

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Priests: Fr James Boyle MHM: Fr. John Nevin MHM: Fr. Gerald Doyle MHM

Registered Charity N0: NO: 103983

TWENTYSEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (Cycle A) 8th OCTOBER 2017

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

6pm Sat: 7/10: Charlie Mc Kenna RIP 3rd Anniversary
10am Sun: 8/10: Sangay George for study visa
9am Mon: 9/10: Josephine Campbell RIP
1pm Mon: 9/10: Alice Vernon RIP 2nd Anniversary
9am Tues: 10/10: Intentions of Annette Dale
1pm Tues: 10/10: Mary Mc Crudden RIP
9am Wed: 11/10: Intentions of Joan Stewart
1pm Wed: 11/10: Intentions of James & Deirdre Mc Givern
9am Thurs: 12/10: Intentions of Donor
1pm Thurs: 12/10: Wellbeing of Donor who is sick and has family problems
9am Fri : 13/10: Moira O' Neill RIP
1pm Fri 13/10: Pray for Bridget, Maddie, John & Leon recently died RIP
6pm Fri: 13/10: Wellbeing of Bill Jordan (sick)
9am Sat: 14/10: Intentions of Elizabeth Mc Auley
1pm Sat : 14/10: Annsley & Jimmy Bright RIP
6pm Sat: 14/10: Susanne & Jim Annsley Anniversary Mass

Let us remember the SICK in our Prayers: Paddy Gilliland, Michael Ryan, Peter Monaghan, Joe Faszca & Betty, Jack Burns, Jan & Malachy, Martin Donaghy, Anne Rose, James, Clare, Terry Fullerton, Elsie Cooney, Eileen Delaney, Anne Lambe, Donna Carey, , Danny Mc Kee, David, Dolores Kelly, Dinny Murphy, Sinead Ward, Colette Kearney, Sarah Keyland, Cian Travers, P McCloskey, Mary O' Neill, Maria Antonia Peres, Shannah Smyth, Pat Carville, Sheila Smith, Barry Mulholland, Paul Connolly, Joan Smith, Briege, Kumacho, Nora Mc Mahon, Marie Mc Guigan, Paddy Mc Geough, Paul Kelly, Annie Crawford, Nuala Mailey, Paul Mc Larnon, Patsy Mullan, Larry Mc Gurk, Bernadette Boswell, Seán & Phyliss Smyth, Netta Tracy, Linda McDonald, Christopher Browne, Kevin Heaney, Martha Foley, Louise Green, Marian Hunter, Colm Gallagher, Margaret Mc Cafferty, Anna, Kohl Thelis, Deirdre O'Neill, Sally Matthews, Dominick Mc Crossan, Bridie Mc Crossan, Brenda McKerverey, Donna, Margaret McCriskin, Sr. Eileen Ryan, Margaret Mc Kenna, Jean Kelly, Joseph Duffy, Elizabeth Magee, Arder Carson, Al Mc Comb, Joel Rivera, Nora McDonagh, Maire Mc Kenna, Eddie O' Neill, Martha Foley, Billy Houston, Mick Hughes, Annie Mc Nally.

LAST WEEK COLLECTIONS: 1. £396; 2. £435

THIS WEEK COLLECTION: Heat and Electricity

ROSMINIAN MISSIONARY APPEAL: PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY

NEXT WEEEK COLLECTION: Running Expenses of the Church

FRIDAY BUILDING FUND COLLECTION: £236

SILVER CIRCLE: Bridie Thompson; Marian Jones.

ROSMINIAN MISSIONARY APPEAL: A ROSMINIAN PRIEST, FR. CHRISTY McELWEE, WILL MAKE AN APPEAL FOR FUNDS AT 6PM MASS ON SATURDAY 7TH OF OCTOBER AND AT MASSES ON SUNDAY MORNING 8TH OCTOBER. EACH YEAR THE BISHOP APPROVES FOR ONE MISSIONARY ORDER TO MAKE AN APPEAL FOR FUNDS FOR THEIR MISSIONARY WORK AT ALL PARISHES IN THE DIOCESE. I ASK YOU TO BE GENEROUS TO THE ROSMINIAN

Sunday Reading

First Reading: *Isaiah 5:1-7*

The Lord compares the house of Israel to a vineyard.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 80:9,12-16,19-20*

The Lord protects his vineyard, the house of Israel.

Second Reading: *Philippians 4:6-9*

Paul encourages the Philippians to stay faithful to the teaching they received from him.

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 21:33-43*

Jesus tells the parable about the wicked tenants.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel follows directly after [last Sunday's Gospel](#) in which Jesus was questioned by Jewish religious leaders about the source of his teaching authority. After refusing to answer their questions, Jesus tells the parable of the two sons and then criticizes the priests and elders for their lack of belief in John the Baptist.

In today's Gospel, Jesus once again speaks to the priests and elders with a parable. In this parable, the landowner leases his vineyard to tenants and sends his servants to collect the portion of the harvest that the tenants owe to him. Several times the servants are sent to collect payment, and each time they are beaten and killed by the tenants. Finally, the landowner sends his son to collect his rent. The tenants, believing that they will inherit the vineyard if the landowner dies without an heir, plot together and kill the landowner's son.

After telling the parable, Jesus questions the chief priests and elders about what the landowner will do to the wicked tenants. They all agree that the landowner will kill the wicked tenants and give the land to new tenants who will pay the rent.

In telling the parable, Jesus is clearly drawing upon Isaiah 5:1-7, which is today's first reading and one that the priests and elders would have known well. Jesus doesn't, therefore, have to explain the symbolism of the parable; the Pharisees would have understood that the vineyard represented Israel, the landowner represented God, the servants represented the prophets, and the bad tenants represented the religious leaders. Yet Jesus nonetheless explains the meaning of the parable for his audience: the Kingdom of God will be taken from the unbelieving and given to the faithful. The chief priests and elders have condemned themselves with their answer to Jesus' question.

Today's Gospel has a parallel in [Mark 12:1-12](#). There are some notable differences, however. In Matthew's version, the religious leaders condemn themselves; in Mark's Gospel, Jesus answers his own question. Matthew names the religious leaders as Pharisees and chief priests. Clearly this Gospel shows the tension that was mounting between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders who thought that his message was dangerous. Matthew's Gospel was written about 70 years after Jesus' death and reflects the conflicts and tensions found in the Christian community for whom Matthew was writing. Many biblical scholars believe that the tension between Matthew's community and their Jewish neighbors can also be heard in today's reading.

This Gospel reminds us of the importance of listening to God's word. God speaks to us in many ways—through Scripture, through our Church tradition, in our Church's teaching, and through modern-day prophets. Are we attentive and receptive to God's word to us through these messengers?

Loyola Press

NEW PRIEST FOR ST MARY'S: Fr. Gerald Doyle has been appointed to Belfast by our Mill Hill Superiors. Fr. Gerald who arrived last Wednesday is from Freshford, Co Kilkenny. He is the second child in a family of five boys and four girls. His mother comes from Carrigallen, Co Leitrim. She moved to Kilkenny in 1963 to Marry James Doyle, a farmer from a place called Mucalee. After Fr Gerald's fathers' untimely death in 1980 his mother moved to live in the village of Freshford (where she still lives) and raise her family there alone. After primary schooling Gerald attended Mill Hill secondary school which was situated in Freshford, the village where they were now living. (Fr. James Boyle from St Mary's was one of his teachers there in 1978.) In 1983, after secondary schooling, Gerald moved to Dublin to begin formation to become a Mill Hill Missionary . Fr. John Nevin was his Rector in Dublin. In 1986 after three years in Dublin Gerald continued his theology studies in Mill Hill London. On August 10th 1991 Gerald was ordained a priest in Freshford Parish Church, Co Kilkenny. Gerald's first appointment was to the diocese of Bamenda in Cameroon, West Africa. Fr. Gerald ministered in Cameroon for 20 years and as vocations director for Mill Hill there was involved in the recruitment and formation of 16 Cameroonian Mill Hill priests. After a renewal course in 2012 Fr. Gerald was appointed to Kilkenny to the fundraising and promotion ministry of Mill Hill, Ireland. He did this work along with being Rector of the Mill Hill house Kilkenny. Fr. Gerald comes to St Mary's with a lot of experience and commitment. We welcome him with all our hearts and trust that he will have a long, happy and fruitful ministry here at St Mary's. *Fr. James*

40 DAYS FOR LIFE: From Wednesday 27th Sept to Sunday 5th Nov, Precious Life is urging all Christians to unite in a focused 40 Day campaign to end abortion. We are asking you to pray, fast and join our prayer vigils outside the Marie Stopes and Family Planning centres in Belfast. For more info and your FREE Prayer Pack please contact: (028) 9027 8484 or info@preciouslife.com

ANNUAL LEGION OF MARY ROSARY PROCESSION, SUNDAY OCTOBER 8th
2017: On Sunday 8th October 2017, the annual Legion of Mary Rosary Procession will take place. The procession leaves St John's Church, Falls Road, at 3pm and will process the St Michael the Archangel Church where there will be a short service of Benediction. Refreshments will be available afterwards. Rosary beads and leaflets provided. All are welcome. Please gather at St John's Church at 2.45pm.

PRAYER OF A PHOTOGRAPHER OR ARTIST O God, as I bring my subject into focus, let me remember that I'm creating treasures for some family. Make me sensitive to the qualities and virtues of others, that I may draw out into the light the beautiful radiant belongings of their hearts. **Help me to be an artist, collecting the beauty of every soul, the glow of youth, the laughter or tears of each life that is precious in your sight. Between the lights and the shadows, keep me from getting out of focus, so that my life and work may be framed with dignity and coloured with contentment. Amen** (Remember that through our life and work we are all called to bring God into focus in our world and to let his radiant light shine for all to see. We are God's artists.)

