



Pope Francis pleaded:

'May there be peace for war-torn Ukraine, so sorely tried by the violence and destruction of the cruel and senseless war into which it was dragged. In this terrible night of suffering and death, may a new dawn of hope soon appear! ... Please! Please! Let us not get used to war!'
(Urbi et Orbi, Easter Sunday 2022).

Worldwide Persecution

The 2022 *World Watch List* released by *Open Doors International* shows that persecution against Christians continues to rise throughout the world, especially in Asia and Africa. However, since the Taliban takeover in 2021, Afghanistan ranks first as the most dangerous country for Christians, overtaking North Korea.

In sub-Saharan Africa, anti-Christian violence is still growing, as it is in Nigeria, where 4,650 Christians have been killed for their faith. Attacks against Christians are also growing in Pakistan and India (*'Persecuted and Forgotten'*, ACN Ireland).

Today's Martyrs

Earlier this year, a young priest, Fr Guise Tran OP from Ho Chi Minh city, was murdered in a knife attack while hearing confessions at a mission in Dak Mot, Vietnam. He is one of thousands of priests, religious and lay Christians who have been killed for their faith in recent years. Heroic Irish missionaries daily put their lives on the line in all parts of the globe as they courageously bear witness to the person and message of Jesus Christ.

As we listen to the readings this Sunday, these stories pose searching questions for us. How well am I fulfilling God's word? Do my words and actions bring joy or pain to my fellow Christians? ■

Summary

Since the Taliban takeover in 2021, Afghanistan ranks as the most dangerous country in the world for Christians.

Question

What motivates a Christian to go to a dangerous foreign land to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ?

Prayer

Lord, give strength to those Christians living on the front line.



Issued "Cum Permissu Superiorum" by Rollebon Press, Dominican Priory, Tallaght Village, Dublin 24; Tel: (+353-1) 404 8100 or (+353) 087 284 1341; Fax: (+353-1) 404 8192.; email: rollebonpress@eircom.net
Nihil Obstat: John Harris OP; Printed in Ireland; some graphics are copyright 123RF. Vol.44; No.51; Thirty-Third Sunday of Year C; 13 Nov 2022; Readings: Malachi 3:19-20, Psalm 97, 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12, Luke 21:5-19; Next Week: Christ the King..
Sat 12 Nov St Josaphat : Sun 13 Nov Ordinary 33 : Mon 14 Nov Laurence O'Toole : Tue 15 Nov Albert the Great : Wed 16 Nov Margaret of Scotland; Gertrude : Thu 17 Nov Elizabeth of Hungary : Fri 18 Nov Basilicas of Ss Peter & Paul : Sat 19 Nov Weekday : Sun 20 Nov Christ-Universal King.



SUNDAY LETTER

Series: The Church; Thirty-Third Sunday of Year C; 13 Nov 2022



Christian Persecution

At the beginning of his public ministry, Jesus appeared in the synagogue in Nazareth on the Sabbath Day.

Having read from the prophet Isaiah, he made the following statement:

"This text is being fulfilled today, even as you listen." (Lk 4 :14-22)

Today, as we gather for Sunday Eucharist, we listen to another extract

from Luke's gospel, and we reflect on how relevant the text is to what's happening in the world around us.

"There will be fearful sights ... not a single stone will be left on another." (Mark 13:2)

The daily images we see on TV of the horrendous bombardment and destruction of towns and cities in Ukraine have left us shocked and frightened.

On the second Sunday of Easter earlier this year (for us, *Divine Mercy Sunday*, but *Easter* in the Orthodox Church) requests for a ceasefire in Ukraine that would have allowed Christian communities to openly celebrate the Eucharist fell on deaf ears in Moscow. Bombings and military attacks were heightened. How tragic it is that Kirill, the Orthodox Patriarch of Moscow, refused to ask President Putin to allow the Ukrainian Christians to celebrate the Risen Lord in peace. 'Many will come using my name and saying, "I am he"'. Kirill has even referred to Moscow's opponents in Ukraine as "evil forces" adding:

"We must not allow dark and hostile forces to laugh at us."
(*The Tablet*, 23rd April 2022).

Voices for Peace

The images of Christian communities, gathering with their priests to celebrate Easter in underground bunkers in Mariupol, give credence to Jesus' words,

Your endurance will win you your lives. (9Lk 21:19)

Church of Our Mother of Divine Grace, Ballygall Parish

Part of the Glasnevin Grouping of Parishes

(Glasnevin, Iona Rd, Corpus Christi, Ballymun Rd & Ballygall)

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Sunday 13th November 2022

Parish Website www.ballygallparish.ie Email ballygallparish@outlook.com

Registered Charity RCN 20016166

Parish Team

Fr. Joseph Ryan Co-P.P: Ph 8573776 Fr. Harry Gaynor Co-P.P: Ph 8342248

Fr. Paul St. John PC: Ph c/o 8369291

Sacristy/Parish Office: Phone 01 8369291 (Monday to Friday 9.30pm to 1.00pm)

Mass Intentions Monday 14 th Nov to Sunday 20 th November.				
Monday	7.25	Available	10.00	Fr. Eoin Cooke
Tuesday	7.25	Available	10.00	For all those who sympathised with the Woods family on the death of Mel.
Wednesday	7.25	Available	10.00	Tom, Maura & May Cullen.
Thursday	7.25	Available	10.00	Special Intention – Birthday Thanksgiving.
Friday	7.25	People of the Parish	10.00	Pat & Ned Kearns.
Saturday	10.00	Special Intention	Confessions available after 10.00am mass.	
	6.30	Anna & Janos Letoha.		
Sunday	10.00	Declan Conlon.		
	11.30	Robert Murphy, Paddy & Elsie Black and son Padraig, Kitty & Joe Doolan.		

Recently Deceased.

We remember in our prayers all those recently deceased and their families.

Share Sunday

Share Appeal Sunday takes place **this weekend November 12th & 13th**. Share helps parishes, priests, deacons and lay people working together on their shared mission. Share also continues to provide much needed financial support to disadvantaged parishes where alternative funding cannot be secured.

Pledge For November

Many people offer spiritual support to a relation who is struggling because of alcohol or an addiction problem. Parishioners who wish to take a short-term Pioneer pledge during the month of the Holy Souls are invited to visit www.pioneers.ie/pray/.

Parish Pastoral Council

Meeting on Tuesday 15th at 7.30pm in the Church meeting rooms.

Parish Remembrance Mass

Many thanks to all our funeral ministry team and other volunteers who assisted at our Annual Mass for those who died over the past year. Your commitment and support to our parish is very much appreciated.

Diocesan Remembrance Service

This service takes place on Monday 21 Nov at 8pm in the Redemptoristine convent, Iona Road. Come in person or online www.rednuns.com

Ballygall Active Retirement.

Meeting Fr. Maloney Hall, Thursday 17th November from 3.00pm to 4.00pm

Church Diary 2023

The Diary to book masses for next year is here. Please phone the sacristy during office hours to include names or alternatively write out your list and leave in to the parish office with your contact details (phone number) so we can confirm that your masses have been booked.

Parish Shop

Christmas Mass Cards are now available to purchase in the Shop. We have managed to retain the price from last year, 3 for €5 and 6 for €10. Sympathy Mass Cards, Mass Bouquets, The Irish Messenger, The Irish Catholic, St Martin Magazines along with other religious items are available in the Church Shop.

Calling all Volunteers

Last weekend our Finance Team gave a very comprehensive review of our financials here in the parish. One of the key areas that we have recognised for the year ahead is our need for volunteers in the many different areas of finance, example, Counters, collectors, members of the Finance committee, etc. Talk to any members of the Finance committee or to any of the priests for more details.

Popes Intentions for the Month of November.

We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans and victims of war. May they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

November – Month of the Holy Souls

Altar Lists of the Dead can be brought back to the church and your loved ones will be remembered in a special way during the month of November and on the First Fridays throughout the coming year.

St Laurence O'Toole

The feast of St Laurence O'Toole, one of the patrons of the Archdiocese, is on **Monday, November 14**. Chapter Mass will be celebrated in St Mary's Pro-Cathedral by Archbishop Farrell at 10.30am.