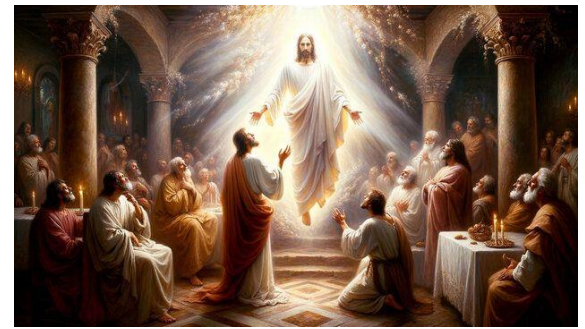




Second Sunday of Easter

Divine Mercy Sunday - 27th April 2025

Rosary Monday to Friday Clonmellon 9.35am followed by Mass @ 10am



The struggle for faith experienced by Thomas leads us to think on the meaning of faith in the risen Christ. We do not depend on physical experience of Christ but know his presence in keeping God's commandments and as a gathered community, in the hearing of the word and in sacramental signs. So the Christian community is a thankful one, always blessing God for a sure hope through the resurrection of Christ.



KILLALLON: Sun 10am:

CLONMELLON: Sun 11.30am: Anniv. John & Pat Brady. Anniv. Margaret O' Reilly. Anniv. Bridget & Pat Lynch & d.f.m.
Anniv. John & Kathleen Carr, Ina Valerino

Feast Days: **Tue.** St. Catherine of Siena, Patron of Europe,
Thurs. St. Joseph the Worker

Wed. Our Lady of Africa, St. Pius V. Pope,
Fri. St. Athanasius

First Friday: Masses for the List of the dead in Clonmellon @ 10am & in Killallon @7:30pm



KILLALLON: Sun 10am

CLONMELLON: Sun 11:30am: Anniv. Jack Sheerin. Anniv. Alacoque Dalton, Anniv. Noel Leonard, Anniv. Kevin Carolan,
Anniv. Jack Breen.



**Mass for Pope Francis on 29th April Tuesday in Mullingar at 7:30pm & 30th April,
Wednesday Evening: 7:30pm in Clonmellon**

Communion Calls: **Tuesday** - Archerstown, Rathbrack

Wednesday - Kilskyre road, Delvin road, Cloran, Killua

Trocaire Boxes will be taken in next Sunday (Please change coins into notes)

Sacraments: **First Holy Communion Sun 11th May** 11.30am Clonmellon

Baptism 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 11am in Clonmellon

Cemetery Devotions: Sun June 1st Killallon, Archerstown & Sun. June 8th Clonarney, Clonmellon



SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL

Today's Gospel presents us with the one disciple who is named: Thomas. In his hesitation and his efforts to understand, this disciple, albeit somewhat stubborn, is a bit like us and we find him likeable. Without knowing it, he gives us a great gift: he brings us closer to God, because God does not hide from those who seek him. Jesus shows Thomas his glorious wounds; he makes him touch with his hand the infinite tenderness of God, the vivid signs of how much he suffered out of love for humanity. For us who are disciples, it is important to put our humanity in contact with the flesh of the Lord, to bring to him, with complete trust and utter sincerity, our whole being. As Jesus told

Saint Faustina, he is happy when we tell him everything: he is not bored with our lives, which he already knows; he waits for us to tell him even about the events of our day (cf. Diary, 6 September 1937). That is the way to seek God: through prayer that is transparent and unafraid to hand over to him our troubles, our struggles and our resistance. Jesus' heart is won over by sincere openness, by hearts capable of acknowledging and grieving over their weakness, yet trusting that precisely there God's mercy will be active. What does Jesus ask of us? He desires hearts that are truly consecrated, hearts that draw life from his forgiveness in order to pour it out with compassion on our brothers and sisters. Jesus wants hearts that are open and tender towards the weak, never hearts that are hardened. - **Pope Francis, Poland 2016**

POINTS TO PONDER: The risen Jesus penetrates the disciples' defences, overcomes their fears, and brings them joy. I ask him to pass through all my security systems and liberate me from whatever prevents me from 'having life and having it in all its fullness'. Thomas was a modern man, finding faith hard, like many people today. He was let down by the others who ran away, the leader denied Jesus, his trust in the group of apostles had been abused. He didn't want much more to do with them. He had gotten tired of it all. He wanted to believe but needed a sort of proof. But faith grows within a community. That's why we baptise children because faith grows from the beginning of life. We find growth in our faith through the community – for example, in the Mass, shared rosary, sharing our faith in a group, a good spiritual book, sharing our doubts but never closing the door to Jesus, sharing our faith in thanks for what our faith gives us. In community, the disciples found faith in the risen Christ. Thomas, for some reason, was not with them when the Lord came. Separated from the community, he found faith more difficult. Faith in the Lord, while personal, is not a private affair. In the faith of one, the faith of another may be strengthened. Formation in faith for the disciples had its communal experience – together they learned and found faith in the Lord. - **sacredspace.com A resource of the Irish Jesuits**

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Doubt is not a dead end. It can lead to an intensification of faith. It was not the other apostles who acclaimed Jesus with the words 'My Lord and my God.' Had they realised at last, that Jesus was truly God as well as truly man? They must have been conscious of it, but perhaps not yet come to articulate so overwhelming a truth. It is doubting Thomas who is the first to acclaim, in unforgettable words, the divine Lordship of Jesus. - **Sr Wendy Beckett - The Art of Holy Week and Easter**