"If you want Him to"



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 Morning Prayer Mon-Sun: 9.00am Evening Prayer Mon - Sat: 5.45pm Devotions Proventions

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



Leprosy is a disease which has caused fear and loathing for centuries. Thousands have suffered the physical and emotional pain it brings with it. Today lepers are treated with medication and can live a relatively normal life, living in the world like others.

But in the time of Jesus, leprosy was a sentence to a slow, painful and lonely death. It is also probable that people with other skin diseases may have been mistaken for lepers. The sentence for contacting the disease was to be rejected by family and friends, as well as being made an outcast from the community and the Temple. The fear of people made it impossible for them to have any compassion. This of course was not helped by the view that this illness was a punishment from God for some sin committed either by the person or their parents.

So, when this leper approaches Jesus, we see a scene that would never been accepted by anyone else. If a leper got too close a Jew had the right to stone them, as if touched they too would become 'unclean'. That Jesus is seen as being willing to touch the man would be a great shock to His disciples.

Jesus consents to heal this man. But in curing the leprosy, Jesus cures the 'whole' man. He is cured physically, emotionally and spiritually. Now the man can go home to his family and friends. He can re-take his place in society and once more go to the Temple to be part of the faith community. Even though he was told by Jesus to tell no one, the man didn't keep quiet. Instead, he told everyone about the miraculous healing he experienced through Jesus.

In fact, Jesus told the man to show himself to the priest as the law required. This would be a very public testimony to what had just happened to him. Naturally as soon as word gets out, Jesus is sought out by all those who are sick, so much so that He could no longer go into the towns. Just as the leprous man tried everything he could do to cure himself, they saw in Jesus a source of hope, a healer, a saviour who can help him out of this miserable condition. All those coming to Jesus would have had the way of thinking.

Jesus' mission is to preach the good news of the Gospel. So why did He start healing people? This would interfere with the preaching mission. In all his actions Jesus is in fact preaching, and His preaching is very different to what the people are used to. Jesus is not just about words, but also about putting these words into actions. He calls on all His disciples to let their actions speak as loudly as their words in carrying out the commandment "love one another".

Jesus was moved by pity, filled with compassion, and so He stretched out his hands and touched the leper. Instead of Jesus becoming 'unclean' through the touch, it is the leper who is made 'clean'. What seems like a simple gesture by Jesus was in fact a great expression of love, comfort and acknowledgment. Jesus is expressing in his actions, His love and care for those who are wounded in body and soul.

When we are desperate and downcast, when we are ill or burdened by our sins, Jesus, is the source of our rescue. We need not wonder if He is willing, because we know He can and wants to heal us.



First Reading from the Book of Leviticus

The Lord instructs Moses on how a person will leprosy is to be treated. The leper is to be declared 'unclean' as they are a danger to the rest of the Community. To protect the rest of the people they must stay apart from the population.

Reading from the Letters of Saint Paul

Saint Paul tells the people that whatever you eat or drink, do or say, they should do it for the glory of God. Never are they to be offensive to others, no matter who they are. They are to imitate him who had always tried to be helpful to everyone. This he does to be an example to others in order so that they may be saved.

Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark

As Jesus journeyed preaching from town to town, a leper came up to Him and asked to be cured, asked to be allowed to re-join the Community - his family and friends. 'If you want to' he said to Jesus. Feeling sorry, Jesus cured him and then told him not to tell

anyone of what had happened but to go and obey the Law. He is to present himself to the priest so that he could be declared 'clean' and give thanks to God for his recovery.

The man, now a former leper and outcast, went away but immediately started to tell everyone about what had happened. Ironically, in a turn of position, it is now Jesus who could no longer go into the towns, but had to stay outside separated from the people, just as the leper had to. But people still came to Him as He offered them hope.

Saint Eustace's Church and Priory & Dominican College of Saint Thomas Aquin Newbridge, Co Kildare W12 C241. Telephone: 045 487 200 Email: newbridge.community @dominicans.ie







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DOMINICAN PRIORY NOTICES ...

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 & without sin, Mass at 10.00am on weekdays and the 12.00noon Mass on Pray for us who have recourse Sundays.

> **Trocaire Boxes:** the Lenten Trocaire Boxes are available at the back of the Church.

NEARDARDARDARDARDARDARDARDARDARDARDARDA Triduum of Prayer in honour of Our Lady of L Our 3 days of prayer in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes



with Rosary, Sermon & Benediction at 4.00pm. Celebrating 'World day of prayer for the sick' we will

also have the Sacrament of the Sick

Ash Wednesdav

Next Wednesday, 14th February, is Ash Wednesday. Ashes will be distributed after Masses.

The Lenten Season

During the Season of Lent there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Saturdays 10.30am-12.30pm Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary & Benediction on Sundays at 3.00pm. Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 6.30pm.

This Week's Saints & Feasts

During the Lenten Season only solemnities and feasts are celebrated.

Wednesday ~ Memorial of Saint Cyril & Saint Methodius. Cyril and his brother Methodius travelled to Moravia to preach the faith. While there they translated many of the Church's liturgical books into the Slavonic language using the Cyrillic alphabet which they invented. They went to Rome where St.Cyril died on the 14th Feb 869. Methodius was made a Bishop and went to present day Hungary. After many years of labouring to preach the faith, he died on the 6th April 885 in Czechoslovakia. Both are buried in the Dominican Basilica of San Clemente in Rome. They are the Patrons of Europe.

Saturday ~ Memorial of of Seven 'Servite' Founders.

Founded in1233 in Florence by seven young men who came together to help one another live a more

800 years of Dominican presence in Ireland

This Sunday, Most Rev G Timoner OP, the Master of the Dominican Order,

will celebrate mass in Saint Saviour's Dominican Church at 11.00am to formally begin

our Province's Jubilee celebrations of the Dominicans' 800 years in Ireland.

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.

Dominican College News

YOUNG SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR: Congratulations to all our students who completed in the Young Scientist of the Year - their achievements did the College proud.

SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS: Congratulations to the College swim team who competed at the National Aquatic Centre in the Leinster Senior Schools Swimming Championships. The team returned with 4 Team medals for the school. The team also took silver and a number of bronze medals. Most swimmers swam in individual events too and achieved personal best achievements. ATHLETICS: Congratulations to all our athletes on their fantastic performances at the Leinster Cross Country Championships. Our athletes featured strongly winning a gold medal.

RUGBY: Congratulations to the Inter A & B Rugby teams – winning both their games again Kilkenny.

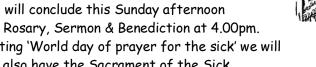
Diocesan & Parish Notices

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]





POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS FEB 2024



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