



community. This was known as the 'Benedictine Rule' and became the norm for monastic living throughout medieval Europe. It is still used as the basis for monastic life in many orders today. As a result, St. Benedict is considered the father of Western monasticism

This week we celebrate the feast of St Benedict (died 547) who founded the famous monastery of Monte Cassino and was named Patron Saint of Europe in 1964 by Pope Paul VI.

Benedict was born into a wealthy family in North East Umbria around about 480 AD. He went to school in Rome initially but eventually spent three years as a hermit in the mountains about 40 miles from Rome where he was joined by several disciples.

In 529 he left the area for Monte Cassino where he built a great Abbey and lived there till his death in 547.

Here he wrote a series of instructions for his monastery, as rules for a life of work and prayer in the monastic

Pope Benedict XVI described the decision of his namesake St Benedict to locate his monastery on Monte Cassino as symbolic. Monte Cassino is, he said, "a height that dominates the surrounding plains and is visible from a distance". "Monastic life," the Pope continued, "has its *raison d'être* in withdrawal and concealment, but a monastery also has a public role in the life of the Church and of society".

Glenstal Abbey in Co. Limerick and Holy Cross Monastery, Rostrevor, Co. Down, are two Benedictine monasteries in Ireland which strive to fulfil this ideal.

Mon 6 St Maria Goretti, virgin and martyr

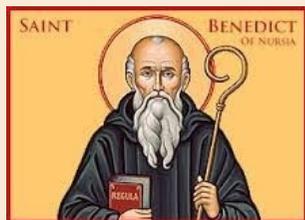
St Moninne, virgin

Tues 7 St Maelruan, bishop and abbot

Wed 8 St Kilian, bishop and martyr

Thurs 9 Ss Augustine Zhao Rong, priest, and Companions, martyrs

Sat 11 ST BENEDICT, ABBOT, PATRON OF EUROPE



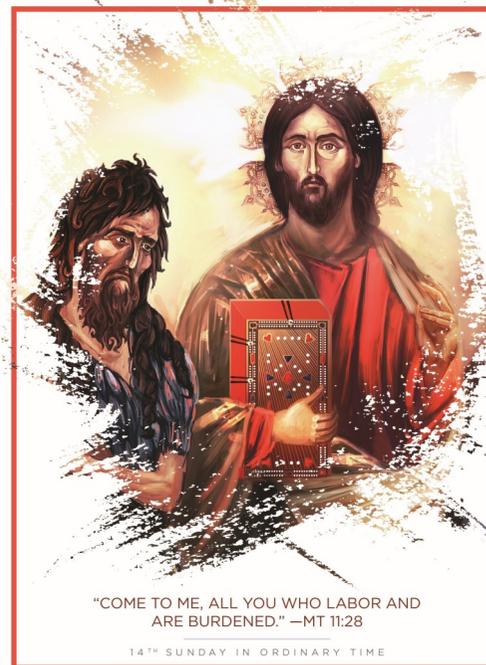
'There is nothing better to display the truth in an excellent light, than a clear and simple statement of facts.'

Benedict of Nursia



FOXROCK PARISH
Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
14th Sunday in Ordinary Time



MASS INTENTIONS

Marjorie Mulvaney, 1st (Anv)
Dolores Hackett, (Anv)
Pax Hackett, (Anv)
Paddy Brazil, (Anv)
Tom Griffin, (Anv)

Jim Manly, Month's Mind
Mavis Moore, Month's Mind
Noel Montayne, Month's Mind
Archdeacon Ciarán Canon
Holahan, Month's Mind
Philomena Hughes, Month's Mind
Margaret (Peggy) Egan,
Month's Mind
Noreen English, Month's Mind
John Fitzgerald, Month's Mind

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
Maud Kerney
Matt Whelan
Caroline Morton
Brid Blair
Verona Toal



May they rest in peace



14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The main invitation that Jesus offers us is the one to follow him: 'if anyone wants to come with me, they must deny themselves, take up their cross and follow me.' (Mt. 16.24). This is simply an invitation, but it is also a very challenging one. In today's Gospel, Jesus offers us another invitation, but it is more comforting and supportive!

The Gospel begins with Jesus naming God as the creator of heaven and earth; all that exists. Then Jesus claims that no one knows God except him; theirs is a unique and very personal friendship. Jesus then calls and invites his friends and followers to become part of this dynamic and intimate relationship. He says to them and each of us today, 'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me.. .' What is this 'yoke' of which Jesus speaks? At the time of Jesus and before there was modern farming equipment, a yoke was a wooden harness that was used for oxen to get them to pull a cart or plough together as a pair. It was to prevent them from pulling away from each other. Jesus is inviting us to take his yoke on our shoulders. This will make it easier for us to walk where he walks without too much stress or strain – it keeps us together. This is meant to take and lift some of the weight and stress from our shoulders. Literally, Jesus is offering to 'shoulder' our problems and difficulties; we are not walking with them or carrying them by ourselves.

In our 'normal' daily lives before Covid 19, we all experienced the struggles and difficulties of daily life: illness, family problems, bereavement and so much more with which we are all too familiar. These recent months however have put so much stress and strain on all of us because of separation, isolation, social distancing, illness and sadly death. Our usual daily routines and activities were suddenly stopped, even taken from us. No one saw this coming. There were no countries, health services or governments prepared for the impact this virus has had and is still having on us personally, locally, nationally and globally. We have all responded as best we can and hopefully the worst of this is now beginning to end and we can start to look to the future and a 'new normal' with hope and confidence.

We are not alone as we experience any of this. Jesus says to each of us this very day 'Come to me if you are overburdened and I will give you rest.' Jesus is not asking us to go through any of this on our own. He wants to walk with us by our side and wants us to walk with him. As we take up our cross and follow Jesus, he also wants us to shoulder his yoke so that he can support and strengthen us during these difficult days. We are not alone.

As we continue to live with the ongoing impact of the virus, can we also hear and accept the invitation that Jesus offers to each of us today and everyday; 'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened and I will give you rest.'

– Br Michael Moore OMI



CHURCH REOPENING

Details available online.
www.foxrockparish.ie

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FIRST READING

The Lord says this:

Rejoice heart and soul, daughters of Zion
(Zec 9:9-10)

PSALM

I will give you glory, O God my King,
I will bless your name for ever.
(Ps 144:1-2.8-11.3-14)

SECOND READING

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you.
(1 Rm 8:9.11-13)

GOSPEL

Jesus exclaimed 'I will bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. (Mt 11:25-30)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL REPORT

Meeting 23rd June 2020.

At the June meeting of the PPC, the re-opening of the Church for public Masses was the main subject for discussion. Fr. Kieran hopes to re-open by the 1st July for daily Mass, and later in July for Sunday Masses, subject to the result of a risk assessment survey. A lot of preparation, in response to a checklist from the archdiocese, is being done in terms of signage, social distancing, reduced numbers (probably around 50) and training of volunteers for sanitising the church on a regular basis, stewarding etc. It will be necessary to reserve a place at Mass online or by ringing the Parish Office and name and details will be required for contact tracing purposes. All details will be available on the Parish website and announced at the Masses on webcam as soon as they are finalised. We look forward to some return to normality – though a new normal. There is great concern for the safety and well-being of all who come to the church.

Goretti expressed the gratitude of all to Fr. Kieran and the Parish Team and volunteers for all they are doing to maintain the parish community spirit especially with the daily webcam Mass and online information, graduation ceremonies for the primary schools, and Family Masses. As it will not be either obligatory or possible for all who wish, to

attend Mass in person in the coming weeks, it will still be available on webcam.

The Parish Pastoral Council is preparing a report on the future of lay ministry in the parish in response to a request from the Archbishop to all parishes in the archdiocese. A dialogue will be initiated within the parish, particularly among younger people, groups and families to elicit ideas about how the parish can be renewed and enlivened. Various topics will be explored including youth, all parish groups and committees, adult faith formation, preparation for the sacraments, communication including social media, webcam, and the tenets of Laudato 'Si. It is expected that preparation for First Holy Communion and Confirmation may be in the parish rather than the schools in time to come, and a lot of preparation will be required for this.

Following their winning achievement in the UNESCO Environmental competition, the Youth Club will be recruiting new members after the Summer. The Youth leaders will follow what happens with the re-opening of schools and plan accordingly. Further projects are planned particularly in the area of ecology, with the help of electronic media, and hopefully soon with the resumption of Youth Club gatherings.

Child Protection: those who volunteer for stewarding in the church will not be required to undertake Garda vetting.