



Saint Dominic  
pray for us

**THIS WEEK**

**Masses  
Sunday**

9.30am, 10.30am  
12noon & 5.30pm

**Monday - Friday**  
7.30am; 10.00am  
& 6.00pm

**Saturday**  
8.00am; 10.00am  
& 7.30pm {Vigil}

**Confessions**

**Saturdays**  
10.30 - 12.30pm  
& 7.00pm - 7.30pm

**First Friday**  
9.30am to 10am  
5.30pm to 6.00pm  
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**Morning Prayer**  
Mon-Sun: 9.00am

**Evening Prayer**  
Mon - Sat: 5.45pm  
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**Devotions**

**Rosary**  
Mon - Sat  
before 10am Mass  
Sun at 11.30am

**Exposition of the  
Blessed Sacrament**  
First Saturday  
10.30am-12.30pm

**Divine Mercy,  
Rosary &  
Benediction**  
First Sundays-3pm



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pray for us

**They Came in the Evening . . . . .**

*We are told that the people went to Jesus in the evening (or under the cover of darkness) because they were afraid. It was the Sabbath and as such no work could be done, even if that was helping a family member or friend be cured. Because of their interpretation of the Law, it had become almost sinful to do the right thing.*

*It has almost become the same in Ireland today where people practice their faith “under-cover”. We have reached a point where admitting you are a Catholic is almost the worst thing you could. So when in company people tend to keep their mouths shut, even if their own faith is under attack. We saw it in the recent election where questions were put to people of faith in a way that made it sound their faith would be a hindrance to them carrying out the role of the Office. Then of course, very recently a T.D. stated that religion has no place in the education system of a modern democracy as well as a Political Party that seems to be considering that any “good Catholic” should be excluded from being senior officials in the State. This echoes the old phrase from the past ‘no Catholics need apply’. Of course, that raises another question – if a democracy is “made up of the citizens” and a particular faith is part of these citizens’ lives, then surely, if it is their democracy should reflect their beliefs and values.*

*One of the ideas put forwarded these days is that a person of faith (any faith) should practice it in private and it should not be part of society. This approach declares that faith has no place in schools, hospitals, politics, almost any and all roles in life. This is a total misunderstanding of Catholicism. Catholicism is not a ‘private’ faith. Being Catholic is like being human, it is part and parcel of the believer. It is not like a coat that can be taken off and put on when required. Our faith demands that we act in a particular manner, it guides the way we make decisions, and it forms us to see our society in a certain way. Jesus Himself told His followers “by this shall you know My disciples, that they love one another as I have loved them”. In other words, Jesus says you will know His disciples, His followers, by their actions, and obviously this requires a public forum. How would you know them if everything was done in private? Anyone who feels or thinks they can be Catholic and at the same time “suppress” their religious views on certain occasions is fooling themselves. Just like the Jewish people who came to Jesus “under the cover of darkness”, it would seem that certain elements of Irish society put forward the idea that Catholic should practice their faith “out of sight”. This view seems to be constantly coming at us from all sides, often in the form of a passing comments or vague statements. Jesus calls us to live our faith, to proclaim it by every word we speak and every action we carry out. It is true that we will not always succeed in this calling. God knows our history is full of occasions when we sadly failed to be seen as “disciples of Christ”. But there are also many examples of when people of faith did great good and continue to do so.*

*Just as Jesus lifted up the mother-in-law of Simon Peter, so too He offers us His hand to lift us up to live out our Catholic faith and to so it openly and proudly as His disciples.*

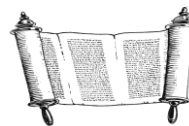


**Dominican Priory Newsletter**

1224 Dominicans - 800 years in 2024



St Thomas Aquinas  
College Patron



**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

4th February 2024



**First Reading from the Book of Job**

Moses addressed the people telling them what God had told him. God will rise up a prophet from

After all that he had been through, Job bemoans his life, comparing it to the life of a slave. It is like a night of grief, and he wonders when things will change, when will this grief come to an end? The days of his life pass by swiftly, with no hope. He believes his days will come to an end without seeing any joy again.

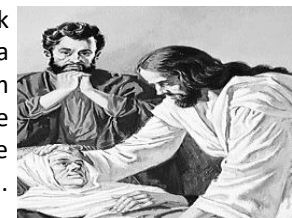
**Reading from the Letters of Saint Paul**

Saint Paul tells the people that he does not boast in his work, because it is a duty that has been given to him. Fulfilling this duty from God is itself his reward is. He has made himself a slave to his preaching so that he can save as many as possible. He takes on all this for the sake of the gospel and to have a share in its blessing.

**Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark**

Now Simon Peter's mother-in-law became ill needing to go to bed. When Jesus returned from the synagogue, he heard about this, and He went to her room. Even though it was the Sabbath, He took her by the hand He helped her up. And she was cured. News of this spread quickly. It was the Sabbath so people would not go to Him during the day out of fear of the Jewish Authorities.

So, under the cover of darkness, people brought all who were sick to be cured by Him. The following morning Jesus went off to a lonely place to prayed. When the Apostles found Him they told Him that people were looking for Him. But Jesus told them they were moving on to other towns in order to preach the gospel message there too. This was the mission given to Him, to preach God’s word.



**Saint Eustace’s Church and Priory**

&

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O Mary,  
conceived  
without sin,  
Pray for us who  
have recourse  
to you.



POPE  
FRANCIS'  
INTENTIONS  
FEB 2024



We pray that  
those with a  
terminal  
illness,  
and their  
families,  
receive the  
necessary  
physical  
and  
spiritual care  
and  
acompaniment

**DOMINICAN PRIORY NOTICES ...**

**First Sunday Devotions:** The Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary and Benediction this Sunday afternoon at 3.00pm.



**Bank Holiday Monday:** Mass at 10.00am only.

**Childrens' Sunday Rosary:** each Sunday morning children will recite the Rosary at 11.40am. All are welcome.

**Anniversary Masses & Mass Cards:** Anniversary Masses can be booked at the School office. Also, a variety of Cards {for the living & deceased}; special intentions; get well; birthdays; etc} are available at the School Office.

**Webcam:** our webcam will broadcast the Rosary at 9.40am & Mass at 10.00am on weekdays and the 12.00noon Mass on Sundays.

**This Week's Saints & Feasts ... ..**

**Monday ~ Memorial of Saint Agatha of Sicily**  
Born in Sicily she became a very active member of the local Church. Because of this she was handed over to prison guards in Rome, where she meets Saint Peter. Later she was martyred for refusing to renounce her faith.

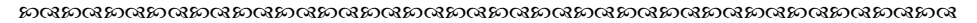
**Tuesday ~ Memorial of Saint Paul Miki & Companions.**  
Saint Paul Miki and his companions were part of the Franciscan mission at Nagasaki in Japan. They were martyred most cruelly in 1597.

**Wednesday ~ Anniversaries of Fathers and Mothers.**  
On the day throughout the world, members of the Dominican Order remember and pray in a special way for the parents of all Dominicans.

**Thursday ~ Memorial of Saint Josephine Bakhita.**  
She was born in 1868 in Olgossa, a small village in current day Sudan. Her brother was the tribal chief. At the age of seven she and two of her sisters was seized by Arab slave traders. After her capture she was sold as a slave. After a number of Arab owners, she was taken to Italy as a servant for the Michieli family. On one occasion the Michieli family went travelling and left their daughter and her "maid" in the in the care of the Canossian Sisters in Venice. While here the Sisters educated here in the ways of the faith, and she was baptised. After a year the Michieli family returned to take their daughter and her "maid" back, however, Josephine refused to go and the Sisters refused to hand her over, despite the many threats. With the help of Cardinal Sarto of Venice, she was set free. Josephine decided to join the Convent in 1893. For 42yrs she lived out her new life always in joy and peace. Once asked "What would you do, if you meet your captors?" Without hesitation she responded: " I would kneel and kiss their hands. For, if these things had not happened, I would not have been a Christian or a religious today". She died in 1947.

Also on Thursday ~ International Day of Prayer against human Trafficking. Instituted in 2015, Pope Francis asks people to pray for the 2.5million people who are victims of human trafficking and slavery each year. We pray that this despicable practice and acts of inhumanity will be brought to an end.

**Saturday ~ Memorial of Saint Scholastica.**  
The sister of Saint Benedict, Scholastica was renowned by her holiness and devotion to God. She became a nun and lived near the Monastery of Monte Cassio, under the direction of her brother, the founder of the Benedictines - she was the first Benedictine Nun. One night she and her brother spent the night discussing the mercy of God. the following day Benedict had a vision of her soul rising up to heaven as a dove. When he found her, she was dead.



**DOMINICAN PILGRIMAGES TO LOURDES**

with Fr. John Harris OP & Fr. David McGovern OP

- 24th June to 1st July. Cost: €975.00. Contact Marian Pilgrimage - 01 878 8159.

with Fr. Frank Downes OP

- 5th to 10th May 2024. Cost: €790.00. Contact Marian Pilgrimage - 01 878 8159.



**Diocesan & Parish Notices ... ..**

**SUNDAY 11th FEBRUARY** is the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes & World Day of the Sick: The Rosary will be prayed at the Grotto at St. Conleth's Church at 3pm. All are welcome.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** takes place daily from 10am to 10pm and on First Fridays until 12 midnight in the Adoration Chapel at the side of the Parish Church.

**NEWBRIDGE PARISH SHARE FOOD:** Many thanks to our donors for your generous help. We look forward to your continued support. We welcome all kinds of in-date dry and tinned foods as well as toiletries and baby care. Donations can be made at the back of the Church.



**Vocations Discernment Weekend**

The Dominican Nuns of Siena Monastery [Drogheda]

are holding a vocations weekend on 16th-18th February for young women (18-35).

If you are interested

Contact - Sr Mairead OP at 041 983 8524 or sienavoc@gmail.com



We for all those who have died, especially:

Mary Mahon, Great Connell      Joseph Casey, Blackberry Lane  
Anne Murphy, The Crescent

we remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time -

fr Henry Gaffney OP      fr Dominic Hallinan OP      fr Enda McVeigh OP  
fr Basil Keenan OP      fr Martin McCarthy OP      fr Paul Ramsey OP  
Martha Walsh      Thomas Karney      Patrick Moore  
Niall McDonnell [month mind]

Eternal Rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.