



# BOOTERSTOWN PARISH

## WEEKLY NEWS

*First Sunday of Lent*

*21<sup>st</sup> February 2021*

**In brief:** a limited number of newsletters are available from the table in the church. If you pick up a newsletter, **kindly take it home with you** and please do not return it to the table for another parishioner or a visitor to handle.

Thank you!

**Booterstown Parish Website** is updated weekly. Visit [www.booterstownparish.ie](http://www.booterstownparish.ie) to keep up to date with liturgical and parish news. Don't forget the **webcam** which broadcasts live the 10 o'clock Mass from Monday to Sunday inclusive. We have truly become a virtual parish community!

**Confessions:** Please contact Fr. Gerry Kane if you would like to make an arrangement to have Confession.

**Parish Office Telephone:** is 01 283 1593. **Email** [info@booterstownparish.ie](mailto:info@booterstownparish.ie) The Parish Secretary is working behind closed doors from Monday – Friday, 9.00 am – 1.00 pm if you wish to book an Anniversary Mass, require a Mass Card or have a query that we can assist you wish.

**St. Vincent de Paul:** If you need some support and assistance with expenses such as heating, medical expenses, shopping etc., the St. Vincent de Paul Conference members request that you make initial contact with their Head Office on 01-855 0022 and leave your contact details. The Head Office will arrange for a member of the Booterstown Conference to get in touch with you. Many thanks to all

### Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel

Mark 1: 12-15

1. Jesus is about to start his public ministry. Mark tells us this was preceded by a deep inner struggle when his resolve to take on his God-given mission was tested. Recall important decisions in your own life. Were they accompanied by struggle and doubt? Who were the angels who supported you at that time? Give thanks for them.
2. Such periods of anxiety may seem like wilderness experiences at the time. Later, with hindsight, we may see them as being good for us. Perhaps, like Jesus, you recall a time when the Spirit of God led you into the wilderness to be tested and after the experience you had a clearer sense of your own identity or your purpose in life.
3. Repent and believe the good news was the heart of the message of Jesus. It was not a call to penance but to a change of heart, a change of attitude, leading to a change in behaviour. The kingdom of God is a kingdom of right relationships: with God, with one another, with creation, with ourselves. It is a change that leads to a fuller life. When have you found that a change in your attitude towards God, others, yourself, or the world around you, has led you to a more fulfilled or more fruitful life?
4. There is immediacy about the call of Jesus: 'the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near'. Recall when you had a realisation that NOW was the moment of opportunity – for a change in your life, for a spiritual renewal, or a time to give a wholehearted yes to life. At this moment to what do you believe you are invited to say 'yes'?



**Liturgy Notes: Lent:** The Liturgical Season of Lent commenced last Wednesday. Many thanks to the Liturgy Committee members and some additional volunteers who were present in the church on Ash Wednesday to facilitate those who wished to collect Blessed Ash and to bring some home to family members. We heard a new 'Liturgical' term: "Take Away Ash"! The pastoral outreach was greatly appreciated by all those who called in to the church. Those used/re-cycled coffee pods proved a most useful means of transporting the Blessed Ash.

**Stations of the Cross:** The Stations of the Cross, introduced by Greg and Sheila, will take place each Friday in Lent via the webcam, commencing immediately after 10.00 am Mass.

**Acts of Love:** St. Joseph the Artisan Church, Bonnybrook has shared this lovely resource, which is available on our website, [www.booterstownparish.ie](http://www.booterstownparish.ie) Entitled "Acts of Love for Lent", this resource is illustrated and offers a positive reflection for each day of Lent. Remember to visit these reflections daily for an uplifting message – which is so important for us at this time.

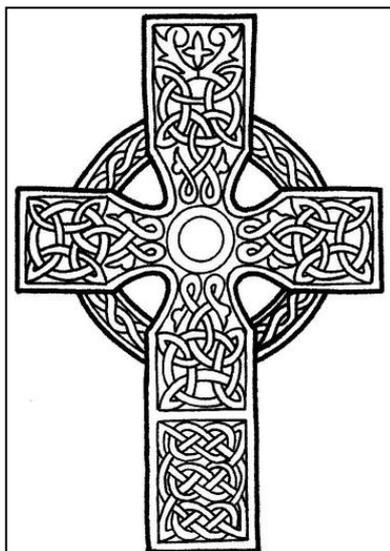
**The Liturgy Committee** has plans to hold an on-line retreat for parishioners during the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> weeks of Lent. Small groups of 6 would meet on Zoom, led by a volunteer. It would only be possible to run small retreat groups on Zoom if there are sufficient volunteers avail-

**Accord** took up its annual appeal remotely last weekend. The demand for their services is greater than usual at present. It is possible to donate on-line at [www.donate.ie](http://www.donate.ie) where you will find a “Donate” button. We have passed on the returned envelopes to Accord.

**Child Safeguarding and the Protection of Vulnerable Adults—Diocesan Updates:** A Staff Volunteer Handbook & Seesaw guidance (an on-line platform used in some parishes to engage with young children, especially for Sacramental Preparation), have been uploaded to the parish website.

**Prayer**

May the arms of God be around my shoulders,  
The touch of the Holy Spirit



upon my head,  
The sign of Christ’s cross upon my forehead,  
The sound of the Holy Spirit in my ears,

The fragrance of the Holy Spirit in my nostrils  
The vision of Heaven’s company in my eyes,  
The conversation of Heaven’s company on my lips  
The work of God’s Church in my hands

Archbishop Dermot Farrell has spoken about the celebration of the **Sacraments of First Holy Communion** and of **Confirmation** of how he can understand the uncertainty that has arisen and how difficult it is to plan for the future. To alleviate the concerns, avoid doubt and so that people can plan accordingly, the Archbishop confirms that there will be no celebration of Confirmations in the Diocese before Easter. He wishes to allow time for the infection numbers to reduce, the schools to reopen, proper parish-based programmes of preparation for the Sacraments to be completed, and our churches to be once again open to public worship. When that happens, the priority will be to celebrate the sacraments for those children for whom that could not happen last year, then candidates for Confirmation, currently in sixth class and then children for First Holy Communion. Given the size of the church in this parish, it is likely that smaller, more intimate celebrations of these Sacraments will take place. The parish will, of course, be adhering to the NPHET guidelines of what

**The Office for Evangelisation and the Liturgy Resource Centre** in the Diocese are presenting “**Let’s Live Lent**” on-line when they will bring the Gospels to Life. Join the Diocese for Pastoral Conversations on 5 Tuesdays, continuing on Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 8.00 pm (until 8.45 pm) with the topic “**Would you Listen to Him**”. Register by email to [lisia.cashen@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:lisia.cashen@dublindiocese.ie) (Details also available on the parish website [www.boosterstownparish.ie](http://www.boosterstownparish.ie))

**Anniversaries today:** Brigid Duff (5<sup>th</sup> A), Kevin O’Doherty (47<sup>th</sup>) and his sister, Ailsa O’Doherty (1<sup>st</sup> A).

**Anniversaries at this time:** Irene O’Kelly, Jane Lohan, Michael Walsh, Joyce & Jimmy O’Sullivan and their son, Robert; Muriel Roberts.

**Rest in Peace:** We pray for all those who have died recently, including those whose Funeral Masses were celebrated in our church during the past week: Paddy Grogan, Blackrock, Barbara Leonard, Brooklawn & Helen Waldron, Hyde Park Avenue. A Memorial Mass was celebrated for Brian Dolan, formerly of Trimleston Avenue, who died suddenly in

<i>Priests of the Parish</i>		<i>Confessions</i>
Fr. Gerry Kane 52 Booterstown Ave.	Parish Priest 086 8220956	By arrangement with Fr. Gerry Kane
<i>Email &amp; Website</i>		<i>Baptisms</i>
info@boosterstownparish.ie		By Arrangement
www.boosterstownparish.ie		<i>Marriages</i>
<i>Mass Times</i>		By arrangement, 3 months notice required
<i>Saturday:</i> 10am via web cam		
<i>Sunday:</i> 10am via web cam		Parish Secretary: Thérèse O’Donoghue
<i>Tue- Fri:</i> 10 am via web cam		Parish Office: Tel & Fax 01 283 1593
<i>Rosary</i>		(Tue - Fri. 9-10 am & 10.30-1.30 pm)
		Sacristan: Paul Lyng 288 8586
<i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>		St. Marys Boys School 288 6830
		Our Lady of Mercy Girls School 288 4223