

Parish Notices

COLLECTIONS

Offertory: €1149
Share: €1313
Envelope: €15

PARISH ENVELOPE COLLECTION

On account of the Coronavirus Pandemic we were not able to have envelopes distributed at the beginning of the year. Weekly or monthly envelopes available from a member of the Parish Team at the table near St. Martin's Shrine after all Masses this weekend. Envelopes can be returned by using the Collection Baskets before Masses on a Sunday or by handing them in at the Priory Hall Door. Reception open 9.00am to 6.00pm—Monday to Friday.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please, pray for the repose of the soul of **Tommy Kelly**, Bancroft Park, whose funeral was from this Church yesterday (Saturday).

1ST NOVEMBER (Monday): ALL SAINTS

Mass times:
8.00am; 10.00am; 1.00pm; 7.00pm (in Polish) and 8.00pm

2ND NOV: ALL SOULS DAY

Tuesday, 2nd Nov is All Souls Day.

NOVEMBER ALTAR LIST OF THE DEAD

A novena of Masses will be offered in this Church for all on our November Altar List of the Dead during the month of November. Envelopes and lists available at the back of the Church.

ANNUAL MASS OF REMEMBRANCE WED 17TH NOV AT 8.00PM

You are all invited to our annual celebration of the Eucharist for our families,

friends and neighbours who have died. At this Mass we will remember our parishioners and all whose funerals took place from St. Mary's during the past year.



PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD:

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful,
do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong
path
nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth
and what is right.

All this we ask of You,
who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever.
Amen

READ OUR WEBPAGE

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PRIORY NEWSLETTER

St. Mary's Dominican Priory - Tallaght, 31st Sunday of the year (B), 31st October 2021



(...) A bridge is a connection. It is all too easy to make disconnections: it is the easiest thing for the mind to do. A disconnection is a negative, and many live naturally in negativity; they are people who cannot invest themselves in anything. But bridges! Let's make bridges today!

The scribe asked Jesus to mention one law, but he mentioned two. This was the clearest way of saying that they cannot be separated. There is a bridge between the two. There is no real love of God without love of neighbour, and no deep or lasting love of neighbour without love of God. (But many love God unawares.) If these two cannot be separated, they are really only one in practice - like two hands. In Irish a person who has lost one hand is said to be *ar leath-lámh*, "on half a hand." Try playing, say, the violin with only one hand. You might as well have only half a hand.

In fact the Jews had already made this connection. Strict orthodox Jews wore little leather sachets (phylacteries) around their wrists, containing verses from Scripture. They still do, when they are at prayer. One of these verses was, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul". To which the scribes added,

"You must love your neighbour as yourself". In other words, in today's gospel reading Jesus gave the *scribes'* answer.

In Luke's version of the incident, there is a further question; and it was a common one: "Who is my neighbour?". Some Rabbis (definitely not bridge-builders) restricted it to fellow Jews; others gave a somewhat wider definition. Luke was not Jewish himself and was writing for non-Jews; perhaps this is why he alone includes this question. In Luke's handling of it, Jesus turned the question inside out. He told the parable of the Good Samaritan (also a non-Jewish figure). He did not answer the question, *Who is my neighbour?* but a different question, *Whom should I be neighbour to?* This is highly significant. The first question is about other people and how they are to be classified; the second question is about myself and how I should behave towards other people.

The mind is quite happy to look out at the world from an undisturbed position. "In its blind inertia," wrote St Augustine in the 5th century, "it loves to lie concealed, yet it wishes that nothing should be concealed from it." The consequence, he said, is that the tables are turned: you will not be able to hide yourself from the truth, but the truth will be hidden from you. It is very hard to bring the truth home to oneself.

That is the ultimate bridge: the one between myself and the rest of the world. If I don't allow such a bridge or if I am not constantly crossing it, while I may know a lot about religion, I am not a religious person.

Fr Donagh O'Shea OP

Read full commentary at www.goodnews.ie