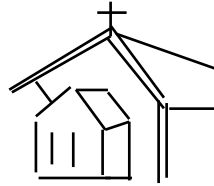


GLANMIRE PARISH

19th June, 2016

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time



St Joseph's Church	St Michael's Church
Mon. Fri 10.00 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/
www.facebook.com/GlanmireCatholicParish/
 Parish office open Tues. Wed & Thurs 10 am to 1 pm.

In the story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus, it is said that Jesus took them through a journey of the Old Testament and the prophets, and “interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures” (Luke 24).

Surely the passage from Zechariah today was a centerpiece on that journey through the Word of God: “...they shall look on him whom they have pierced”. After 2000 years of reflection, the Church surely knows that Jesus is the one we behold in love, and the one from whom we draw “living water” as from a fountain (Jn. 4:10).

These images are spiritually potent, and need to be taken seriously. As Christians we are called to behold Christ and to drink Christ. We are to behold him mostly upon the cross, the epicenter of all reality and time.

To neglect contemplating the cross and its action of indescribable love is to miss the very reason for our existence, and to be exiled into identity confusion for the length of life. Of course, there are hints of the meaning of existence in God's creation and creatures, and even in other faiths, especially Judaism. But only the cross carries the clarity needed to awaken the heart, and purify the intellect, to receive human dignity at its revealed source: love from the Christ upon the cross.

To “behold” the cross, whether *in lectio* fashion, while praying with Scripture, or displayed visually as one holds a crucifix, is to be drawn into God's utter vulnerability, his humble offer to give such love, and his hope that such an offer will be returned as love.

When this circulation of love is entered, we simultaneously possess and deepen our true identity. Yes, our dignity is known in responding to crucified love. This response is to be one of awe and joy and generous obedience. Within these characteristics, a Christian ignites and maintains intimacy with God, and continuous meaning for his own existence.

“Who do the crowds say I am?” We know that answer with each succeeding epoch; Christ is a liar, Christ is a mad man, Christ is a philosopher, Christ is a god within a pantheon of gods, and so on. But then Christ demands a response from us that costs: “Who do you say I am?” An answer to this question can only be correctly given upon entering the Paschal Mystery in trust: “Jesus, you are the one who died for me out of love, you are the one who thought more of my life than you did your own, you are the one who offers divine love to humans who knowingly or unknowingly seek it above all else.”

To behold the cross is to finally begin the journey to emotional and spiritual maturity. Immature people cast their eyes to the ground when truth pierces their conscience, when love gazes upon their face, when a mission is issued from the courageous. All of these realities—truth, love, mission—emanate from the cross, and our lives only reach their apex if we receive them from the eyes, the heart, and the will of the crucifix.

Parish outing to Glenstal Abbey on Monday June 27th leaving St Joseph's Church at 9am. There will be a guided tour of The Abbey and grounds and a visit to the Icon Chapel. Lunch included. Contact Joe 087 3290153.

Remembrance Mass on Tuesday 5th July at 7.30 pm in Rathcooney Cemetery.

CMCC Marriage Preparation Courses

If you are engaged and planning your wedding, why not book your pre marriage course at CMCC? Our courses book in advance so early booking is essential. Contact us on 021 4272277.

"A very worthwhile experience" – over 90% of couples