



Church of St Mary Magdalene, Monaleen Road, Castletroy, V94 E3C8

'We seek to create an inclusive community, where all are welcome'

Parish Office: +353 61 338340 (Tue, Wed & Thu 7.45am -12.45pm)
E-mail: info@monaleenparish.ie Website: www.monaleenparish.ie



Easter Sunday 31st March 2024

Gospel Reflection

'He must rise from the dead'
Jn 20:1-9

Women's testimony was regarded as so worthless that they weren't even allowed to serve as witnesses in a Jewish court of law. In light of this, it's absolutely remarkable that the chief witnesses to the empty tomb are these women who were friends of Jesus. Any later legendary account would have certainly portrayed male disciples as discovering the tomb - Peter or John for example.

The fact that women are the first witnesses to the empty tomb (including the Patron Saint of our Church, St. Mary of Magdala) is most plausibly explained by the reality that, like it or not, they were the discoverers of the empty tomb. This shows that the Gospel writers faithfully recorded what happened, even if at the time it was embarrassing.

Easter Sunday is a time when Christians remember that the extraordinary, history-shaping resurrection of Jesus means a fresh start. A new day, filled with space for forgiveness, celebration and hope. The resurrection is the sign to all who wish to see that death - in all its thievery and pain - is not the end, and that another reality is possible.



MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 30th Mar - Sun 7th April

This Weekend

Sat	21.00	Pro Populo
Sun	10.00	Joe Bourke
	11.30	Michael Lynch (Mths Mind) John & Catherine O' Connor & Bernie & Percy

Weekdays

Tue	09.45	Jimmy Costello
Wed	09.45	Special Intention
Thu	09.45	Enda Madden
Fri	09.45	Donna Fildes

Next Weekend

Sat	19.00	Pro Populo
Sun	10.00	Geraldine Glynn
	11.30	Eoghan O' Driscoll & D.M. Cregan/O'Driscoll Families Margaret Collins Tom Moore

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

PARISH OFFICE

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday,
7.45am -12.45pm
Parish Secretary, Mrs Brid Hession
Tel: 061 338340
Email: info@monaleenparish.ie

All Church Bookings to be made by contacting the Parish Office or calling into the sacristy. Thankyou.



ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT
Tue, 10am - 10pm
All Welcome

Faith Community News

Fáilte/Welcome

This weekend we celebrate the baptism of Penelope Rose Cusack. We welcome Penelope into the Christian family and congratulate her family on this special occasion.

PARISH WEBSITE

www.monaleenparish.ie

Please check out the Diocesan Engineers Report on our Church Tower.

EASTER REFLECTION

Encountering the Risen Christ in our ordinariness and woundedness.

I've noticed in the Gospel that even after two appearances of the Risen Christ, the apostles return to their old job of fishing (John 21:3). They don't join the priesthood, try to get a job at the Temple, go on more retreats, take vows, leave their wives, or get special titles. Nor is there any mention of them baptizing each other or wearing special clothing beyond that of a wayfarer or "workman" (Matthew 10:9-10). When the inner is utterly transformed, we don't need symbolic outer validations, special hats, or flashy insignia.

We can also note that the Risen Christ is never apparent as a supernatural figure, but is mistaken in one case for a gardener, another time for a fellow traveller on the road, and then for a fisherman offering advice. He seems to look just like everybody else after the Resurrection (John 20:15; Luke 24:13-35; John 21:4-6), even with his wounds on full display! In the Gospel it appears we can all go back to "fishing" after any authentic God encounter, consciously carrying our humiliating wounds, only now more humbly. That is our only badge of honour. In fact, it is exactly our woundedness that gives us any interest in healing itself, and the very power to heal others. As Henri Nouwen rightly said, the only authentic healers are always wounded healers. Good therapists will often say the same.

Fr Richard Rhor OFM

For your Diary

- ◆ **First Friday Calls**
Calls with Holy Communion to the sick and housebound will take place this Friday, 5th April, 10.30am to 1pm.
- ◆ **Vincent de Paul**
Our monthly collection in aid of the important work of the Society of St Vincent de Paul will take place at all Masses next weekend. Your support is very much appreciated.
- ◆ **Divine Mercy Sunday**
Special devotions and Mass will be held next Sunday, 7th April at Mount Saint Alphonsus, Redemptorist Church, 2.30 to 5.45pm. All Welcome.
- ◆ **Parish Pastoral Group**
Our Pastoral Working Group will meet on Thursday 11th April at 7pm.
- ◆ **Ceremony of Light** (6th Class)
Monaleen National School
Wednesday 17th April, 7pm
- ◆ **First Holy Communions**
Monaleen National School
Friday 10th May, 10.30am & 12.30pm
Friday 24th May, 10.30am & 12.30pm
Gaelscoil Chaladh an Treoigh
Friday 31st May, 10.30am & 12.30pm
- ◆ **Confirmations**
Gaelscoil Chaladh an Treoigh
Thursday 16th May, 10am & 12noon
Monaleen National School
Thursday 13th June, 10am & 11.30am
Friday 14th June, 10am & 11.30am
- ◆ **Diocesan Pilgrimage to LOURDES**
Thu 20th to Tue 25th June 2024
If you know someone who would like to travel as part of our assisted pilgrim section please let them know. For further information contact the Lourdes Office on 061-350000

Community News

Monaleen Cancer Support

If you or a member of your family is living with cancer, Monaleen Cancer Support Group can help with practical assistance in complete confidence and privacy. Tel: 087 21133