



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



Mass Mon to Fri 10am

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

CLONMELLON Sun 11.30am – Ann – Seamus & Fr. Pat
Fitzsimons & d.f.m.

Fri – Killallon Mass 7.30pm

**Sun – FEAST OF ST. PATRICK - Patron of Ireland –
Day of prayer for Emmigrants**

KILLALLON - Sun 10am

CLONMELLON - Sun 11.30am – Ann – Michael &
Julie Carolan

Coming Together to Pray Together - The P.P.A. invite all parishioners to join with them each Wednesday evening (continuing next Wednesday 13th 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 Peace in our Hearts and our World



Joy and the Cross

The central theme of today's readings is that our salvation is the free gift of a merciful God given to us through Jesus, His son. The readings stress God's mercy and compassion and remind us of the great love, kindness and grace extended to us in Christ. As an act of love and gratitude to God, who is 'rich in mercy' and as an expression of our faith, we are invited to share Jesus' sufferings by doing penance during Lent so that we may inherit our external salvation and the glory of His resurrection in Heaven. As we continue our Lenten observation for the 4th week, the Sacred Liturgy invites us to enter more deeply into the mystery of God's grace, mercy and salvation.

We need to love the cross, the symbol of God's forgiving and merciful love: The crucifix – the symbol of the 'lifted up' Jesus – holds a central place in our Churches because it is a forceful reminder not only of God's love and mercy, but also of the price of our salvation. The crucifix invites us to respond with more than compassion, it inspires us to remove the suffering of other people's misery. When we allow the light of God's forgiveness to shine in our lives, it brightens up every corner, forgives every sin, restores our relationship with God and renews our lives. Whoever follows Jesus will not walk in darkness.

Thought for the day

God himself needed a mother: how much more so do we! Jesus himself gave her to us, from the cross: 'Behold your mother!' (Jn 19:27). He said this to the beloved disciple and to every disciple. Our Lady is not an optional accessory: she has to be welcomed into our life. She is the Queen of Peace, who triumphs over evil and leads us along paths of goodness, who restores unity to her children, who teaches us compassion.

Mary, take us by the hand. Lead us by the hand to rediscover the bonds that unite us. Gather us beneath your mantle, in the tenderness of rue love, where the human family is reborn.

Pope Francis

