

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

**Office:** Mon—Fri, 10.30am—12.30pm

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

Mary McCarthy (Botanic Road); Fr. Gerry Byrne, chaplain, Blackrock Clinic, Sharon Moylan

**Months Mind:** Delia Kennedy

**Anniversary:** Ciaran Logue

Sincere condolences to Gerry McCarthy and all the family and friends of Mary McCarthy whose funeral took place on Friday in Our Lady of Dolours

**Common Prayer to God for Help**

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 Thee, 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!*

We remember in prayer our **school students** from St. Mary's HF Secondary School and Scoil Chaitriona, who formally complete their secondary education this week. We pray that their academic efforts will be rewarded in their grades and wish them well as they embark on the next stage of their lives.

Our parish **St. Vincent de Paul Society** have been continuing their quiet work of responding to the needs of parishioners who are in difficulty, but they have been unable to hold their usual church-gate collection which funds their work for the past two months. Parishioners who would like to contribute to their work may leave an offering in an envelope marked SVP and place it in the safe at the back of the church. We will ensure that it gets to them quickly.

**A PENTECOST REFLECTION FROM ARCH-BISHOP DIARMUID MARTIN**

After his resurrection, at the moment in which he returned to his Father, Jesus pours out the Spirit upon his disciples and makes them sharers in his own mission. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the disciples go out on the first Pentecost Sunday and begin to preach the Good News to peoples from all parts of the then known world.

The Spirit enables the apostles to speak a message which is understandable to all. The Spirit enables them to teach a message that is relevant and understandable to the lives and the concrete realities of peoples of different backgrounds. The message of Jesus is a universal one, not just in the sense that it has spread right around the world, but above all in that no one is excluded from that message or from the community that Jesus' message constructs.

The disciples of Jesus are brought together in unity by the Holy Spirit. You cannot be a solo-Christian. Christianity is a faith that demands the building of community. The Church is called, according to the opening words of the Vatican Council's Constitution on the Church, to be "a sign and a sacrament of the unity in Jesus Christ of all humankind". Wherever Church exists, it must be a sign for all to see of unity and community.

We all need community. It is not just for the few who are naturally gregarious. We need something more than a vague good neighbourliness based on living next-door to each other without enmity or undue friction. We all need real community.

In our times - for the first time in human history - more than half of the world's population lives in an urban setting. Modernity fosters urban life. The Archdiocese of Dublin is predominantly an urban diocese, though partly rural. Building urban community is a major challenge. Where it fails, the results come in social breakdown, violence and alienation. Where urban community is built up, we have that extraordinary sense of care and solidarity which for generations marked the best of our inner cities. In the current crisis, we have seen great examples of spontaneous community support.

As we return towards a normalisation of Church life, we have to create focal points of community within our huge urban conglomerations. For too long we have given the name "development" to a process of simply building houses on the fringes of our cities, without any of the infrastructures to support community. Society needs community.

We live in a world in which for many individualism, self-expression and self-sufficiency become the driving force of human activity. Growth, progress, economic interest and profit can often be pursued for their own sake, without any regard for the consequences for other areas of life, whether on the poor and excluded, or the environment, or on the global good of inclusion.

The freedom given by the Spirit is not an individualistic freedom. The freedom that comes from the Spirit unites. The freedom that comes from the Spirit overcomes division. We all need community, but we must all construct community.

The "Creator Spirit" is the one who helps us steer the path of human progress in another direction, within a framework respectful of God's design for his creation, forcing us to transform our individualism and self-centeredness into a response of generosity. Society needs community. Society needs a Church which witnesses to community and care.

**Parish Webcam**

Mass is now streamed via webcam at 12 noon each Sunday. The webcam facility, which can be accessed via the parish website ([www.glasnevinparish.ie](http://www.glasnevinparish.ie)) enables parishioners living at home or abroad to participate online at Mass and other celebrations, including baptisms, weddings and funerals streamed from their own parish church. If you miss the live streaming, you can still attend the Mass online for up to seven days. Please pass on the good news to anyone in your circle of family friends or neighbours who might be interested.

Mass will also be streamed each Sunday at 10.00am from Ballymun Road and at 11.00am from Iona Road church, and the Sat. vigil Mass is streamed from Ballygall church at 6.30pm. Mass will be broadcast each weekday morning (except Thursday) at 11.00am from Our Lady of Dolours church and at 10.00am from Ballygall and Ballymun Road churches. A **Holy Hour**, with Eucharistic adoration, will be broadcast next Wednesday evening at 7.30pm from Ballygall church ([www.ballygallparish.ie](http://www.ballygallparish.ie))

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

Although Our Lady of Dolours parish office is currently 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 need any assistance.

While using our website to access the Mass on webcam, we encourage you to take the opportunity to visit our website, where you will also see our online Donate button. You can access our Facebook page directly from the website by clicking on the icon. Prayers and a 'thought for the day' based on the daily readings are put up each day on our Facebook page.

The next zoom meeting to read and reflect together on next Sunday's Readings will take place on Thursday 4th June at 7.30pm. The readings for Trinity Sunday are: Exodus 34: 4-6, 8-9; 2 Cor 13: 11-13; John 3: 16-18. To take part, send an email to [ourladyofdoloursparish@gmail.com](mailto:ourladyofdoloursparish@gmail.com) and we will forward you ID number and password).

**New Appointment for Fr. Sintayhu.** Fr. Sintayhu Gelaw wrote to us this week to inform us that he has been appointed Vicar General and Diocesan director (in church of the Pastoral and Charity offices) of the new diocese of Bahir Dar Dessie, which has developed out of the Archdiocese of Addis Ababa. The diocese has 20,000 Catholics and, as he says himself, has 'no cathedral... the bishop and myself live in the pastoral centre.' It is a daunting challenge, and Fr. Sintayhu expressly asks for our prayers for himself and for the diocese.

**Trocaire** Lenten campaign boxes may be wrapped in a plastic bag and deposited in the safe at the back of the church. Alternatively, parishioners may send in a cheque to Trocaire, Maynooth, Co. Kildare or contribute online at [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org)

**Contributing to the Parish**

We are very grateful to 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. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity. 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. Here are 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 Mass when normal service has resumed, or left in the safe at the back of the church now that the church has reopened for private prayer. 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.

**Reopening of Our Lady of Dolours church for private prayer**

In line with the first phase of the government reopening of the country, we have re-opened the church in a limited way each day from 12noon -2.00pm (Mon-Sat) and 1.00pm-3.00pm (Sunday), so that parishioners can drop in briefly to say a prayer or light a candle. Apologies to parishioners who arrived at the church at 12noon last Sunday hoping to say a private prayer. As we were live streaming Mass via the webcam we were obliged to keep the doors closed until Mass was over. Markers on noticeboards and floors have been put in place to facilitate social distancing and to encourage visitors to the church to move in one direction only as they enter and leave. In the interest of hand hygiene, we encourage visitors to use the hand sanitising gel available.