In the frontline workers, in good neighbours and friends. Where are we being called to share Easter joy with others?

*'Jesus you are with us. Keep us ever mindful of how you are a part of our lives in a deep and profound way. Surprise us with a touch of your love in places where we never thought that we would find you.'* (Joyce Rupp)

Jane Mellett

**Padre Pio Prayer Group will RESUME FROM TUESDAY 6 APRIL at Holy Family Chapel, Ballymagroarty**

**Starting with the Rosary BEFORE mass and continuing with prayers afterwards**

**A first class relic will be available for blessing**

**Social distancing and masks at all times**

**ALL WELCOME**

**MERCY NOVENA:** Many people like to pray the Divine Mercy Novena for the nine days from Good Friday (2 April) until the first Saturday of Easter (10 April), leading into Divine Mercy Sunday (11 April). For those who would like to join in the Novena but do not have a copy of it, you can access it on:

<https://divinemeracy.life/the-divine-mercy-novena/>

## **PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE?**

Catholic Engaged Encounter: A 'Zoom' online Marriage Preparation course is planned for 27th to 28th March 2021. This 2-day course is a positive way of preparing for Marriage, where you will discover how you can enrich your future relationship. For information and booking go to [marriageencounter.ie](http://marriageencounter.ie) or call 028 2763 8512.

## **PRAYER FOR OUR PROTECTION**

We ask for prayers for those affected by the Coronavirus. Placing all our trust in the Lord, and asking Our Lady to intercede for us, we invite everyone to pray these prayers:

*Extract from Saint Patrick's Breastplate*

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

*Memorare*

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy, hear and answer. Amen.



Easter prayers and activities for children from the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre

The Catechetical Centre is responsible for catechesis in the Diocese of Derry. The centre provides faith formation and religious education support to Catholic schools, parishes and families.

For Easter, the centre has variety of resources for prayer, projects and activities the whole family can engage in at home including;

- [Celebrating Easter – Making an Easter Garden;](#)
- [Easter Sunday Family Activities;](#)
- [Divine-Mercy-Sunday-Activity-for-Children;](#)
- [What Did Jesus Do Mix and Match Activity;](#)
- [Holy Week Colouring Booklet for Younger Children;](#)
- and [lots, lots more.](#)

## Easter liturgies on RTÉ

RTE broadcast a Mass or a Service at 11am every Sunday morning on [RTÉ Radio 1 Extra](#). [You can listen here.](#)

Most viewers in the Republic of Ireland can also receive Radio 1 Extra via their television sets on Saorview Channel 201 and Virgin channel 920/940. You can also [listen back via the RTÉ Radio Player](#)

Nearly all of the radio Worship programmes on the station are shared with RTÉ One television, so viewers throughout Ireland can also watch Mass and Services there or on the RTÉ Player. Start times vary slightly between 11.00am and 11.10am.

There is also Mass in Irish, every week at 11.00am, on Raidio na Gaeltachta (93-95 Mhz).

## Easter liturgies on Radio Maria

Radio Maria are broadcasting 24 hours a day, with daily Mass at 10am. Radio Maria is available on:

- Saorview channel 210
- Online at [RadioMaria.ie](http://RadioMaria.ie)
- Radio Maria Ireland mobile app
- Radio Maria-Ireland [Facebook page](#)
- Listen back to [Radio Maria podcasts](#)

## Pope Francis' schedule of events for Easter 2021

The Holy Father will celebrate the Holy Week rites at the Altar of the Cathedra, in Saint Peter's Basilica.

### **Sunday, 4 April 2021**

Easter Sunday - Resurrection of the Lord

[Holy Mass](#) - at 10:00

[Urbi et Orbi](#) - at 12:00

At the end of Holy Mass, the Holy Father will impart the "Urbi et Orbi" blessing.

## Easter from Knock Shrine

Invitation from Knock Shrine: Join us online for our Easter ceremonies, live from Knock Shrine.

### **Sunday, 4 April 2021**

Easter Sunday Mass 12.00 Noon & 7.30pm (with Rosary at 7.00pm)