

We remember all those who died recently.

**Thomas Phillips
John Smyth**



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.



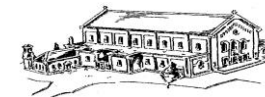
A copy of the Newsletter can also be downloaded from the Parish website.
www.mourneroad.ie

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

Pastoral Area Crumlin / Mourne Rd. / Clogher Rd.

5th Sunday of Lent

22nd 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.

Thoughts for the Week:



This then is what we are about. We plant the seed that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that the future holds promise. We lay foundations that will need further development....We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in that....This enables us to do something and do it well....We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers not master builders; ministers not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own. -

(Attributed to Oscar Romero)
Faith comes alive when the Word read from the page becomes the Word heard in your heart - Rex Rouis

**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.

Legion of Mary

Legion of Mary group meet every Tuesday 2.30 p.m. in the church Meeting Room.

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.

Advocate Collection - 28th & 29th March

The Sunshine Fund of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is holding its annual collection outside this Church at all masses next weekend. Please be as generous as you can.

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 4, 9, 24, 29.**



**Congratulation to last week's winners of the three €20 Prizes
Next week's Jackpot will be €8,500.**

**The Draw takes place on Tuesday 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 15th March 2015 **Church Collections**

1st Priests: €1,057.00

2nd Share: € 788.00

17th March 2015

1st Priests: € 541.00

2nd Share: € 438.00

Envelope Collection
€1,523.00

**A Gathering of the Readers
and Ministers of the
Eucharist will take place on
Thursday 26th March at
7.30 p.m.**



**Lent Penitential
Service Saturday
28th March 10.30**

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 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT ~ 22ND MARCH 2015

Fifth Sunday of Lent ~ 22nd March 2015 “... my Father will honour anyone who serves me” **Respond**

*Almost there! We are on week 5 of our Lenten Retreat. How has it been going for you? Did you manage to celebrate the **Easter Sacrament of Reconciliation** in your parish? If not try this week. Remember - God does not love me because I am good, God loves me because God is good. Every time God forgives us, God is saying God's own rules do not matter as much as the relationship that God wants to create with us!! Our focus this week is to **Respond**. **Prayer is important but we must also be open to action** (Trocaire). How attentive are we to the needs of those around us? Do we notice those who have no voice? Are we aware of our connectedness to others? When we feel helpless where situations of injustice are concerned, we must remember that we are full of light and are being called out of a culture of despair. We are powerful beyond measure. Never forget that. We can do small things; we can help to remove the restraints of injustice instead of sitting in the darkness (Trocaire). As Pope Francis tweeted, ‘Do not give up your dreams of a more just world!’ **Prayer suggestions for the week:** When you come to prayer, take three deep slow breaths and then focus on your normal breathing. This is the breath of life. Thank God for this gift. When you breathe in you are bringing energy and life to your body. When you breathe out, you are giving a gift to the world, feeding the plants and the trees, playing your part in nature. Stay with these thoughts as you breathe. Repeat **Lord, you are closer to me than my own breathing** (St. Teresa). Continue this exercise for as long as you can. Can you add a symbol to your sacred space this week to remind yourself of **solidarity** with the poor and your connected-ness to those around you? 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 12:20-30**. Two or three times this week. Take home Missalette or use your own Bible). **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 can be a pretty difficult passage for us to wrestle with. It's one of those passages that seems to defy attempts at a pleasant message, at least that's what I found. Do we really want to see Jesus? If so, what would he look like, in our world today? Who is the Jesus we are looking for and what does being a true disciple ask of us? The short parable of the seed which has fallen on the ground and eventually dies to yield new life in abundance. This concept of losing what one has to give way to something new and life-giving can be frightening. We can get so attached to things, time and worries and lifestyle changes are tough! How does your faith shape your lifestyle? How does this passage speak to your Lenten journey? How does it ask you to **Respond**?*

LET YOUR FAITH BE BIGGER THAN YOUR FEARS

Something to think about:

If we claim to be disciples of Jesus, then baptism should serve as a guide for our own convictions. Though our baptism, we are asked the following: *Are we living among God's faithful people? Are we hearing the word of God and sharing in the Lord's Supper? Are we proclaiming the good news of God in Christ through word and actions? Are we serving all people, following the example of Jesus? Are we striving for justice and peace in all the earth?* What if we took a moment to examine our lives and our current values alongside both the convictions of those who have helped shape us, who inspire us and our baptismal promises? An interesting exercise – if we did it our *real* convictions would rise to the surface of our lives.



For me, I decided that striving for justice and peace, being a disciple meant contributing to the efforts that address the systemic causes of homelessness in my community. As a result, I volunteer one afternoon a week at an organization that serves our city's homeless population. During my afternoon of volunteering, I answer phone calls and transfer them to the folks who can help. Sometimes I help people sign up for services. It doesn't always feel like I'm doing a lot, but it enables the staff to work on finding—and creating—homes and other supportive services for people in our community who don't have them. In giving a little, I get a lot. Our convictions, our core values, do represent our faith. **They are our faith.** The ways in which we use our voices, our money, our time, our resources and our talents, the way we **Respond** (or not!!) says something about the God we follow and in whom we place our trust. Standing for our faith can sometimes feel very risky and uncomfortable. Our baptism, our faith does have a responsibility and although tough at times we remember Jesus never asks more from us than we can give. And always we remember that we are backed—and more, that we are loved—by the One who stood for us. *Adapted from Emily K. Hartner, Faith Reflections: Faith in action*

Do not ask God
to guide your
footsteps...
If you're not willing
to move your feet.

Christ has no
body but yours,
no hands, no feet
on earth but
yours.

- TERESA OF AVILA

Suggestions for the week: Make a conscious commitment to do **1 thing each day** this week to help someone – *no matter how small*. **Before you go to sleep** recognise and give thanks to Jesus at work in your life each day. Where did you meet Jesus today? Did you recognise Jesus in your actions, in your discussions, in your meetings and dealings with others? Did you make use of, appreciate your own gifts and talents today? Were you generous in sharing these gifts and seeing those of others? Did you make a difference to 1 person today? **I thank you, Jesus, for the blessing of your companionship this day.** **Plug into your parish.** Every parish has Lenten/Easter liturgies (like the daily Mass liturgies and the Lent Reconciliation services), and they also have other seasonal activities. Engaging in them as a family (if possible), or with friends helps to keep Christ at the centre, and it will also help you to help others. Never underestimate the support you give to others even by your very presence. You are building up your parish by participating in these liturgies and activities!! Why not see how you can get more involved? Find out if there is a parish group or ministry you could bring your gifts to. Find out what Charities are in your parish. Take the risk!

