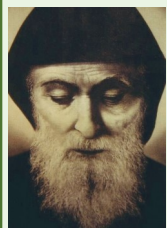


DOUBT

IF faith is taken here in its sense of trust, doubt may for the present purpose be considered as fear, hesitation, anxiety as to whether the whole spiritual life hasn't been a delusion. That is to say not as doubt against revealed truth but as doubt about the reality of God's providence. In fact this is the stuff of that darkness which is discussed in these pages. It comprises a sense of having been abandoned by God, a conviction that all has been wrong from the beginning, a dread of going forward into what seems like mid-air, a fear that one is not even—so keen is the feeling of guilt—in a state of grace. Doubting everything ... no security anywhere . . . life itself unreal, meaningless, without order or value or

purpose. Such is this particular trial, and it is no good saying that it is one which can be gently detached from the soul and offered to God with a smile: if this were possible the darkness would be disposed of at once. No, it is only the fleeting doubts and spasms of panic which can be brushed off the surface of the soul: the bigger uncertainty of which we treat here is for a time a fundamental and all significant factor of the soul's purification, and the only course to pursue in meeting it is that of abandonment into the unseen and unfelt hands of God.

Moments of Light
Dom Hubert Van Zeller



Saint Charbel Makhlof:

May 8, 1828 – December 24, 1898. Born Youssef Antoun Makhlof, he was a Maronite monk and priest from Lebanon and at his ordination took the name Charbel, after a Christian martyr in Antioch from the 2nd century.

During his life he obtained a wide reputation for holiness. He is known among Lebanese Christians for his miraculous healings in answer to prayers said at his tomb, located at the Monastery of St. Maron, and for his ability to unite Christians and Muslims. He was canonized in 1977 by Pope Paul VI.

Saints of the Week

- Tues 20 St Apollinaris, bishop and martyr
Wed 21 St Lawrence of Brindisi, priest and doctor of the Church
Thurs 22 ST MARY MAGDALENE
Fri 23 ST BRIDGET OF SWEDEN, RELIGIOUS, PATRON OF EUROPE
Sat 24 St Charbel Makhlof, priest

Our job is to love others without stopping to inquire whether or not they are worthy. That is not our business and, in fact, it is nobody's business. What we are asked to do is to love, and this love itself will render both ourselves and our neighbours worthy.

Thomas Merton



FOXROCK PARISH

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour



16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length. Mk 6:34

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MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 17th July 6 pm

Cormac Mc Carthy - Recently Deceased.

Sunday 18th July 10 am

Patrick O' Brien - 7th Anniversary
Elizabeth Woods - 5th Anniversary

11.30 am

Kate & Eamonn Keating - Anniversaries.
Verdie Bracken - 21st Anniversary

Other intentions

Anniversaries:-

Nan & Peter O' Donovan
Jack O' Brien
Nuala Mac Con Iomaire

Recently deceased
Liam Stephenson

RECENTLY DECEASED

Bridgeen Deale

May she rest in peace





July 18, 2021
16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

There's an ordinary pine grove located on a tree farm not too far from town where life's stresses and demands seem to melt away. It is here that all that seemed so important out there no longer is and one can get lost in the rows of trees and majestic beauty. God is here and all is good. We need to connect with the Divine Source of all that is in order to understand what it is we are doing and why we are doing it. Otherwise, things stop making sense and bitterness can overcome one's spirit. It's okay to play once in a while and to discover that place of profound life and peace. People always have needs and there is constantly something to do. And while all of that is necessary and we are needed, there is also that inner solitude within that needs to be celebrated and released.

We all need a pine grove. It's that little place we can go and leave all that consumes us behind. It's a place where technology can be set aside and wonder,

and awe given some time. We don't have to text, calculate, or orchestrate anything in the pine grove. It is a somewhat deserted place where all of that can be set aside and we can just be. The anger, frustration, exhaustion, discouragement, helplessness, and occasional apathy, all can fall to the ground like all of those pine needles that once held their place on the branch of a Frasier Fir. The needles can let go. We can let go. We are beings connected with Being and we all need to remember what really matters, who really matters and what life is truly all about. We need to find that place where we can rest and let go of all of the barnacles we accumulate. Rest, breathe, seek, and love.

The world will need us again when we leave the pine grove. It will all be waiting for us, beckoning for our attention. But we will have prayed and will have marveled at the silence and the beauty of goodness. We can go back, ready, and eager to listen, to help, to heal, to cry, to embrace, and attend to all that is asked of us. But, having let go of the distractions in that deserted place we will have a renewed sense of purpose. We will know better Who it is we serve and what we are meant to do. It will all be clearer now that we have been Divinely touched and refreshed.

©LPi

16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FIRST READING

'Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered - it is the Lord who speaks ! (Jer 23:1-6)

PSALM

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. (Ps22)

SECOND READING

In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far apart from us have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ. (Eph 2:13-18)

GOSPEL

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught (Mk 6:30-34)

Vox Hiberniae, an ensemble comprised of musicians from a number of Dublin parishes including Foxrock, have put together a 30 minute reflection to celebrate the year of St Joseph. "A Celtic Journey with St. Joseph" contemplates his life with Harp, Voice and Strings and can be viewed at the following link.

<https://youtu.be/Y498lnt5ZmY>

The annual Dun Laoghaire series of Organ concerts continues on line this evening (18th July) at 8.00 pm in St Michael's Church with soloist Robbie Carroll and music by JS Bach, N. Rorem, C.V. Stanford and F. Mendelssohn

NEW VOCATIONS TEAM FOR THE PRIESTHOOD IN DUBLIN

Archbishop Dermot Farrell has appointed a New Team for Vocations to the Priesthood for the Archdiocese of Dublin. Fr. Séamus McEntee is now the new Director of Vocation to the Priesthood with Fr. Bill O'Shaughnessy as the new Assistant Vocations Director. Fr. Séamus has assisted on the vocations team for the past seven years and is delighted to be working alongside Fr. Bill in this exciting role of assisting men discern their call to priesthood as well as vocations promotion. Let us pray that God will continue to call enthusiastic

men to the priesthood for our Archdiocese. If you know of anyone who thinks they might have a vocation to be a priest or is interested in finding out more about being a priest for the Archdiocese of Dublin, please ask them to contact either Fr. Séamus or Fr. Bill on the Vocations Team at:

vocations@dublindiocese.ie or check out: [Vocations | Archdiocese of Dublin \(dublindiocese.ie\)](http://Vocations | Archdiocese of Dublin (dublindiocese.ie))

Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest'. Mt 9.37



SVP wishes to thank parishioners for their contribution of €1124 at the recent outdoor collection.