

Church of Our Mother of Divine Grace, Ballygall Parish

Part of the Glasnevin Partnership of Parishes

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

Easter Sunday 31st March 2023

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Registered Charity RCN 20016166

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**Happy Easter - Alleluia Alleluia –
Today is a great day.**

We have just celebrated the Easter Triduum, the high point of the Christian year. Here in Ballygall, a group of fantastic people worked very hard to ensure its smooth running. From the Liturgy group, planning the different ceremonies, to those who read and volunteered to help, lead and assist in anyway. Those who helped make the church look so well for Easter time, by preparing our Sacred Space & flower arrangements. A sincere thank you to the collectors and parishioners who delivered the Easter Cards & dues envelopes, the Parish Pastoral Council, the Franciscan fathers, the Ministers of the Word and Eucharist, the Choir, and all who exercised their ministry so well. We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the peace of the risen Lord. There are too many to mention, but everyone's contribution of their time and talent is so important in building up the life and liturgy of this Christian Community.



**Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament
There will be no
Adoration until
Thursday April 11th**

Easter Sunday Masses

The Triduum concludes with the Mass of the Resurrection on **Holy Saturday at 8.30pm.**

10.00 & 11.30am Masses are offered for all intentions of Easter Mass Bouquets and the people of the parish.

Easter Dues

The priests of the Parish wish to express their sincere thanks and gratitude to all who have sent in their Easter Dues, your support is greatly appreciated.



If you can, please donate online or over the phone. Donations can be made online at <https://www.trocaire.org/donate/make-a-donation>.

Boxes can also be left into the sacristy after Mass

Mass Intentions This Week

Monday 10.00am	Mass in Grouping Corpus Christi Church
Tuesday 10.00am	Special Intention
Wed 10.00am	Margaret Young
Thursday 10.00am	Oisín Fanning
Friday 10.00am	Altar List of the Dead
Saturday 10.00am	Special Intention

6.30pm Vigil

Patricia Deegan, Alice Keogh, Michael Keogh, Una Barry, Michael Rowan, Tadgh Dawson.

Sunday 7th April

10.00am	Emily & Sean McKeown, Michelle Page.
11.30am	Ena, Peter & Brendan Mahon, Mary & Michael Deery, Finbar Whelan.

Easter Monday & Easter Week.

Tuesday 2nd to Friday 5th April Mass at 10.00am only, (our 7.25 am Mass will resume as normal on Monday 8th April). Our Parish office will also be closed until 8th April.

Recently Deceased

We remember those who have died this week, especially, Joan Finn & Sean O'Connor May they Rest in Peace.

Dublin Diocesan Knock Pilgrimage

Archbishop Dermot Farrell will lead our annual pilgrimage to Knock on **Saturday, April 27th**. This year we are celebrating 145 years since the apparition in 1879. **Our Lady of Victories** is organising a bus on the day. Leaving OLV at 7.45am, bring a packed lunch; leaving Knock 4.30pm after the Mass. Cost is €25. Contact Grainne 8420346 weekdays 10 – 1pm. See olv.ie for more details.

taken the body with the linen cloths as quickly as possible for fear of being caught by the soldiers. The best explanation for the presence and positioning of the linen cloths is that the One who was wrapped in it, or the angels, took them off and carefully rolled them up and set them aside as He departed. The linen cloths and the face-cloth thus provide a wonderful testimony to the actual resurrection of Christ.

New High Priest

Secondly, the linen cloths have a profound theological meaning. In Leviticus 16, we read that the linen garments which the High Priest wore into the Holy of Holies to offer blood for the atonement of Israel were only to be worn there, and then taken off. Through similar imagery, John the Evangelist is effectively telling us that Christ is our new High priest that has offered His own life in atonement for our sins (Heb 7:1-9:28).

Death and Resurrection

Furthermore, while the author of the *Book of Hebrews* speaks of redemption in terms of Christ's death only, St John reminds us that His resurrection is no less important for salvation. Jesus' death for the forgiveness of sin remains crucial, yet without the reality of the resurrection, it is incomplete.

Christ's sacrificial death testifies to the holiness of His humanity, whereas the resurrection testifies to His divinity. Death alone does not lead to new life. It is the mystery of the resurrection that is the source of our faith and our hope.

Power of Transformation

Through Christ's resurrection from the dead we are empowered to get rid ...

... of all of the old yeast of evil and wickedness, having only the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. (1 Cor 5:6-8)

The transformation and renewal of our lives is only possible because of Christ's resurrection. Saint John expresses this truth eloquently when he says that ...

... to all who received Him, who believed in His name, He gave power to become children of God. (John 1:12)

Today we too rise with Christ from death. Alleluia! ■

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Vol.46; No.18; First Sunday of Easter, Year B; 31 Mar 2024; Readings: Acts 10:34,37-43, Psalm 117, Colossians 3:1-4, John 20:1-9; Next Week: Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Sat 30 Mar Holy Saturday : Sun 31 Mar Easter 1 : Mon 1 Apr St Ceallach (Celsus) : Tue 2 Apr St Francis of Paola : Wed 3 Apr Weekday : Thu 4 Apr St Isidore : Fri 5 Apr St Vincent Ferrer : Sat 6 Apr Weekday : Sun 7 Apr Easter 2



Summary

Christ's resurrection represents the fullness of Divine revelation.

Jesus' death for the forgiveness of sins remains crucial, yet it is incomplete without the reality of the resurrection.

Question

How can death lead to new life?

Prayer

Lord, may the power of your resurrection lead the Church into a new future.



SUNDAY LETTER

Series: The Seasons; Easter Sunday, Year B; 31 Mar 2024

"He saw and he believed, for until now they did not understand the Scriptures that He must rise from the dead." (John 20:9)

The entire gospel of Saint John can be seen as an account of God's gradual self-revelation to humankind through the words and actions of Jesus Christ. In the first 18 verses of John's Gospel (The Prologue), we are told that "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" and that it was John the Baptist's mission to bear witness to the Word so that "all might believe through him."

Throughout the following chapters, Christ revealed himself to his own people, and he was met with both acceptance and rejection. Those who accepted him became his disciples, and eventually came to know more and more about him, until they could say with Martha:

"I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, He who is to come into the world." (John 11:27)



In spite of Martha's profound profession of faith, the disciples' knowledge of who Christ truly was, was still incomplete. The true identity of Christ was only fully revealed by his resurrection from the dead. Christ's resurrection represents the fullness of Divine revelation. It was only after Christ's resurrection that the disciples truly understood who he was. Only then could they say with Saint Thomas the Apostle:

"My Lord and my God." (In 2028)

They finally understood

His true identity and confessed that He was both true God and true man.

God and Man

This dual identity was mysteriously revealed by Saint John's description of the empty tomb. We are given many, seemingly superfluous, details about linen cloths in which Christ's body had been wrapped. In reality, however, these details have tremendous significance.

The Linen Cloths

Firstly, the fact that the cloths were rolled up and placed in specific positions bears concrete witness to Christ's resurrection. If Jesus' body had been stolen from the tomb by His disciples while the soldiers who were guarding the tomb slept (as the Jewish authorities later claimed (Mt 28:11-15)), it would make no sense for the disciples to unwrap all the linen cloths, place them carefully and then run away. They would simply have