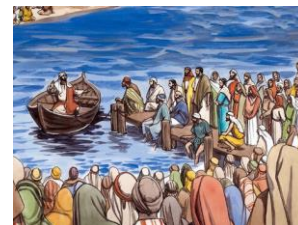




1st Sunday of Ordinary Time

16th June 2024



Mass Times & Intentions:

Mass – Monday to Friday Clonmellon 10am

Rest in Peace: Anne Smith, Ballinagh

KILLALLON Sun 16th June - 10am: M.M. Donie Geraghty

CLONMELLON Sun 16th June - 11.30am: Ann. Margaret Swaine, Ann. Bennie & Eileen Daly

Thur – The Blessed Irish Martyrs Fri-St Aloysius Gonzaga Sat- Ss John Fisher & Thomas More

KILLALLON Sun 23rd June - 10am: Ann. Margaret & Peter Cooke, Mary Toner

CLONMELLON Sun 23rd June - 11.30am

Rally for Life Join us Sat 1.30pm 6th July Parnell Square and O'Connell Street

Baptisms: 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month

Adoration: Every Mon 2.30-8pm

Collection for the Hungry: €70.00

Cemetery Devotions: –

Sun June 16th - CLONARNEY 7pm / CLONMELLON 8pm

Upkeep of our graveyards: We kindly ask that you please keep the graveyard tidy when attending to your graves.

Bus to Lough Derg (1st – 3rd July): Bus leaves Park Hotel, Mullingar at 8.30 am on Monday 1st July.

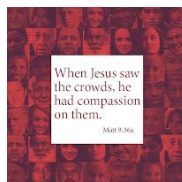
For further details tel: Carmel at 044 9374818

OFFERING HOPE AT A TIME OF SUICIDE – Fr. Billy Swan (Wexford)

In recent weeks I presided at the funeral of a young man who died by suicide. He was one of several who died in the same way in recent months here in the South East. His tragic death was heart – breaking and devastating for his family. In preparing the homily for the funeral I was conscious of the delicate balance to strike between understanding the decision Of the young man in a compassionate way and the inner turmoil he must have endured. Yet on the other hand the Christian message must communicate that suicide is a tragedy and a mistake. Above all it was a time to share the hope that comes from our faith that is so important, especially at times of terrible darkness. In the homily, the Holy Spirit led me to the following words. I shared them with the hundreds of people in attendance & I share them with you now. Despite how challenging the funeral was, it confirmed my hope in the power of the Lord's resurrection. I hope the following offers comfort to those whose lives have been touched by suicide.

“Today, we remember how John (not his real name) lived. And yet we must face up to how he died too. The Gospel proclaims that every problem we face, no matter how impossible it seems, is only temporary. There is no sin too great to be forgiven. There is no hurt too great to be healed. There is no shame too dark to be shared. There is no memory too painful to be eased by talking to someone. And when we do, we always find new hope that someone else is in that same space too, that we are not alone and that there is help and support out there.

Many of us are not good at slowing down and stopping to face ourselves. We are not good at admitting our vulnerability. All of us need help to create safe spaces where we can share our vulnerability, woundedness & feel accepted & understood. Sometimes it's OK not to be OK & sometimes we need to do like the good thief did on the cross – to reach out for help & turn to someone as he turned to Christ. Because when the good thief did turn to Jesus, he received more than he asked for. On the cross, the forgiveness of Jesus to the good thief reveals that God's mercy is far greater than our worst mistakes & because this is true, no one is without hope. Let us pray that we might have the faith we need at this hour & the hope that faith gives. In our times of trouble, worry or sorrow, may we know that to be vulnerable is not a burden but a gift that reminds us of our need for God & need for one another. And because of that hope, help us Lord to believe that, despite everything, all will be well again”.



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