

*We remember all
those who died
recently.*

**Patrick Swan
John Tisdall**



*We give our loved ones back
to you, O Lord; and just as
you did not lose them in the
giving, so we do not lose
them in returning them to
you.*

During Lent candles for
“**Healing & Renewal**”
are available at all Masses
and from the Parish
Office.

Offering €1.50

Do you have a neighbour who is
housebound?
Or do you know someone who
might like to hear what is going
on in the Parish

We would like you to pass this
Newsletter on to them
Also, if you know someone who
would like to have Holy
Communion brought to them in
their home, please contact the
Parish Office.



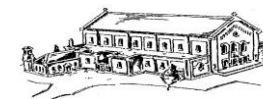
*A copy of the Newsletter can
also be downloaded from the
Parish website.
www.mourneroad.ie*

Parish of Our Lady of Good Counsel, Mourne Road, Drimnagh

Pastoral Area Crumlin / Mourne Rd. / Clogher Rd.

4th Sunday of Lent

15th March 2015



*Eucharistic Adoration
takes place
Monday to Friday
10.30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
in the Oratory.*

*Would you like to spend a little time
alone with the Lord in quiet
prayer? If you have an hour to
spare please leave your name into
the Parish Office.*

SYNOD ON THE FAMILY

*Many thanks to those who
have completed and returned
the questionnaire in
preparation for October's
Synod. If you haven't
returned yours but still wish
to do so please leave
completed document into
Parish Office by the end of
this week. There are still
some copies available in the
church or Parish Office.
Don't forget there's no need
to answer all questions but
you may have something
worthwhile to say on the
question(s) that most interest
you. Let your voice be heard
by the leaders of the church
in this most important
gathering of the Pope, the
Bishops and their
collaborators!*

**MASS TIMES: SUNDAYS 6.30pm Vigil, 9am,
10.30 Family Mass & 12 noon Choir
7 p.m. Pastoral Area Mass St. Agnes
10 am MONDAY – SATURDAY – Weekdays 7.30am during Lent
Morning Prayer: 9.40 each morning.**

TROCAIRE BOXES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH.



**St. Patrick's Day – Tuesday 17th
Mass Times
10 a.m. & 12 Noon**



Mercy Associates: The next meeting
of the group takes place on Monday
16th at 8 p.m. in the Oratory.

3rd Saturday – 21st March: Devotions
to the Divine Mercy take place after
10 a.m. Mass

**We are looking for young people to volunteer for Good Friday 12 Noon
Children's "Stations of the Cross". If you are interested please leave your
contact details into the parish office or with one of the priests.**



PARISH LOTO

Development Fund

**There was no winner of last week's Jackpot.
Numbers 9, 12, 19, 29.**



**Congratulation to last week's winners of the three €20 Prizes
Next week's Jackpot will be €8,400.**

**The next Draw takes place on Wednesday morning
after 10 a.m. Mass in the Church Tearoom.**

**Entries for the Lotto draw each week must be put into the safe
in the church by 11 a.m. on Mondays.**

All are welcome to attend the draw.

Parish Office Opening Hours

9.15am to 1pm. & 2pm to 5.15pm. Monday - Wednesday

9.15am to 1pm Thursday & Friday (Closed both afternoons)

Contact: Phone 4556105 Email: mourneroadparish@eircom.net

Website: www.mourneroad.ie.

w/e 8th March 2015

Church Collections

1st Priests: €1,137.00

2nd Share: € 855.00

Envelope Collection

€2,253.00

Gospel Reflection

Every Wednesday at 9.15 a.m. in
the Church Meeting Room.

Eucharistic Prayer

Every Friday 2.30 – 3.30 p.m. in
the Oratory. All welcome.

St. Joseph's

Young Priests Society

The next meeting of the
Mourne Road Branch takes
place on Wednesday 18th
at 7.30 p.m. in the Oratory.

Commencing
with Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament

Mass Times for St. Agnes

Weekdays 9, 10am & 7pm

Saturday Vigil @ 7.00pm

*Sunday 9.30 a.m, 11am, 12.30p.m.
& 7 p.m. Pastoral Area Evening*

Mass

Mass Times for Clogher Road

Weekdays 10.00am

Saturday Vigil @ 7.00pm

Sunday 10.00am & 12.00 noon

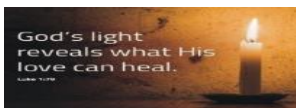
DIY RETREAT AT HOME FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT ~ 15TH MARCH 2015 “God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but to save the world” **Reconcile**

We are now on week 4 of our Lenten Retreat. How has it been going for you? Renewing your vision of yourself and God is not something that happens overnight - be gentle with yourself & remember, Our focus this week is to **Reconcile**. Forgiving yourself or others is not easy, even harder is recognising the need for or being open to forgiveness. If I gave you a sheet of paper and asked you to write 10 good things about yourself on one side and 10 things you don't like about yourself on the other, which side would get filled quicker and which side would you struggle with? If I then asked you to bring someone else to mind and do the same exercise on a separate sheet of paper for them – which would be easier? *May be an exercise to try?* If you do, put your sheet in your sacred space and bring it to prayer. But remember God loves us in our brokenness, walks with us in our darkness and light, never tires of forgiving us and asks us to be an agent of forgiveness to others. **Prayer suggestions for the week:** Try this week to take at least one **30 minute walk through an area you know well**. In ordinary walking, we usually have some place to get to. In mindful walking, there is no goal, no place to get to.... set aside a time you decide that would be best to be fully present with whatever is inside of you and all around you. Choose where you will walk and let it be somewhere where you won't be disturbed. It could be your estate, by a river, your area, a park ... *But* walk it as if you are walking it for the first time. Notice colours, plants, faces, smells, signs, voices, sounds ... that you may not have noticed before. On this walk look around and see / feel how wondrous life is, inside yourself and all around you. The lights in the vast expansive sky overhead, birdsong, the caress of a breeze on your face, the smell of cut grass, the taste of the air. Enjoy each nourishing, healing step and with each footprint imprint your gratitude upon this beloved earth. Allow God to surprise you!

How is your sacred space doing? Can you add a symbol to your sacred space this week to symbolise **Reconciliation**?

Breathing exercise: When you come to prayer, take three deep breaths... inhale for a count of four, then exhale for a count of four, then focus on your normal breathing. Thank God for each breath. Do this for as long as you can. Then begin to repeat slowly the following slowly: **Your word O Lord is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path (Psalm 119:105)**

The reflections and suggestions on these pages are meant as a guide. You can do some of them or all of them. Take your time, be gentle with yourself – you have a full week.



Gospel reflection: Read **Jn. 3:14-21** (*Take home the Missalette or use your own Bible*). Not an easy Gospel to read. **Is there a word, phrase, idea that strikes you or disturbs you? In the stillness repeat that word or phrase in your mind. Stay with this for a few moments.** Come back to it again a few times during the week. **Consider the following: This Sunday's Gospel is not easy reading as it is a challenging invitation from Jesus. If we accept the invitation we must be aware of the consequences: One is that you believe that Jesus is God's Son and that God loves you and the rest of humanity so much that He gave Jesus as a gift to the world. The other consequence is that you acknowledge that God's love for you is never-ending. What difference would accepting this make to your Lenten Journey? The imagery in this text of light and darkness, belief and unbelief, emphasises how serious God is about offering us this gift of Jesus.** Adapted from Ciaran O'Callaghan *The Year of the Suffering Servant*, (Redemptorist 2011 p 61)

*Jesus preached/lived a message of salvation not condemnation. What a difference that attitude would make if we could embrace it. Condemning others and ourselves comes too easily to us. Forgiving doesn't. The real task is to reconcile, forgive and to work to bring that out in those around us. Is there something I need forgiveness for? Is there someone I need to forgive? Can I take a step towards that this week? **Something to think about:** I have read the story of a tribe in southern Africa called the Babemba in which a person doing something wrong, something that destroys this delicate social net, brings all work in the village to a halt. The people gather around the "offender," and one by one they begin to recite everything he has done right in his life: every good deed, thoughtful behaviour, act of social responsibility. These things have to be true about the person, and spoken honestly, but the time-honoured consequence of misbehaviour is to appreciate that person back into the better part of himself. The person is given the chance to remember who he is and why he is important to the life of the village. I want to live under such a practice of compassion. When I forget my place, when I lash out with some private wounding in a public way, I want to be remembered back into alignment with myself and my purpose. I want to live with the opportunity for Reconciliation. When someone around me is thoughtless or cruel, I want to be given the chance to respond with a ritual that creates the possibility of reconnection. I want to live in a neighbourhood where people don't shoot first, don't sue first, where people are Storycatchers willing to discover in strangers the mirror of themselves.*

Christina Baldwin, Storycatcher: Making Sense of Our Lives through the Power and Practice of Story



Suggestions for the week: **Before you go to sleep:** This week, before you go to sleep at night, think back over your day. Where were moments of joy and love? What were the moments of pain or negativity? Name those moments and give them to God, make a commitment to say sorry to another where needed. Give thanks to God for your day. Find out when the **Easter Sacrament of Reconciliation** for your parish is on – make a point of going! **Darkness & Light – Trocaire Climate Justice.** Make a plan to replace old filament and halogen bulbs in your house with the much more energy efficient CFL (*Compact Fluorescent Lamps*) or LED bulbs. They last on average 10 times longer, which means less electricity, less carbon in the atmosphere and extra money in your pocket in the long-term. **Have one evening meal** this week by **candle light**, fun and possibly romantic! Turn appliances **OFF** in your work environment & at home at night. The average household spends 9% of their electricity bills on wasted 'standby' energy, costing approximately €115 or £100 a year. By switching off appliances at the socket you'll save money, energy and help the environment! **Thoughts for the Week:** *I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples. ~ Mother Teresa. Do not be afraid to ask God's forgiveness! He never tires of forgiving us, like a father who loves us. God is pure mercy! ~ Pope Francis*