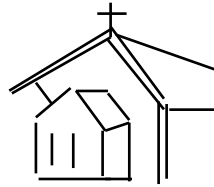


GLANMIRE PARISH

7th February 2016

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time



St Joseph's Church	St Michael's Church
Mon. Fri 10.00 am Ash Wednesday 10.00 am & 7.30 pm.	Ash Wednesday 11.00 am Thursday & Friday 9.20 am
Saturday (Vigil) 6pm	
Sunday 9.00, 10.30; 12.00	Sunday 10.00 am

St Joseph's Church Adoration Monday night 8.30 pm – 9.30 pm. Fri 10am – 10pm.

St Michael's Church Thursday 10 am – Noon

The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed at **3 pm Friday in St Joseph's Church**

Fr John Newman Tel.087. 2485684, Fr John Heinhold Tel.087 1689292.

Parish website: www.glanmireparish.ie/

Parish office open Tues. Wed. & Thurs. 10 am to 1 pm. Tel:4820654

Beyond Chocolate: Going Deeper in Lent

From the time we were children, our first question for Lent was often, "What are you giving up for Lent?" Giving something up for these 40 days is a custom that, when we are young, helps us enter into the season with a sense of purpose and a greater awareness.

As adults, we might want to consider looking at Lent in a deeper way. We are probably much more settled into our behaviours and patterns of life and sometimes giving up something is where we begin – and end – our reflections on Lent. It can be tempting to say "I am giving up chocolate" or beer or even all sweets and all alcohol. But without more reflection, it can become simply a way I show God how strong I am. It is more about me than any conversation with God.

Lent isn't simply about us "giving up" something, but this year we might reflect and ask the deeper question: What is God inviting me to change this lent? How do I know what God might be stirring in me? Asking what we would like to change about ourselves this Lent requires a little reflection. What pattern of behaviour in my life needs changing? What do I need more of in my life? Patience? Unselfishness? More loving behaviour toward my spouse or children?

Each of us can think of something that gets in the way of our being loving and self-sacrificing. Too often the ordinary conflicts, divisions and difficulties in our family life result from simple selfishness on my part. So could we imagine for this year our Lenten practice may involve telling members of our family – those whom we have most offended – that we are sorry and ask them to help us to work with us to bring more unity and peace to our family life.

In asking God to help, we might ponder one of the many healing gospels, like Mark 2: 1-12. In this story, a group of friends carried a mat with a paralyzed man to Jesus, who was teaching inside a house and they could not get to him. So they went up to the roof and moved the tiles and lowered their friend on the mat to Jesus below. The words to this gospel say that the friends on the roof had "broken through" the tiles to lower their friend into the house for healing. Their breakthrough led directly to the healing.

Where do we need a breakthrough? What is the barrier that keeps us from asking for healing? In our own lives, we need to breakthrough our denials, defensiveness, and our unwillingness to look at ourselves. If we don't know what the barrier is, these weeks of Lent are a great time to reflect upon it. When we identify the barrier, we have made the breakthrough. That's when Jesus can heal us of it.

That's why it's good to look beyond giving up chocolate, but go a little deeper. It allows God's grace into my soul and into the place where my real life exists. That's where Jesus stands with me every day, waiting for me to be lowered from the roof so he can touch me and heal me.

Do This in Memory 1st Sunday of Lent – 14th February.

New Inn School in St Joseph's Church at 6 pm.

St Joseph's N.S. in St Joseph's Church at 10.30 am Mass.

St Michael's School in St Michael's Church at 10 am Mass.

Nomination Forms for the Parish Assembly are available at the back of the church.

STATIONS

Castlejane/Ardbarra at the home of Rose Meade on Tuesday 9th February at 8 pm.

If you would like to host a Station Mass in your home please contact the office.

Lenten Talks Glanmire 2016 - Laudato Si and 'Care for our Common Home'

Week 1, St Joseph's Church 16th Feb at 8 pm - Green Schools, fair trade etc. Presentation from Sandra Dinan and Olivia Binks, Transition Year Students in Scoil Mhuire College Cork, talking about the environment and the problems we as a community create such as litter and pollution. The theme of the night is young people telling us older generation to care for the world that is their future.

Lourdes 2016 Young Adult Helpers: The Diocese of Cork & Ross invites Young Adults 18-30 year olds to come to Lourdes as helpers from 11th to 16th June. As helpers you will assist with the sick and be involved in the full pilgrimage programme as well as time for prayer, for making new friends and sharing in the story of Lourdes. Limited number of places available. Contact Fr Charlie Kiely 021.4537603, Pastoral Development Office, Parochial House, Ballyphehane, or email:charles.kiely@corkandross.org