

Our Lady of Dolours, Botanic Avenue, Glasnevin, D09K5R6

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This week we celebrated the Funeral Mass of Kaye Corcoran, late of River Gardens and formerly of Willow Park Avenue, who died on 23rd March. May she rest in peace.



We also remember Norrie Halpin, formerly of Cremore Crescent, who passed away peacefully at Anova Nursing Home on 22nd March last. RIP.

Regular parish meetings are cancelled until further notice, and Baptisms and weddings are postponed for the time being.

Our Lady of Dolours parish office is closed to the public. However, the parish office can be contacted during normal office hours by telephone (01/8379445) or email (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.

Our **Weekly Newsletter** is still published and can be found by tapping the link button in the left hand index column. There is also a 'daily thought' in time of Covid 19 on our Facebook page.

Dear Parishioners,

As you are aware, because of the Covid-19 pandemic, it is no longer possible to celebrate a public Mass in any church in Ireland, except a funeral Mass.

However, Mass is celebrated each weekday morning behind closed doors in Ballygall church by one of the priests from the Glasnevin Grouping. Parishioners can participate in the Mass from home via the webcam at 10.00am in Ballygall (www.ballygallparish.ie). They can also follow Mass each weekday evening at 5.45pm from St. Alphonsus Monastery (www.rednuns.com).

For the benefit of parishioners who do not have access to the internet, RTÉ will air Mass every weekday on TV at 10.30am from St Eunan's and St Columba's Cathedral, Letterkenny, on RTÉ News Now. RTÉ News Now can be accessed on Saorview (channel 21), Sky (521), Virgin Media (200), or Eir (517).

At weekends, parishioners can participate in the Mass from their home on the webcam on Saturday at 6.30pm from Ballygall church (www.ballygallparish.ie), on Sunday at 9.30am from St. Alphonsus Monastery (www.rednuns.com) and at 11.00am from Iona Road church (www.ionaroadparish.ie). Alternatively they can follow Mass on RTE radio or television.

A special **Holy Hour**, including Eucharistic adoration, music and reflections, led by priests or lay ministers from the Glasnevin Grouping, will be broadcast **each Wednesday evening** from Ballygall church via the webcam (www.ballygallparish.ie)

The Churches in the Glasnevin Grouping will remain open for private prayer throughout the day from Monday-Saturday, and on Sunday afternoons. **Even if we cannot gather together for prayer, we can feel in union with one another while praying the Angelus each day at 12 noon or 6pm and the Rosary at 3pm.**

At this time of national and global crisis let us ask God to bless and comfort all those who are sick, anxious or alone, and to protect the health care workers on whose efforts we all depend. Our Lady of Dolours, pray for us.

Reflection:

We hear this Sunday's Gospel in a way that we probably never have before. In the context of the Coronavirus pandemic, which has already claimed the lives of thousands of people across the world, how do we receive Jesus words to his disciples: *'This sickness will not end in death but in God's glory'*? With so much of what we have come to know as normal social and economic life ground to a halt, and so many people suffering as a result, and with heightened anxiety around getting the virus or transmitting it to someone else, where do we find hope, where do we see signs of God's 'glory'? Nature is certainly playing a role: the unfolding Spring and the good weather encourage us to get out and enjoy the fresh air and colour (while maintaining physical distancing), and lift our spirits. The thoughtfulness of people checking in on their neighbours, the playfulness and creativity of others, the willingness of most people to abide by the current restrictions for the sake of the Common Good all renew our faith in human goodness and solidarity and remind us that the God of Christian hope is with us, helping us to find light in the darkness and to overcome fear with trust. These unfamiliar times invite us to discover our own inner resources and particularly the gift of prayer. The inability to gather does not prevent us from being in union with Christ, with one another, and with all God's people in prayer. *'This sickness will not end in death but in God's glory'*.

ALONE COVID-19 Helpline

ALONE has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of **COVID-19 (Coronavirus)** in Ireland. Professional staff will be available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line will be open Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm, by calling 0818 222 024, and hours may be extended to meet the demand.

The Bishops' Conferences of European countries (COMECE and CCEE) have released a common prayer to God for help, comfort and salvation:

*God our Father, Creator of the world, almighty and merciful, out of love for us
You sent your Son into the world as the doctor of our souls and our bodies,
look upon your children who, in this difficult time of confusion and dismay in many regions of Europe and the world, turn to you seeking strength, salvation and relief, deliver us from illness and fear, heal our sick, comfort their families, give wisdom to our rulers, energy and reward to our doctors, nurses and volunteers, eternal life to the dead. Do not abandon us in the moment of trial but deliver us from all evil.
We ask this of You, who with the Son and the Holy Spirit, live and reign for ever and ever. Amen. Mary, mother of health and hope, pray for us.*

A Message from Pope Francis

"Tonight before falling asleep think about when we will return to the street. When we hug again, when all the shopping together will seem like a party. Let's think about when the coffees will return to the bar, the small talk, the photos close to each other. We think about when it will be all a memory but normality will seem an unexpected and beautiful gift. We will love everything that has so far seemed futile to us. Every second will be precious. Swims at the sea, the sun until late, sunsets, toasts, laughter. We will go back to laughing together. Strength and courage."

Recommended resources for praying at home, including an online Lenten retreat, include <https://www.sacredspace.ie/> and: <https://pray-as-you-go.org/index.php>. Prayer resources from the Catholic Communications Office include resources from the Diocesan Liturgy Office <https://www.dublindiocese.ie/prayer-resources-for-use-during-coronavirus-pandemic/>

Official Summertime begins this weekend, so clocks need to be put forward one hour on Saturday night before bedtime.