

Saint Mark whose feast we celebrate on the 25th of April was one of the four evangelists that is one of the four who wrote the gospels of the New Testament. Mark's Gospel was written first and is the shortest

“Look I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: prepare away for the Lord, make his paths straight”

The wings come from Ezekiel 1:10 and the application of the prophet's vision of four winged creatures to the evangelists.

Saint Mark and Venice

Since the ninth century Mark has been most frequently associated with Venice after Venetian merchants smuggled most of his relics from Alexandria in Egypt and took them to Venice.

Saint Marks basilica was built to house these remains and was completed in 1071. The winged lion later became the official symbol of the Venetian Republic.



Midday St Marks Square viewed from the Basilica -in normal times (above) and at present (below)

description of Jesus' Life, Death, Resurrection and Ascension. Mark's writings helped both Matthew and Luke to write their gospels. Mark like Luke was not one of the original disciples and probably never knew Jesus. He was a cousin of Barnabas and went with Barnabas and Saint Paul on some of their travels. During his imprisonment in Rome, St Paul mentions Mark's concern for him. He was also a frequent companion of Saint Peter and his gospel in fact may be drawn from the sermons of Saint Peter.

Saint Mark was martyred in Alexandria in Egypt where he had gone to preach the gospel of Christ. He is traditionally regarded as the founder of the church in Egypt and the Coptic liturgy is named in his honour

The symbol for Mark is a lion with wings -this is because his gospel begins with the story of John the Baptist which artists compared to the roaring of a lion (Mark 1:3)



- Tues 21 St Anselm, bishop and doctor of the Church
- Thurs 23 St George, martyr
St Adalbert of Prague, bishop and martyr
- Fri 24 St Fidelis of Sigmaringen, priest and martyr
- Sat 25 ST MARK EVANGELIST

“Nothing which is worth doing is ever done without great sacrifice. Every dream in its unfolding has difficult times, times when those who work with it are discouraged, when it seems as though those who were committed to it have lost the vision.”

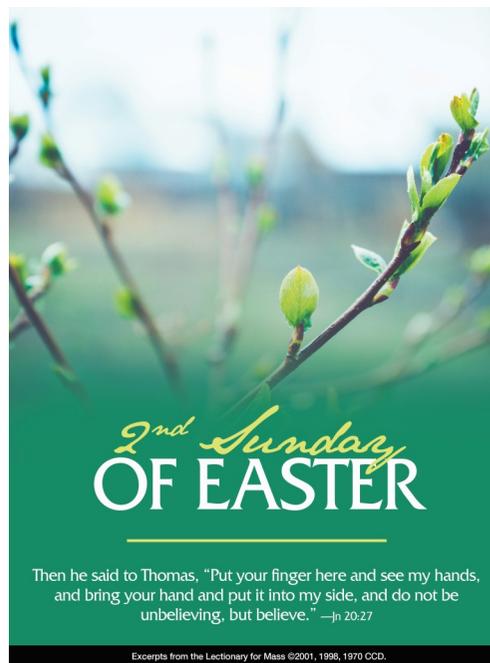
On Great Sacrifice . . . Thomas Merton



FOXROCK PARISH

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 19th APRIL 2020 Divine Mercy Sunday



Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." —Jn 20:27

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

MASS INTENTIONS

- Rita Mulcahy (20th Anv)
- David Conlon (Anv)
- Gerald Kennedy (Anv)
- Mabel Farrell (Anv)
- Neil Hurley (Anv)
- Damien Ryan (Anv)
- Mae & John Torpey (Anvs)
- George & Philomena Gallagher (Anvs)
- Una O' Kelly (Birthday Remembrance) (93rd)

- Anvs
- Terry Byrne
- John Howard
- Alice Payne

www.foxrockparish.ie
secretary@foxrockparish.ie
Fr Kieran Dunne 01 2893492
pp@foxrockparish.ie
Parish Office/Sacristy 01 2893492
Monday - Friday 10.30 - 12.30
Parish Pastoral Worker Maeve Davidson
087 6904814; 087 2853726
maevedavidson@foxrockparish.ie.

Recently Deceased

- Sighle Dunn
- Sister Patricia Kelly
- Flo Dawson
- Eileen Dalton
- Patrick (Paddy) Healy
- Marie Kearon

May they rest in peace





April 19, 2020
Second Sunday of Easter

life changing when it takes root in the depth of a person's soul. Stumbling upon this awesome truth and internalizing it doesn't require an assent of the mind. It beckons for a claim on our soul. We find ourselves knowing something profound that cannot be explained or reasoned, but purely is. When we are caught up in an experience and encounter the truth, it doesn't matter how all of the pieces got put together. Truth is simply truth. The "my Lord and my God" responses we utter are not evoked because all of the pieces of faith and life make reasonable sense. The "my Lord and my God" affirmations come when we are lifted up out of our preoccupations and silliness and are in the presence of mystery and mercy.

God is mystery, one who is beyond our grasp but at the same time within our reach, knowable yet unknowable. And when in the presence of mystery, there comes an intense experience of mercy. We know deep within the essence of ourselves — and in the very life of creation — this beating, unconditionally accepting, life-sustaining, profound, mysterious yet familiar presence of love. We have found our peace. "Peace be with you." Breathe in and breathe out. Peace.

©LPi

A person was going through a very dark time, questioning the meaning of life, not feeling very purposeful or worthwhile, and feeling disconnected and unappreciated. Suddenly, they gazed up at the night sky, found themselves in awe of all the stars and constellations, and exclaimed, "I am here on purpose and I am loved!" Having been brought by God to this moment of intense connection and awareness, his life changed from that moment on.

If we are always preoccupied with the challenges, obligations, and stuff of daily life, we can easily miss the wonderful opportunities when the resurrected Christ is knocking at our door. If we open ourselves to the fullness of experience, we will find ourselves listening and embracing all that is around us, being caught up in the magnificence of creation's grandeur and knowing in our heart and soul that God is and I am.

While that sounds like a simple, tell-me-something-I don't-know kind of revelation, it is



Pope Francis delivered his traditional *Urbi et Orbi* (to the city and the world) on Easter Sunday in which he challenges us to ban indifference, self-centredness, division and forgetfulness during this time of COVID-19. He called his message "a different contagion" one that is transmitted from heart-to-heart. It is like new flame that springs up in the night of the world already faced with epochal challenges and now oppressed by a pandemic severely testing our whole family.

Christ's Resurrection is not a magic formula that makes problems vanish. It is a victory of love over the root of evil. This victory does not bypass suffering but passes through them, opening a path in the abyss, transforming evil into good.

For many this is an Easter of solitude, lived amid the sorrow and hardship that the pandemic is causing - from physical suffering to economic difficulties. This disease has not only deprived us of human closeness but also of the possibility of receiving in person the

consolation that flows from particularly the Eucharist and Reconciliation -but the Lord has not left us alone. United in our prayer we are convinced that he laid his hand upon us.

The Pope then expressed his gratitude and affection the doctors and nurses and to all who work diligently to guarantee the essential services necessary for civil society and to the law enforcement and military personnel who in many countries have helped ease people's difficulties and sufferings

Pope Francis acknowledged that it is also time of worry about an uncertain future, about jobs that are at risk. He encouraged political leaders to work actively for the common good providing the means to enable everyone to lead a dignified life and when circumstances allow to assist them in resuming their normal daily activities.

"Indifference, self-centredness, division and forgetfulness are not words we want to hear at this time", said the Pope. These words "seem to prevail when fear and death overwhelm us", and we want to ban them forever, he added.

He concluded with a prayer "May Christ who has already defeated death and opened for us the way to eternal salvation, dispel the darkness of our suffering humanity and lead us into the light of His glorious day. A day that knows no end"

(Full text available on Vatican website)

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

FIRST READING

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: "You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judea: about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism.

Ac 10:34-37-43

PSALM

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:

'His love has no end'

Ps 117:1-2.16-17.22-23

SECOND READING

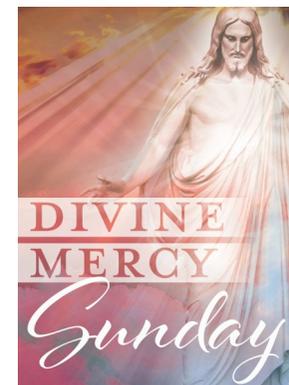
Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand.

Col 3:1-4

GOSPEL

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved.

Jn 20:1-9



With no collections being taken up at present at Sunday Mass, it is very important that we continue to support our priests especially in these most difficult times. To contribute - Log onto Dublin Diocese website and click the DONATE button on the home page. You can also pay Easter Dues in the same way. In addition, for those in a position to do so, envelopes may be dropped in the letterbox at the entrance to the Pastoral Centre .