



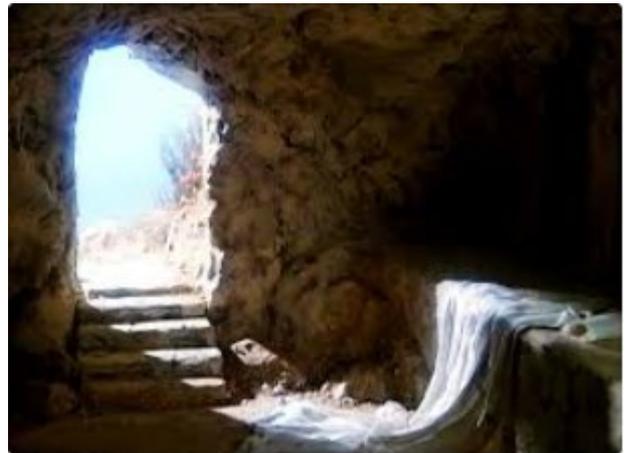
# Parish News

## Sunday 4th APRIL

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### EASTER SUNDAY.

The resurrection of Jesus from the dead was a clear wake-up call to his disciples and all the other people who had 'failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead' (In 20:9). His resurrection challenged them to wake from the sleep of their disbelief and indifference. By going into hiding and even denying all knowledge of Jesus when he was arrested, they had obviously missed the central message of his preaching and teaching.



But when the reality of Jesus' rising from the dead impacted on them, they began to understand that it was quite consistent with all that he had said and done before his death on the cross. So they must have asked themselves why they had not listened to him and recognised him for who he is: the Son of God and the Saviour of the world. As they thought back on the sayings, parables and miracles of Jesus' ministry, they gradually understood the truth of his claim to be 'the Way, the Truth and the Life' (In 14:6).

The realisation that the risen Lord was in their midst changed their lives radically. His several post-resurrection appearances gave them a renewed sense of hope and they became witnesses to his teaching.

The same joy and enthusiasm are meant to apply to us. However, there is also an important difference. Unlike the first disciples, we have the advantage of two millennia of Christian tradition and reflection. We have many opportunities for faith formation that did not exist in the early Church. Yet, even with the benefit of hindsight, we are equally or sometimes even more hesitant than the first-century disciples to make the necessary leap of faith in Jesus who is risen from the dead.

The significance of what happened at Easter is well summarised in the first Preface of Easter which states that 'by dying he [Jesus] destroyed our death; by rising he restored our life'.

This was what Simon Peter and John realised when they arrived at the empty tomb. Effectively, they saw and they believed.



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### Week Beginning 5th April

Easter Monday 5th April 2021 to Easter Friday 9th April 2021

#### Daily Mass

09:15am Immaculate Conception Church  
10:00am & 7:30pm St Columb's Church, Chapel Road  
11:00am St Oliver Plunkett's Church, Strathfoyle

#### Divine Mercy Novena – Chaplet

3:00pm Immaculate Conception Church

#### Holy Hour with Rosary and Benediction

7:30pm Immaculate Conception Church

### Saturday 10th April 2021

#### Daily Mass

10:00am St Columb's Church, Chapel Road  
11:00am Immaculate Conception Church

#### Divine Mercy Novena – Chaplet

3:00pm Immaculate Conception Church

#### Vigil Mass for Divine Mercy Sunday

6:00pm & 8:00pm Immaculate Conception Church  
6:00pm St Oliver Plunkett's Church, Strathfoyle  
7:00pm St Columb's Church, Chapel Road

### Divine Mercy Sunday 11th April 2021

as Easter Sunday 4th April 2021 excluding the Dawn Masses.

The [full schedule](#) is available on the parish website

*All Liturgies are streamed on [www.youtube.com/watersideparish](http://www.youtube.com/watersideparish)*

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### ***Easter Message***

The theme of Easter is joy – joy that the Lord, who was crucified, is no longer dead but risen. Joy, that our sins are forgiven, joy that God has loved us so much, joy that we are precious to God our Father.

Because Jesus is Risen we believe that death is simply a brief interruption on our journey to share in the Lord's kingdom.

I take this opportunity to thank the many people who have assisted in so many ways with the reopening and Easter ceremonies.

I pray that all of us, despite our current restrictions, will experience some of the joy of the Easter event.

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**DIVINE MERCY NOVENA.** Please join us each day at 3:00pm when [the novena](#) will be prayed in the Church of the Immaculate Conception and will complete on Divine Mercy Sunday. (Sunday after Easter). The novena will be streamed live.

**St Paul's Centre** - We've extended access to all episodes of [The Bible and the Mass](#) to help you enter into the Triduum. Connect your experience at Mass to the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper and Good Friday. Watch all episodes through April 5.

**Ralph Martin** - Lenten Mission fulfillment of all desires. Each of the one hour talks of last 4 weeks is available here [Lenten Mission](#)

**Trócaire** Please return your Trocaire box as soon as possible. The contents of each and every Trócaire box, no matter how small, come together to make a significant difference. This virus knows no borders, but neither does our compassion.

**Augustine institute Bible Conference** [recordings](#) part 1 and part 2 are still available to view. The theme is Prepare for Holy Week.

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### **Rest in Peace**

#### **Deaths:**

Margaret Galbraith, Summerhill, Prehen. Sean Friel, Limavady Road, Anna Cole, Bridgewater

#### **Anniversaries:**

Kathleen Arbuckle, Susan Arbuckle, Sammy and Joan Frazer, John Callan, Paddy Doherty, Ann Doherty, Natasha Melendez, Tommy Grimes, Harry McGurk

### **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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