

## Parish Notices

### COLLECTIONS

Offertory: €1581

Share: €913

Envelope: €102

### CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

#### FURTHER ADVICE OF THE IRISH BISHOPS

- All non-essential pastoral gatherings and meetings, such as formation gatherings, retreats and seminars are cancelled.
- All Confirmations are postponed until further notice.
- Every Catholic is entitled to a dignified Christian burial. Attendance at Funeral services and Masses should be limited to close relatives and must not exceed 100 attendees within the church building.
- Similarly, Church weddings and baptisms may be celebrated on condition that the attendance in church does not exceed 100 people.
- In these difficult and uncertain times, people find strength, consolation and hope in prayer. Churches should remain open for prayer each day.
- In the current emergency situation, all are dispensed from the obligation to physically attend Sunday Mass. Parishes should inform parishioners of the local possibilities to participate in Mass via local radio and online. It may be possible for some parishes to facilitate attendance at Mass while still observing the health authority's limit of 100 people.
- This is an occasion for all of us - especially in families - to pray more intensely for each other and especially for those who have succumbed to the illness. We should pray also for those at the frontlines - especially doctors, nurses and medical staff

and other carers including clergy - that the Lord will protect them as they place their own wellbeing at risk in the service of all.

### PRESENT LITURGICAL NORMS

- Please use the hands sanitiser provided in the Church porch.
- For the time being, holy water fonts will remain empty.
- With regard to the offertory collection, parishes are presently seeking an alternative to the practice of passing collection baskets through the congregation. We Acknowledge your continued generous contributions during this time to the upkeep of the parish.
- Having received Holy Communion, and before and after distributing, the priest and ministers should sanitise their hands.
- We ask that Holy Communion be received in the hand until the current crisis has passed.

#### St. John Damascene:

"Let us draw near with an ardent desire, and with our hands held in the form of the cross, let us receive the body of the Crucified One".

#### St. Cyril of Jerusalem:

"When you go to receive communion go with placing your left hand as a throne for your right, which is to receive so great a King, and in the hollow of the palm receive the body of Christ, saying, Amen"

- At this time, the Sign of Peace is not to be expressed by hand shaking
- We pray for those who are worried, anxious or sick at this time

PRIOR and PARISH ADMINISTRATOR : Fr Donal Roche OP; PARISH SISTER: Sr Noelle Jennings OP  
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# PRIORY NEWSLETTER

St. Mary's Dominican Priory - Tallaght, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent (A), 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## SAMARITAN WOMAN

The way in which the woman is led from incomprehension to dawning awareness at a deeper level is splendid. The setting and the imagery (well and water) hold the story together and lead the reader, along with the Samaritan woman, to that deeper level.

The image in the second part is bread. These two images then - bread and water - hold the entire scene together. Bread and water are simple realities in themselves, but how essential! Hunger and thirst are able to command our full attention. Every reader of the story soon realises that Jesus is speaking of a deeper hunger and thirst. The emptiness of the heart is an even more painful condition than physical hunger. (...)

Hunger and thirst will bring even enemies together. "Samaritans came to him and they asked him to stay with them." This is just the opposite of what one would expect; Jews were not welcome in Samaria. (...)

The mind is even able to make an enemy of God, driving him out of the heart, leaving it empty and dried up, choosing to dwell on thoughts of condemnation and guilt. Food in a cupboard only mocks my hunger; it has to become mine by eating. Faith too has to become mine. "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe," said the other Samaritans to the woman, "for *we have heard for ourselves*, and we know



that this is truly the Saviour of the world." We could become experts on the contents of the cupboard - and die of hunger and thirst.

Donagh O'Shea OP, [www.goodnews.ie](http://www.goodnews.ie)

### ST. PATRICK'S DAY

**Monday, 16th March:** 8.00pm

**Tuesday, 17th March:** 8.00am, 9.00am (Irish), 10.00am, 11.15am, 12.30pm (no Evening Mass)

### THE NOW & THEN PRODUCTION COMPANY

In light of the announcement by the government regarding Covid 19, and their request to cancel indoor gatherings with 100+ people, it is with great sadness that we have to postpone the 30th anniversary production of **Jesus Christ Superstar**, scheduled to begin on the 24th of March. This is a postponement and the committee will continue to monitor and work to re-schedule as soon as is practically possible.