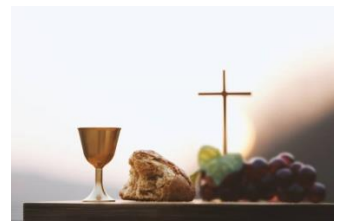




20th Sunday of Ordinary Time

18th August 2024



Mass Times & Intentions:

Mass – Monday to Friday Clonmellon 10am

KILLALLON: Sun 18th Aug. 10am: Ann. Tom & Monica Ryan

CLONMELLON Sun 18th Aug. 11.30am : Ann. John & Kay McCarthy, 1st Ann. Kitty McGonagle

KILLALLON: Sun 18th Aug. 10am: Ann. Philomena Farrelly, Ann. James & Kitty Coyle & Caitriona Nagle

CLONMELLON Sun 18th Aug. 11.30am: M.M. Seamus Gavigan

Tues – St. Bernard of Clairvaux

Wed – St. Pius X

Thur – The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sat – St. Bartholomew

Baptisms: 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month

Adoration: Every Monday 2.30 – 8pm.

The Patron Offering Day is being put back to Sun September 1st from next Sunday August 25th

A WORD OF THANKS: We thank you for your generous support for last Sunday's collection for the poor in Tanzania (€756) to help support the on-going projects (Fees for the education of poor children, Moira's work as a nurse & midwife) in the clinics established by the M.M.M. Drogheda with whom Eamonn & Moira Brehony are lay missionaries.

If you missed it you can put your offering in any of the poor boxes in either church or drop it through the letterbox of the Parochial House. We will send them with last Sunday's collection & the Poor Box collection over the last few months to the Brehonys before they return in early September.



The National Novena to Our Lady of Knock takes place from 14 to 22 August 2024. This nine-day programme offers you the opportunity to take time for personal prayer and reflection. As this year has been dedicated as Year of Prayer by Pope Francis, the theme for this year's Novena is 'Whispering with God' How Do You Pray? Each day, our inspirational guest speakers will discuss how prayer in all its forms plays an important part of their daily lives. Workshops will also take place daily on a variety of themes. Themed prayer sessions will take place in the Prayer Centre each day. We invite you to take the opportunity to spend time with us during this special time at Knock Shrine.
– **Fr Richard Gibbons, P.P. Rector, Knock Shrine**

POINTS TO PONDER

St Ignatius Loyola in his writings tells us that authentic spiritual transformation can only begin when people are willing to relinquish their position as being at the centre of things and that the denial of self at the core is part and parcel of true discipleship. Human selfishness is so insidious he tells us that it prevents easy detection. Jesus in today's Gospel encountered a certain self-centredness in those he had come to serve and save. They gladly ate the bread that Jesus gave them but they were unable or unwilling to appreciate Jesus as anyone other than the son of Joseph and Mary and did not allow their narrow messianic expectations to be broadened or their deeper hungers to be fed by the living bread he offered. Rather than become true followers/disciples of Jesus, they remained centred within themselves. We must look beyond the bread to what it symbolises, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, Corpus Christi. Food/bread is the conduit Jesus chose to communicate God's love but also his abiding presence with his own. When we eat the food that is Jesus with faith in our minds and hope in our hearts, we are given a foretaste of eternal life. Today we have the good fortune to hear the word spoken to Elijah, 'Get up and eat, else the journey will be too long for you. (1 K: 19)

www.blessingtonparish.ie, **Intercom July/Aug 2024**

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Today is your opportunity to build the tomorrow you want.