



# Parish News

## Sunday 7th MARCH

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Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple ...

For the next three Sundays the gospel will be taken from John and will set before us the way in which the fourth evangelist understands the mystery of the cross and resurrection. Of all the evangelists, John relies most heavily on symbolism to communicate the meaning of Easter and what it reveals to us about God and the story for today is no exception. On the face of it what Jesus in cleansing the temple was a rejection of corrupt practices in the temple that distracted from true worship of God. But there is more at stake in his dramatic gesture and this becomes apparent as Jesus responds to the authorities who oppose him. The real issue here is the true worship of God and that will come about through the death and resurrection of Jesus, for as the Word made flesh he is the true temple or dwelling place of God and in him we will come to abide in God's love, which is what true worship is all about.



### **Reflection**

With the passage of time and the familiarity of the cross or crucifix as a religious symbol it may be that we have lost the sense of what Paul and John are saying. We almost seem comfortable with the idea of a crucified Lord. Perhaps the scandal it contains would be clearer to us if we used the symbol of a gallows or an electric chair. Ever since Good Friday our faith is not in God the miracle-worker but in the God who chose to be known through weakness and vulnerability. The love of the new and everlasting covenant is to be experienced not in the glorious parting of the Red Sea but in the love and forgiveness offered by Jesus on the cross.

The true temple of God is no longer to be found in some holy and far away place but is within, as Jesus has made us all temples of the Holy Spirit and in the process challenges us to know God not through mere ritual observance but 'in Spirit and in truth' (Jn 4:23-24).



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### March 2021 - Overview for the Month

The month of March is dedicated to St. Joseph. The entire month falls during the liturgical season of Lent which is represented by the liturgical color purple — a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart.

**The Holy Father's Intentions** for the Month of March 2021 : Sacrament of Reconciliation: Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.



**Bishop Robert Barron** - [Why and How](#) to pray the Rosary

**The Augustine Institute** Register for our [free virtual Bible Conference](#) Prepare for Holy Week". MARCH 27th 2021

**The Bible and the Mass.** journey through scripture – Where is The Mass in the Bible. An excellent video based program - 10 part series presented by Scott Hahn and the Saint Paul Centre. [St Paul Centre](#)

**Knock Shrine** are hosting special online faith discussions during Lent under the title 'Living Christian Faith – Lenten Conversations'. [www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live](http://www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live) or on Facebook@knockshrine.

**Covid Conversations** with Bishop McKeown. 6 guests over 6 weeks on the following topics Medical Profession - Homelessness - Young People - Pastoral Ministry - Music industry -Poverty.

**Wellbeing talks:** St Eugene's Cathedral are hosting a series of well-being talks via Zoom during Lent. Contact [emmet.thompson@derrydiocese.org](mailto:emmet.thompson@derrydiocese.org) or contact the parish office

### Streamed Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses

Vigils 7:00pm Vigil  
8:00pm (Hospital Mass)

Sundays : 10:00am 11:15am and 12:00pm

Weekdays 09:15am 10:00am and 11:00am

Saturday 10:00am 11:00am



Our online masses can be accessed here [ONLINE](#)

Trócaire are appealing to you to continue your support this Lent. Resources, prayers and videos are available on [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org). Trócaire boxes are available at the church doors.



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### Rest in Peace

#### Deaths:

**Barbara Doherty**, Poplar Rd, Funeral Monday in St Columb's Church

#### Anniversaries:

Liam Arbuckle, Mary Russell, Margaret O'Boyle, Charles Dunnion, Mary Bradley, George Doherty, Mary and Dan Boyle, Vincent Magee, John Devine, Laurence Conaghan, Kathleen Loughrey, Isobel Doherty

### A Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



### Contact Details

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