



Newtowncashel

Parish Newsletter

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE – 22nd November 2015

Fr. Merlyn Kenny 043 3325112



* Mass Times:

Saturday (vigil) 8pm; Sunday 10.30am;
Wednesday & Thursday: 9.30am.
Monday & Friday 8pm.
No Mass on Tuesday.

* Masses for the Dead:

Saturday 21st 8pm: Annie Mai Kenny, Derrydarragh.
Sunday 22nd 10.30am: Cissie (Mary) Farrell, (Nee Flood) Carrowbeg.
(Month's Mind).
Monday 23rd 8pm: John Duke, Pollagh.
Friday 27th 8pm: John, James & Ann Ganly, Portanure.
Saturday 28th 8pm:
Sunday 29th 10.30am: First Sunday in Advent: Do This In Memory Programme.

* Do This In Memory:

On Sunday next the Do This in Memory Mass takes place for all the parents/guardians and children of those preparing for First Communion.

* Advent:

Next Sunday is the beginning of Advent and the new Liturgical year. The Advent Wreath will be blessed during Mass. Readings for the Sundays are from Year C and for weekdays from year 2.

* Thank you for last weekend's offertory collection of €760

* The Station Mass:

Those who would like to host a Station Mass in February can arrange to do so now. It is a real privilege to have such a blessing in one's home. Four Station Masses have already been booked.

* Longford Harvest Festival Dinner Dance in aid of St. Christopher's will be held in Gav's Bar Kenagh on Friday 4th December at 8pm. Tickets €20. Presentation on the night.

* Table Quiz in aid of St. Luke's Hospital will be held in Gav's Bar Kenagh on Friday 27th November at 9pm. Your Support would be greatly appreciated.

* Parish Pastoral Council:

Pastoral Council Meeting in "The Hill" on Wednesday 25th at 8pm.

* Visiting the Sick:

It is an important part of our ministry to support people in times of sickness and bereavement. If you or someone you know is sick and would like the priest to visit them at home or in hospital, please let me know.

* Rosary recited for your departed loved ones – each Friday evening at 7.30pm in the church.

* Bethany Bereavement Support Group:

The ministry of Bereavement Support is being introduced in the parish of Longford and is open to people who have been able to deal with their own grief/bereavements, and who are capable of listening with empathy in a supportive and non-judgemental way and will give some of their spare time to this very worthwhile ministry. For further details please contact Longford Presbytery on 043 3346465

Reflection on Today's Gospel

A story is told by Robert Fulghum about a seminar he once attended in Greece. On the last day of the conference, the discussion leader walked over to the bright light of an open window and looked out. Then he asked if there were any questions. Fulghum laughingly asked him what was the meaning of life. Everyone in attendance laughed and stirred to leave. However, the leader held up his hand to ask for silence and then responded, "I will answer your question." He took his wallet out of his pocket and removed a small round mirror about the size of a quarter. Then he explained: "When I was a small child during World War II, we were very poor and we lived in a remote village. One day on the road, I found the broken pieces of a mirror. A German motorcycle had been wrecked in that place. I tried to find all the pieces and put them together, but it was not possible, so I kept the largest piece. This one! And by scratching it on a stone, I made it round. I began to play with it as a toy and became fascinated by the fact that *I could reflect light into dark places where the sun could never shine*. It became a game for me to get light into the most inaccessible places that I could find. I kept the little mirror, and as I grew up, I would take it out at idle moments and continue the challenge of the game.

As I became a man, I grew to understand that this was not just a child's game, but a metaphor for what I could do with my life. I came to understand that *I am not the light or the source of the light*. But light - be it truth or understanding or knowledge - is there, and it will only shine in many dark places if I reflect it. I am a fragment of a mirror whose whole design and shape I do not know. Nevertheless, with what I have, I can reflect light into the dark places of this world - into the dark places of human hearts - and change some things in some people. Perhaps others seeing it happen will do likewise. This is what I am about. This is the meaning of my life." (1)

Do we reflect the light of Christ into the darkness of other people's lives? Will the world be a more Christian place because I lived in it?