

Church of the Holy Spirit Ballyroan

7th November 2021

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)



Archdiocese Covid Update 21st October 2021

Further clarification has been received from Government regarding the announcement on Tuesday that from Friday October 22nd,

“religious services and weddings can proceed without capacity limits but with all other protective measures remaining in place”.

The update from Government provides the following commentary:

This is a very positive measure, however it is imperative that all other Covid-19 protective measures remain in place in order to protect all members of our communities/congregations.

Premises should be well ventilated, hand sanitiser should be provided, Places of Worship should continue to use separate entry and exit routes, and face masks should be worn. Congregations should be encouraged to spread out as much as possible when attending Places of Worship and those experiencing any Covid-19 symptoms should be discouraged from attending.

As the capacity of Places of Worship and numbers attending varies greatly, the onus will be on each Place of Worship and community to consider what they are comfortable with and what best suits their congregation. This will be particularly relevant for funerals/special ceremonies, with large congregations in attendance. Attendees on these occasions should not be permitted to stand in the aisles or doorways and hand-shaking and the use of condolence books/sharing of Booklets etc should continue to be avoided.

Choirs or soloists performing in Places of Worship should be limited in line with the size/capacity of the venue, and should adhere to 2 metre social distance from other singers, the choir master, the congregation and any other individuals in the setting (as they will not be wearing face masks during performances).

When entering the Church: Please wear face masks, social distance, and use the hand sanitizers.

Bereavements

We remember all those recently deceased in our parish. Our thoughts and our prayers are with their loved ones and their families.

“Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them”.

Readers Roster - 6th / 7th November

Saturday 7pm: David Meade : Joan McCarthy
Sunday 10am: Helen Vysotska : Gerry Moore
12am: Eimear O'Shea : Moira Hanbidge

Readers Roster - 13th & 14 November

Saturday 7pm: Margaret Howett : Tessa Dagg
Sunday 10am: Felicity Coll : Ann Walsh
12am: Moira Hanbidge : Rose Sullivan

Anniversary Mass: please book an anniversary Mass at least one month in advance to help us facilitate the date you require.

These Masses can only be booked directly with the office.

Finance Corner

1st Collection 24th Oct : €1070.00
Shrine : €800.00

1st Collection 31st Oct : €1395.00
Shrine : €728.00

Mass Intentions 6th—12th November

Saturday: Paddy Kearney (A) : Nuala Brooks (A)
May Dillon (A) : Brendan McCabe (A)
Special Intention for the sick
Sun 10am: Adrienne Meegan (RIP) : Noel Lakes (A)
Sun 12am: Ann O'Donohoe (A)
Monday: Canon Seamus Cunnane (RIP)
Marie O'Leary (RIP) : Thomas O'Brien (RIP)
Fr. Michael Mulvihill CSSP (A)
Tuesday: Ann Farrell (RIP) : Donald Morrissey (RIP)
Wednesday: Brendan Hyland : Mary Murphy (RIP)
Thursday: Bridge Tams (RIP)
Friday: Mary McDonald (RIP) : Patrick Mulvey (RIP)

Our Confirmation Ceremonies- a reflection on a wonderful month! - by Deacon Frank

Last Saturday Fr Michael and the confirmation preparation team, (Ger, Moira and Frank) completed the last of four ceremonies for over 200 young people.

Over the course of October about 50 young people and their parents attended each of the four preparation evenings on the Monday prior to their special day. Some of our young people had because of COVID19, been waiting for up to two years. Fr Michael and the team **wanted to make the preparation and ceremony a prayerful and enjoyable experience for all our young people.**

The parish bought a copy of wonderful booklet 'your child's Confirmation,' and we encouraged the young people and their parents to try to read this booklet before the ceremony, as we felt it would really add to their experience on the big day. We encouraged mum and dad to share their own experiences of their confirmation day and what it meant for them. We also asked them as a family, to say some prayers together, perhaps remembering a sick or deceased loved one.

During our preparation evening we had a **few minutes of silence** after we heard the famous story from the Acts of the Apostles, Ch 2:1-13, the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the terrified disciples of Jesus, who were lost without him. You could hear a pin drop as the Taize music 'Veni Sancte Spiritus- Come Holy Spirit' was played.

We really wanted to convey to our young people that **the experience of the Holy Spirit- changed Jesus's life at his baptism by John.** It was then that Jesus began his wandering ministry that would change the lives of many and the course of history. The Holy Spirit changed the lives of the early followers of Jesus after he had been executed, when they too experienced the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, and this gave rise to our first Christian church community.

The confirmation booklet explained the history of Confirmation – and that all the three special ceremonies of **baptism, eucharist (or Holy Communion) and confirmation** are part of an initiation or **journey to becoming a Christian** within our faith community. While we cannot see God, we can experience God's presence at special moments in our life- we use signs or symbols called sacraments to acknowledge this. At Confirmation we are asking the Holy Spirit to be part of our lives.

Finally, we used the booklet to offer **suggestions for prayers** to say and a way for our young people to pray with some of readings from the New Testament about the life of Jesus and his message of love and forgiveness.

Praying is being open, from our heart or emotions to having a relationship with God, taking a moment of silence, asking the Holy Spirit to be with us, to guide us, to love us, so we can place ourselves in a position to experience God's presence.

If you have a favourite part in the Gospel readings, you could repeat it slowly a few times- This is a beautiful reading to start with?

John 13: 34-35

I give you a new commandment-
Love one another; just as I have loved you, you must also love one another.

By this love you have for one another,
everyone will know that you are my disciples.

What does this message say to be me today?

Church Seating

In keeping with the current Diocesan guidelines that congregations in churches should spread out as much as possible, and, mindful that some people are very anxious to be socially distanced while attending Mass, we have kept the front part of the church spaced out to allow for social distancing.

This means that the two main blocks of seats nearest the altar and the two side chapels have every second row closed off.

The two large blocks of seats nearest the main entrance are open seating.

We thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Meetings

Church Grounds and Maintenance Tuesday 9th

Ruah Management Committee Wednesday 10th

U3A: The next meeting of Ballyroan U3A members will take place on Monday next 8th November in the Ruah Centre at 10.30.am.

Covid certificates will be checked at the entrance.

Masks must be worn at all times during the meeting.

Saints of the Day 6th—12th November

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| Saturday: | All the Saints of Ireland |
| Sunday | 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time |
| Monday | Of the day |
| Tuesday | The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica |
| Wednesday | St. Leo the Great (Pope) |
| Thursday | St. Martin of Tours (Bishop) |
| Friday | St. Josaphat (Bishop) |

Parish Information

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| Parish Priest: | Father Michael Murtagh |
| Deacon: | Frank Browne |
| Parish Secretary: | Mary McDade |
| Email: | ballyroanparish@gmail.com |
| Parish Office: | 01 4947303 |

Parish Office Opening hours:

Monday - Friday: 10.00am – 12.00 noon
Closed on Tuesdays

Mass Times

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| Monday - Friday: | 10am |
| Saturday: | 7pm |
| Sunday: | 10am & 12am |