

**Our Lady of Dolours**, Botanic Avenue, Glasnevin, D09K5R6

**Office:** Mon—Fri, 10.30am—12.30pm

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**Sacristy:** Mon—Sun 8.30am—11.30pm

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**www.glasnevinparish.ie www.facebook.com/**

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**We remember in our prayers those who have died recently:**

Michael Dorgan  
Margaret McGlynn  
Brenda McGrane  
Ann Thornberry  
**Anniversary Remembrance:**  
Charles Coyne



**Reflection:** *There is a lot of anxiety around at the present moment, a lot of it caused by uncertainty. We are so used to setting dates in our calendars and diaries for events, certain that they will come to pass on that date. Coronavirus has upset all that and revealed to us that we are not as in control of events as we like to think. Climate change, itself caused by human behaviour, has been trying to warn us of the same fact, though not yet as suddenly or dramatically as the Coronavirus. Weddings, Baptisms, First Communion have all had to be postponed, and now students don't know if they will be sitting the Leaving Cert this year or not. Other people are awaiting results of a test or the rescheduling of an appointment for a medical procedure which has been postponed. The not-knowing seems to be the worst aspect, and this is what gives rise to so much anxiety and distress. Maybe in such situations, all we can do is hand over our powerlessness to God and entrust our concerns to him.*

*'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. (John 14:1)*

*In today's Second Reading, St. Peter reminds us that, at a time of confusion and darkness for many, believers have a profound dignity and a call to be the light of God's compassion and solidarity for those who are suffering. 'You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God, who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.'*

**Visits of the bereaved to Glasnevin cemetery** is now open to the public via the pedestrian entrance only at the junction with Slaney Road from 1.30 pm – 3.30 pm Monday - Saturday to facilitate grave visits only. Pedestrian access to the St. Paul's section will also be available during these times.

Dear parishioner, as you are aware, due to government restrictions because of the Covid-19 pandemic, we have not been able to celebrate a public Mass in our church for some weeks. However, parishioners can participate at weekday Mass via webcam at 10.00am in Ballygall ([www.ballygallparish.ie](http://www.ballygallparish.ie)) or at 5.45pm in St. Alphonsus Monastery ([www.rednuns.com](http://www.rednuns.com)); and on Saturday at 6.30pm from Ballygall, and on Sunday at 11.00am from Iona Road church ([www.ionaroadparish.ie](http://www.ionaroadparish.ie)). A **Holy Hour**, with Eucharistic adoration, is broadcast each Wednesday evening at 7.30pm from Ballygall church ([www.ballygallparish.ie](http://www.ballygallparish.ie))

**Parish webcam and website**

We are excited to announce that we will be launching our own webcam facility very soon, possibly as early as next weekend. This will enable parishioners living at home or abroad to follow online Mass and other services, including weddings and funerals in their own parish church. We are very grateful for a particular donation from a parishioner which has made this possible. We also have plans in the coming weeks to revamp our parish website, so as to make it more attractive and easier for parishioners to navigate and for our parish team to upload information and other resources for prayer and reflection.

**For the benefit of parishioners who do not have access to the internet, RTE airs Mass every weekday (Mon-Friday) at 10.30am on the RTE News Now channel and on Sundays. on RTE radio or television.**

Although Our Lady of Dolours parish office is closed to the public, the parish secretary can be contacted during normal office hours by telephone (01/8379445) or email ([ourladyofdoloursparish@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyofdoloursparish@gmail.com)). The parish team is available to assist parishioners at this stressful and challenging time for all, and we will continue to stay in touch with the housebound through regular phone contact. Please let us know if you have any concerns.

**Support Services for Older & Vulnerable People:**  
Dublin City Council Helpline 01-2228555 Email [covid-support@dublincity.ie](mailto:covid-support@dublincity.ie)  
Irish Red Cross 016424600 : [hardship2020@redcross.ie](mailto:hardship2020@redcross.ie)  
Womens Aid 1800341900 [info@womensaid.ie](mailto:info@womensaid.ie)  
Mens Aid 01-5394277 Email: [hello@mensaid.ie](mailto:hello@mensaid.ie)  
ISPCC Dublin 016767960 Email: [ispcc@ispcc.ie](mailto:ispcc@ispcc.ie) Alone  
Support Line Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm, 0818 222 024.  
Senior Line 1800804591  
The Samaritans 116 123 Email: [samaritans.org](mailto:samaritans.org)  
Pieta House 1800247247  
Jigsaw . [www.jigsaw.ie](http://www.jigsaw.ie)

**First Communion** May is usually a busy month in the life of the parish as we celebrate First Holy Communion for the boys and girls from the various schools in our parish. We share their disappointment, and that of their families, that for the moment these celebration have had to be put on hold but we look forward to the time when both schools and churches will reopen and we will be able to set new dates for these celebrations. In the meantime, we are celebrating a 'virtual' *Do this in Memory* Mass from Iona Road church at 11.00am this Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May, in which the First Communion candidates can participate as part of their continued preparation.

**May is the month of Mary.** It is traditional in the Catholic Church to honour Our Blessed Lady during the month of May. Senior parishioners, who have been able to take daily walks in the past week, may have noticed our beautifully decorated May Altar outside the church, which can be viewed on our parish website. Just go to the website ([www.glasnevinparish.ie](http://www.glasnevinparish.ie)) and click on the Facebook icon beneath the Upcoming Events heading in the left hand menu column, and that will bring you on to our Facebook page, where you will see photos of our May Altar and the text of the mysteries of the Rosary. Pope Francis encourages us to begin or restart the practice of saying the Rosary or the Angelus at home, perhaps as a family, during the month of May, particularly at this time of pandemic.

**Contributing to the Parish** We are very grateful to the many parishioners who have either posted contributions to the parish or dropped in their weekly envelopes through the sacristy/parish office letter box over the past couple of weeks. Indeed, even though we did not send out Easter Offering (Dues) envelopes this year, quite a few parishioners have sent or dropped them in. We are most grateful for your thoughtfulness and generosity. A number of other parishioners have enquired how they might continue to contribute to the church in the absence of being able to physically attend Mass at this time. Although reluctant to actively seek contributions to the various collections because of the financial hit many parishioners may have taken over the past few weeks, we recognise that since the current lockdown doesn't look like ending in the near future, and very little income is coming in for either the parish or the priests, we need to offer parishioners some suggestions.

Perhaps the simplest thing to do, and provided that you are in a position to do so, is to put aside each week whatever you might normally contribute to any of the collections, so that these can be brought to the church when normal service has resumed. Another possibility is to send in a monthly or quarterly cheque for whatever the equivalent amount might be.

Parishioners who visit our parish website will have noticed that we now have a 'Donate' button on the front page of our parish website. If you click on this, it will open up a number of options so that parishioners can donate online to the particular collection(s) they would like to support. Payzone are collaborating with the Dublin diocese to make these donate buttons available on parish websites. It is an easy and safe method of contributing and enables the parish to keep a record of your donation. If the amount you contribute to a combination of the various collections (Common Fund, Share, Easter/Christmas Offerings, Family Offering) exceeds €250 in any one calendar year, the parish is entitled to claim back from revenue the tax already paid on that donation, significantly increasing the value of your contribution to the parish.

In these uncertain times, we are conscious of the difficulties facing many families and are very grateful for whatever parishioners and visitors are able to donate. Many thanks for your continued generous support.

**Reminder to Parishioners:** Along with Our Weekly Newsletter being available on our website [www.glasnevinparish.ie/](http://www.glasnevinparish.ie/) there is also a 'daily thought' in time of Covid-19 on our Facebook page [https:// www.facebook.com/ourladyofdoloursglasnevin/](https://www.facebook.com/ourladyofdoloursglasnevin/) (or Just click on the Facebook icon beneath the UpComing Events heading in the left hand menu column of our Web Page, and that will bring you straight on to our Facebook page

**Pope Francis offers us the following Prayer to recite at the end of the Rosary.**

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus. Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realise that we are all members of one great family and to recognise the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.

**Reopening of church for private prayer?**

As the first phase of the government reopening of the country begins on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May, and conscious that everyone is now permitted to take a daily walk, we hope to begin reopening the church on a limited basis so that parishioners can drop in briefly to say a prayer or light a candle. We are preparing a plan which will involve markers on noticeboards and floors to facilitate social distancing and to encourage visitors to the church to move in one direction only as they enter and leave. We will also make available hand sanitising gel to facilitate hand hygiene.