

**PARISH OF RASHARKIN – ST. MARY’S AND ST. COLUMBA’S**

**23rd and 24th April 2022: The Second Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday (Year C)**

**Reflection: The Living One**

We worship Christ who was dead and is now alive for ever and ever. He is always present in our midst, bringing healing and peace.

**SUNDAY OBLIGATION**

As Christians, we remember the commandment of God to keep holy the Sabbath day and to celebrate the Eucharist “in memory of me”. For that reason, Catholics are **obliged to come to Mass on Sundays and holy days** (or their vigils) unless they have a serious reason. The obligation was temporarily removed during the pandemic but is now **restored from Easter Sunday** (17th April 2022).

**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr. Luke McWilliams **TELEPHONE:** 028 2957 1212

**PARISH WEBSITE:** [www.stmarysparishrasharkin.org](http://www.stmarysparishrasharkin.org) **PARISH EMAIL:** [info@stmarysparishrasharkin.org](mailto:info@stmarysparishrasharkin.org)

**PARISH FACEBOOK PAGE:** <http://www.facebook.com/rasharkinparish>

**NORMAL WEEKEND MASS TIMES:** St. Mary’s, Rasharkin, **Vigil Mass and Children’s Liturgy: Saturday 6.30 pm. Sunday: 9am and 11am.**

**NORMAL WEEKDAY MASSES:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at **10am.**

**HOLY HOUR** will be every **Wednesday from 7pm to 8pm**, during which there will be an opportunity for Confessions in the Sacristy.

**ROSARY: Monday to Friday** before 10am Mass.

**BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS:** by arrangement with Fr Luke.

**PLEASE NOTE: NO 10AM MASS ON FRIDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, DUE TO CONFIRMATION MASS AT 11AM.**

As a parish community, we pray for every blessing on the children who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and all those who help them to prepare. As the children are anointed with Sacred Chrism Oil, may they “be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit” and may they be confirmed and strengthened in their baptismal grace – “Come Holy Spirit!”

We pray for the recently deceased and all whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they Rest in Peace.

**COLLECTIONS:** Offertory £1564. Easter Voluntary Collection £1461. Stipend £127. Catholics in the Holy Land £106. **Grateful thanks to all who contributed.**

If you require Parish Envelopes, please leave your name and address details with Fr Luke. If you are a taxpayer who contributes through the collection envelopes or who makes donations to the Parish, and if you are not currently registered on the Gift Aid scheme, please leave your details with Fr Luke. If you have any queries, please contact John McAuley.

**Saints for this week:** **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April** – St George, martyr and Patron of England; St Adalbert, bishop and martyr. **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April** – St Fidelis of Sigmaringen, priest and martyr. **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April** – St Mark, evangelist. **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April** – St Asicus, bishop. **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April** – St Peter Chanel, priest and martyr; St Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, priest. **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April** – St Catherine of Siena, virgin and doctor of the Church, Patron of Europe. **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April** – St Pius V, pope. **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May** – St Joseph the Worker.

**UPCOMING:**

- Next Family Mass is on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 6.30pm.
- Cemetery Sunday will take place on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022, at 11am Mass.
- The Sacrament of First Communion will take place in St Mary’s on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 11am.

**RASHARKIN PARISH MINISTRIES** Rasharkin Parish needs more volunteers for all the parish ministries. Please contact Fr Luke if you wish to become involved. **The counting of the Parish envelopes has now re-started. It is hoped to have smaller groups to keep everyone safe. New counters are urgently needed. Any existing counters who wish to recommence please contact Kate Rodgers on 07516082889.**

**Pilgrimage to Fatima 24<sup>th</sup> to 31st May 2022.** Contact Bridie Gallagher 02825644181.

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 13<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022.** Full details in Church porch and on the booking form. Contact the Pilgrimage Office on (028) 9077 0162 or email: [lourdes@downandconnor.org](mailto:lourdes@downandconnor.org)

**FIRST SATURDAYS HOLY HOUR** in St Mary's Church, Rasharkin on the first Saturday of each month from 1.30pm to 2.30pm. See notice in Church Porch.

### **ADORATION**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is available in the Adoration Oratory during Chapel opening times. To avail of this wonderful opportunity, just pull back the round flap on the front of the tabernacle to reveal the Blessed Host. On leaving, if no one else is present, please close the flap back over again. Thank you. It is hoped that many will take even a few precious moments to spend time in the presence of Jesus.

### **LEGION OF MARY – See posters in Chapel.**

Throughout Ireland, at hundreds of grottos, the Rosary at the Grottos will be said at 8pm daily during May, with exception of Wednesdays in our Parish (which is Holy Hour). We pray to honour Our Blessed Mother and ask her to wrap her mantle of protection around Ireland. We would be grateful if we could get volunteers for at least one night of the week, and hopefully we will be joined by family, friends and parishioners for this lovely occasion. Please let any member of the Legion of Mary know as soon as possible in order to have a rota of names for doing this. Thank you and God bless.

### **CONSECRATION TO OUR MOTHER MARY - You are welcome to join this consecration at any time.**

Every Saturday, through to December 2022, a short reading or 'Star' (for each of the 46 stars on the mantle of Our Lady of Guadalupe) will be sent by email, WhatsApp and added to the Facebook group Mary's Mantle 2022. Join the community in consecrating our lives to Mother Mary, by sending your details to: consecrationtomothermary@gmail.com, mobile: 07599387887, or the Facebook group. Along with meditating on the short reading, you are invited to pray at least 1 Rosary, and fast or abstain for 1 day (e.g. from social media, TV, chocolate) each week.

### **13th Star - KNOWLEDGE (one of the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit)**

It is one thing to speak of a snow bank; but to fall headlong into one is another experience altogether. It is one thing to take a picture of a mom staring lovingly into the eyes of her child; it is quite another to see through the eyes of that mother. To have the mental concept of a fever is not to suffer through one. To learn why birds fly is not the same as soaring through the air with expansive wings. To simply read Holy Scripture is not to know it in one's heart. God, too, is not a concept, theory, or theology. He is a Person, a Person who can be known and followed through an experiential relationship. Facts and verses, stored and memorized, do not a prophet make. A catechized person may express articles of faith articulately, even poetically; but a prophetic witness is also fashioned from solitary, prolonged encounters, face to face, with the Lord. The greatest friends of Jesus are forged on their knees, daily, in intense prayer. These are the ones who see the whole spectrum of creative things insofar as they lead us to God, who can discern life through the eyes of the supernatural. These are the disciples that the Church needs and desires. I ask you, Lord, now, to help me to be one of Your true prophets. Help me forever seek Your presence and intimate embrace. If I do not, I will never know You.

**Divine Mercy Sunday** – The Feast of the Divine Mercy will be celebrated in All Saints Church, Ballymena, on Sunday 24th April, beginning with a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration with confessions at 2pm, followed by Holy Mass at 3.00pm. For further information, contact 07956451655

**SYNOD 2021 – 2023** In October 2023, the bishops of the Church will come together in Synod. Pope Francis has invited the entire Church to 'reflect on a theme that is decisive for its life and mission', the path of synodality. **As part of this listening process of the Synod, you are invited to complete the card in the Church porch**, which asks your views on themes of Communion, Participation, Mission and The Holy Spirit guiding our Church. Completed cards may be left in the box in the Church porch. **Your thoughts may also be submitted online.** Full details: <https://www.downandconnor.org/synod/> or email [synod@downandconnor.org](mailto:synod@downandconnor.org)

**POLITE REMINDER - THE CAR PARKING SPACES AT THE BACK OF THE CHAPEL ARE FOR THE USE OF ELDERLY OR DISABLED MASS-GOERS, OR THOSE WHO WOULD STRUGGLE TO WALK FROM THE MAIN CAR PARK. PLEASE ONLY PARK IN THE DESIGNATED SPACES. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION.**

This bulletin is produced by Rasharkin PPC. All notices for the parish bulletin are to be submitted by Wednesday at 1pm via the parish email address or by phoning the Parochial House (contact details at the top of this bulletin). Thank you.