

From death to Life"

Have mercy on us and on the whole world







POPE FRANCIS' INTENTIONS MARCH 2024



We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm. 'And the people spoke out again against God and against Moses'. This describes the account of the final rebellious act in the desert against both God and Moses. They now refuse God's gifts, such as the manna, which was keeping them alive. They turn their back on God and on the life He offers. So, the Lord, fed up with this stubborn people, sent fiery serpents among them and many People of Israel died. Once again Moses pleads for the people and asks God to show His mercy.

In response, God tells Moses to make a bronze serpent and raise it above the people so that all that gazed upon it would recover. Ironically, it was the image of the 'cause of the death' that became the source of healing and life. To gaze upon the serpent of course implied the belief that God has the power to save. The symbols associated with Jesus are rooted in such accounts in the history of the Jewish people.

In Jewish eyes, the serpent is the cause of the fall and the bringer of death, with its origins in the Creation story. Now once again, in the desert, it becomes the source of death to the People of Israel. However, due to the pleading of Moses, God turns this symbol of death into a symbol of life. When the People of Israel gazed upon the bronze serpent (on a piece of wood) held up by Moses they are cured, and life is restored to them.

Nicodemus, a Pharisee and member of the ruling Council, comes to Jesus but it is difficult for him to understand what Jesus was trying to teach him about the Kingdom of God. So, Jesus draws on this desert account from their history to try to explain further His special role as God's human Son. It is this imagery that Christ evokes in the mind of Nicodemus when He tells him that the Son of Man, Jesus Himself, must be raised up on 'a piece of wood' to bring life to the people. All who gaze upon Him and believe in the power of the Cross to save them, will be saved. The cross was for the people of Israel a symbol of death, an instrument of execution. But through Christ this has now become, for all who believe, the instrument of the salvation and life. God so loved the people of the world that He did not want to condemn them and so over and over He had offered them ways to salvation. So great was this love that He finally sent His only Son, who would be raised up on the Cross to be the hope and life of all who believe in

Him. God, because of His great mercy, does not condemn anyone. He wants all

peoples to be saved. Jesus has paid the full price for our sins. Just as the Israelites simply had to gaze upon the bronze snake in order not to die, so all we need to do is place our faith and trust in the saving work of Jesus on the Cross and we will be saved. Sadly, there are those who chose to refuse to acknowledge Him and so they condemn themselves by their own choice ~ their choice not God's.





10th March 2024

~~~This Sunday's Readings & Gospel~~~

First Reading from the Book of the Chronicles

The People of Israel, turned away from God and worshiped false gods, engaged in shameful practices of the pagans and defiling the Temple. God sent them messenger after messenger to call them to repent but they refused. And so, the Lord let Israel be overthrown and the Temple destroyed. The exile continued until Cyrus became King of Persia. Fulfilling His promise, God moved Cyrus to set the People of Israel free and to rebuild the Temple. From to where-ever they were scattered they would now be reunited.

Reading from the Letters of Saint Paul

Saint Paul writes to tell the Ephesians that because of His great love God is totally merciful. Through Jesus Christ, He has freed us from sin and death and given a place in heaven. Every generation will come to know that they are saved not by their own actions but by the mercy of God. This salvation is a gift from God.

Holy Gospel according to Saint John

God sent his Son into the world so that through him the world might be saved. When Nicodemus asks Jesus how he is to be saved Jesus tells him that is it only when the Son of Man is lifted high shall salvation be his. Recalling Moses in the desert, Jesus tells Nicodemus that everyone

salvation be his. Recalling Moses in the desert, Jesus tells Nicodemus that every one who believes in the Crucified Christ will have life. Because God so loved the world, He sent His only Son to save the people of the world and enable them to have eternal life through Him. God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but to save it. Those who refused to believe in Christ Jesus condemn themselves because they prefer to live in darkness rather than the light, to do evil rather than good.

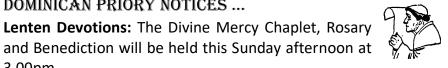






THIS WEEK

DOMINICAN PRIORY NOTICES ...



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

Masses Anniversary Masses & Mass Cards: Anniversary Masses can be Sunday 9.30am. 10.30am booked at the School office. Also, a variety of Mass Cards are 12noon & 5.30pm available. Monday - Friday

7.30am; 10.00am Webcam broadcasts Rosary at 9.40am & Mass at 1 & 6.00pm 12noon Mass Sundays. Saturday

3.00pm.

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** Praver Mon - Sat: 5.45pm ***** Devotions Rosary Mon - Sat before 10am Mass Sun at 11.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Saturdays 10.30am-12.30pm

Stations of the Cross Fridays at 6.30pn

Divine Mercy, Rosarv & Benediction Sundays at 3pm



The Lenten Season During the Season of Lent there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Sat ~ 10.30am-12.30pm Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary & Benediction on Sunday ~ 3pm. Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 6.30pm. Special collection in aid of our College Students' Pilgrimage to Lourdes lal church-door collection is eld at all Masses this weekend of our students who will be travelling to Lordes after Easter to be with and help some pilgrims with special needs. Next Wednesday, we pray in a special way for

our Holy Father, Pope Francis, who celebrates the anniversary of his election as Supreme Pontiff and Pastor, In 2013, the whole world heard these words proclaimed "Annuntio vobis gaudium agnum; habemus Papam: Eminentissimum ac Reverendissimum Dominum, Dominum Georgium Marium Sanctae Romanae Ecclesiae Cardinalem Bergoglio,

qui sibi nomen imposuit Franciscum"

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A Day for Choirs, Musicians & Cantors

Saturday 16 April, 10am to 7pm. Presented by a Dominican friar from Poland, Australian soprano and liturgical music expert, an Irish Dominican friar. €32 including three-course lunch. Book:

DominicanDayChoirs2024.eventbrite.com. ໞຨໞຨໞຨໞຨໞຨໞຨໞຨຬຨຎຨຬ DOMINICAN PILGRIMAGES TO LOURDES

with Fr. J Harris OP & Fr. McGovern OP - 24th June to 1st July. Cost: €975.00. Ph: Marian Pilgrimage - 01 878 8159. with Fr. Frank Downes OP - 5th to 10th May 2024. Cost: €790.00. Ph: 01 878 8159

MESSIAH CONCERT As part of our Jubilee 800, the Messiah will

be performed on April 14th at 7pm. in the Helix Centre, Dublin. For tickets phone 01 700 7000

or www.thehelix.ie ໞຨຎຨຎຨຎຨຎຨຎຨຎຨຎຨຎຨ **GROUPS** meeting at Saint Eustace's: DOMINICAN LAITY met on the last Wednesday o the month in the Priory after 10.00am Mass. MEDJUGORJE PRAYER GROUP met Monday in the Community Oratory at 7.00pm. LEGION of MARY - Tue 8pm in the Priory parlour MOTHERS' PRAYER GROUP met Wed at 8pm. **CATHOLIC FAITH DISCUSSION GROUP: meet** on the second Friday of the month at 7.00pm in the Walker Building [access behind the Church] SACRED HEART MENS SOLDAILTY meet on OLDER VOICES KILDARE meet in the Parish the First Friday in the Oratory at 7.00pm. **CENACLE PRAYER GROUP meet on the First** Saturday in the Oratory at 4.30pm, Mass at 5.00pm.

Annual Chrism Mass

Bishop Denis invites you to join him for the celebration of the Chrism Mass in the Cathedral of the Assumption in Carlow on Mon 25 March at 7:30

pm.

Diocesan & Parish Notices

ADORATION of the BL. SACRAMENT takes place daily from 10am to 10pm and on First Fridays until 12midnight in the Adoration Chapel. **NEWBRIDGE PARISH SHARE FOOD:** many thanks to our donors for your generous help. Donations can be made at the back of the Church.

Available Help & Support Groups ...

ACCORD: Contact 045 431695 (10am to 2pm) or email: accordnewbridge@gmail.com GROW: local meeting held on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. SAMARITANS are there for everyone freephone 116123 / jo@samaritans.ie ALONE support line for older people. 8.00am to 8.00pm. Ph: 0818 222 024.

MEN'S SHEDS: Mon at 2pm in the Curate's House, Chapel Lne. Ph: Alan on 086 8244591. COMMUNTIY CENACOLO it is dedicated to help people with additions n a Christian and Community atmosphere. To learn more see www.comunitycenacolo.ie

Centre on Thur [10am-12pm]. Join us for tea. 'GOOD MORNING KILDARE' service provides a FREE friendly phone call on a regular basis to adults in their own homes. It is

We for all those who have died, especially: Anne McCormack, Pairc Mhuire John Broderick, The Oaks we remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time fr Patrick Griffin OP fr Conleth Kearns OP fr Matthew Kelly OP fr Hyacinth Moore OP fr Kevin O'Hannan OP fr Michael Whelan OP fr Vincent Brennan OP fr Robert Davison OP Liam Prendergast Iames Fitzaerald Iohn Farrell *loe Cosarove* Prav for us Des & Carmel Dillon Patrick Kane Bridget Burke now and at the Maureen Davitt hour of our Eternal Rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. death.

