



## Mass Intentions:

Sat 20th Mar 8.00pm: Special Intention.  
Sun 21st Mar 10.30am: Special Intention.  
Mon 22nd Mar 8.00pm: Brendan & Mairead Carberry, Derrahaun.  
Tues 23rd Mar 8.00pm: Special Intention.  
Wed 24th Mar 8.00pm: Special Intention.  
Thurs 25th Mar 8.00pm: Special Intention.  
Fri 26th Mar 8.00pm: Special Intention.  
Sat 27th Mar 8.00pm: Special Intention.  
Sun 28th Mar 10.30am: **Palm Sunday** - Mary Healy, Drumnee. (Month's Mind).

**Next Sunday is Palm Sunday** and the beginning of Holy Week. Regrettably we are still under lockdown and may not *publicly* celebrate this most sacred week. All Holy Week ceremonies will be streamed on our parish webcam.

## Holy Week Celebrations:

Wednesday: Penance Service after 8.00pm Mass. Obviously no confessions.

Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper: 8.00pm.

Good Friday: Celebration of the Passion of the Lord: 8.00pm.

Stations of the Cross: 8.00pm.

Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil: 8.00pm:

Easter Sunday: 10.30am.

**Parish Webcam:** Search for Churchtv.ie ... Then Click on Longford ... then Newtowncashel ... and finally Click on the picture of the Church.

Younger family members might like to assist seniors.

**Please note: the first two rows of seating are on Webcam.**

**Lotto draw** held on Monday 15th March. No's drawn 1-12-15-19. No jackpot winner.

Draw winners: €30, €5 envelopes to Packie Feeney; €30 to Órla, Naomi and Olivia Mulvihill; €20 each to Caoilfhionn Casey and Mick Casey, Derryhaun. Next weeks draw will be held on Monday 22nd March at 9pm and the jackpot is €2,800.

Thanks for your support.

**St. Joseph's Feast Day** was on the 19th of March ... We are reminded that this year is the year of St. Joseph until 8th December. Here is a powerful prayer to the saint whom St. Teresa of Avila said never fails to answer if we are truly sincere:

## Prayer to St. Joseph

Remember, O most pure spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and my dearly beloved guardian, St. Joseph, that never was it known that anyone who invoked thy care and requested thy help was left without consolation. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto thee, sinful and sorrowful. Despise not my petition, O Foster Father of the Saviour, but graciously hear and answer me. Amen.

A story is told of a young lady in her late teens who made her first trip abroad when travelling to Europe with several friends. Her mother was a widow whose husband died leaving her well off. While in Paris she found a fur coat that was the most beautiful she had ever seen. She sent a telegram to her mother that said, "Have found the perfect coat for only \$50,000. What do you think?"

Her mother replied immediately with a telegram saying, "**No, price too high.**" Imagine her surprise when her daughter returned home with that \$50,000 coat.

The angry mother said, "Didn't you get my telegram?"

"Yes," the daughter replied, "and here it is." The mother looked at that telegram which said, without punctuation, NO PRICE TOO HIGH."

She had forgotten to put the *comma* after NO. -

**Moral: It is often the little details we overlook that bring us down.** The devil, however we may imagine him, is persistent, and in daily life we often grow discouraged when we have to face the same temptation over and over again. And the devil tempts in two ways 1) *sweet temptation*, and if that doesn't work - 2) *destructive fear*.

Being tempted is an opportunity to turn more fervently to God. With God's help we can resist all temptations. **Prayer** first ... if that does not work - the saints tell us to move to a little **fasting** ... and increase it gradually ... then add giving **alms to the poor** ... and finally **be merciful** ... God will answer us - maybe not exactly as we wanted at the start ... but always by giving us **resilience** ... **courage** ... **hope** ... **faith** ... **fearlessness** in the face of **trauma** ... and finally a certainty that we will be with Him forever ... And sometimes He will work the miracle exactly as we asked, only if it is for our spiritual advantage ...

Several years ago, a priest from out-of-state accepted a call to a church in Boston. Some weeks after he arrived, he had occasion to travel on the bus from his house to the downtown area. When he sat down, he discovered that the bus driver had mistakenly given him a quarter (25 cents) *too much* in change. As he considered what to do, he thought to himself, "You'd better give the quarter back. It would be wrong to keep it." Then he thought, "Oh, forget it, it's only a quarter. Who would worry about this little amount? Anyway, the bus company gets too much fare; they will never miss it. Accept it as a 'gift from God' and keep quiet." When his stop came, he paused momentarily at the door (*crisis of conscience*), and then handed the quarter to the driver and said, "Here, you gave me too much change." The driver with a smile, replied, "Aren't you the new priest in town?" "Yes," he replied. "Well I have been thinking a lot lately about going back to church ... I've been a long time away ... and I feel an emptiness inside ... I just wanted to see if you might be genuine man of the cloth ... what you would do if I gave you too much change. I'll see you in Church next Sunday."

When the priest stepped off the bus, he literally grabbed the nearest lamp-pole, held on ... and said, "Oh, God the Father, I almost *sold your Son for a quarter.*" Our lives are the only Bible some people will ever read!

**Moral:** This particular Lent is one more chance to get our spiritual lives in order ... I pray that I won't waste it ...