

## Parish Notices

### DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY CELEBRATION

Today, 28th April at 3.00pm

Celebrant : Fr John Littleton

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



ST. MARYS PRIORY, TALLAGHT

SUNDAY 28TH APRIL AT 3PM

Celebrant: Fr John Littleton

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET... HOLY MASS... READING FROM  
ST. FAUSTINA'S DIARY... VENERATION OF DIVINE MERCY IMAGE...  
INDIVIDUAL BLESSING WITH ST. FAUSTINA'S RELIC.

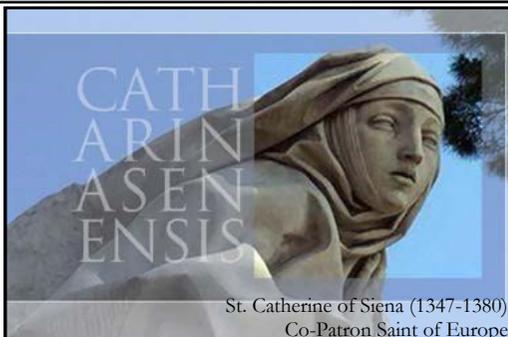
No confession available on the Sunday

### CONFIRMATION IN OUR PARISH

This year children from the 6th class of St. Mary's School will receive Sacrament of Confirmation on 10th May 2019 at 11.00am.

### FIRST FRIDAY

Friday, 3rd May, is a First Friday. Holy Communion will be brought to the sick and housebound of the parish. If you know of somebody that you think should be on our list and may not be, please let us know



St. Catherine of Siena (1347-1380)  
Co-Patron Saint of Europe

### FEAST OF ST. CATHERINE - 29th APRIL DAY OF PRAYER FOR EUROPE

*"If you are what you ought to be, you will set the world alight with the fire of love" (St. Catherine)*

O Father, the fount of all love, infuse in us the courage to imitate in our daily tasks your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ who gave himself to the cross for our sake, that a culture of love might grow in our society. FOR THIS WE PRAY. LORD, HEAR US.

From turning in on ourselves,  
From fear of the diverse and the unknown,  
From the spirit of division,  
From lies and falsehood,  
From disinterest in the common good,  
From indifference,  
From refusing dialogue,  
From disdain for life,  
From the lack of hope,  
DELIVER US, O LORD

With Saint Catherine of Siena, let us pray:  
**O Holy Spirit, come into my heart, by your power, O God, draw me to you and give me charity with right fear.**

**Protect me, Christ, from every evil thought, warm me, enflame me with your most sweet love, so that every burden will seem light to me.**

**My Holy Father and my sweet Lord, now help me with my acts of service.**

**Christ love! Amen.**

PRIOR and PARISH ADMINISTRATOR : Fr Donal Roche OP; PARISH SISTER: Sr Noelle Jennings OP  
DEACON: Br Eamonn Moran OP, CURATE: Fr Robert Regula OP  
Phone: 4048100; email: parish@stmarys-tallaght.ie  
www.stmarys-tallaght.ie

# PRIORY NEWSLETTER

St. Mary's Dominican Priory - Tallaght, 2nd Sunday of Easter (C), 28th APRIL 2019

## My Lord and my God!

In today's Gospel, we hear, over and over, the word "see". The disciples rejoiced when they *saw* the Lord. They tell Thomas: "We have *seen* the Lord". But the Gospel does not describe *how* they saw him; it does not describe the risen Jesus. It simply mentions one detail: "He showed them his hands and his side". It is as if the Gospel wants to tell us that *that* is how the disciples recognized Jesus: through his wounds. The same thing happened to Thomas. He too wanted to *see* "the mark of the nails in his hands", and after *seeing*, he believed.

Despite his lack of faith, we should be grateful to Thomas, because he was not content to hear from others that Jesus was alive, or merely to see him in the flesh. He wanted to *see inside*, to touch with his hand the Lord's wounds, the signs of his love. The Gospel calls Thomas *Didymus*, meaning *the Twin*, and in this he is truly our twin brother. Because for us too, it isn't enough to know that God exists. A God who is risen but remains distant does not fill our lives; an aloof God does not attract us, however just and holy he may be. No, we too need to "see God", to touch him with our hands and to know that he is risen, and risen for us.

How can we see him? Like the disciples: through his wounds. Gazing upon those wounds, the disciples understood the depth of his love. They understood that he had forgiven them, even though some had denied him and abandoned him. To enter



into Jesus' wounds is to contemplate the boundless love flowing from his heart. This is the way. It is to realize that his heart beats for me, for you, for each one of us. Dear brothers and sisters, we can consider ourselves Christians, call ourselves Christians and speak about the many beautiful values of faith, but, like the disciples, we need to see Jesus *by touching his love*. Only thus can we go to the heart of the faith and, like the disciples, find peace and joy beyond all doubt.

Thomas, after seeing the Lord's wounds, cried out: "My Lord and my God!" (v. 28). I would like to reflect on the adjective that Thomas repeats: *my*. It is a possessive adjective. When we think about it, it might seem inappropriate to use it of God. How can God be *mine*? How can I make the Almighty *mine*? The truth is, by saying *my*, we do not profane God, but honour his mercy. Because God wished to "become ours". As in a love story, we tell him: "You became man *for me*, you died and rose *for me* and thus you are not only God; you are *my God*, you are *my life*. In you I have found the love that I was looking for, and much more than I could ever have imagined". (...)

*From Pope Francis's homily at the Divine Mercy Sunday (2018)*