



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Mass Mon to Fri 10am

KILLALLON Sun 10am – John Smyth Archerstown
CLONMELLON Sun 11.30am M.M.– Ann-Larry & Betty Tully, Ann-Darragh Farrelly, Ann-Cirillo Corona

Fri – St. John of God Mass Killallon 7.30pm

KILLALLON Sun 10am Ann – Michael & Alice Cullen, Stirrupstown
CLONMELLON Sun 11.30am

Adoration: Mondays 2.30pm – 8pm.

Baptisms: 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month 11am

Confirmation: Thur March 7th **Please note new time 12 noon**

First Holy Communion: Sunday May 19th 11.30am

M. Fund Draw €65 Eugene Dolan, €35 Patrick Melligan, Mary Shaw

Cemetery Devotions

Sun Jun June 9th- Killallon/Archerstown

Sun June 16th - Clonarny/Clonmellon

Coming Together to Pray Together - The P.P.A. invite all parishioners to join with them each Wednesday evening (continuing next Wednesday 6th March) at 7.30PM in Clonmellon Church to pray for all in our parish who are going through bereavement, illness or difficulties at this time.

*All are welcome to join in this very special time as a community, to pray together for each other.
The theme for this week is **Hope and Light for all our lives.***

Three Days to rebuild his Temple in our hearts.

In order to understand today's Gospel passage, we need to stress an important detail. The merchants were in the courtyard of the pagans, the place accessible to non-Jews. This very courtyard had been turned into a market. But God wants his temple to be a house of prayer for all people (cf. Is 56,7). Hence Jesus' decision to overturn the tables of the money changers and drive out the animals. This purification of the sanctuary was necessary for Israel to rediscover its vocation: to be light for all people, a small nation chosen to serve the salvation that God wants to give to everyone.

There is no human heart in which Christ does not want to be and cannot be reborn. In our lives as sinners, we often turn away from the Lord and extinguish the Spirit. We destroy the temple of God that is in each of us. Yet this is never a definitive situation: it takes the Lord three days to rebuild his temple within us.

No one, no matter how wounded by evil, is condemned to be separated from God on this earth forever. In a way that is often mysterious but real, the Lord opens new cracks in our hearts, the desire for truth, goodness and beauty, which make room for evangelisation. We may sometimes encounter mistrust and hostility: but we must not allow ourselves to be blocked, rather to hold onto the belief that it takes God three days to raise His Son in someone's heart. It is also the story of some of us: profound conversions resulting from the unpredictable action of grace! I think of the Second Vatican Council: 'Christ has died for all and since the ultimate vocation of humanity is in fact one, the divine one; therefore, we must believe that the Holy Spirit in a manner known only to God offers to everyone the possibility of being associated with the Easter mystery' (Cost. Past. *Gaudium et spes*, 22). **Pope Francis**

