



### FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

“People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did but people will never forget how you made them feel “ (Maya Angelou)

Thomas Merton used to say to his young monks, “Can you tell me something about God that you have not read in a book or heard from someone?”

“The two most important days in your life are the day you were born and the day you found out why you were born.”

When I was young, I had energy and time but no money.

In middle age, I had energy and money but no time.

In old age I have money and time but no energy.

**Bishopstown Meals on Wheels:** We are making an urgent Appeal for Volunteers to help in the kitchen with the daily preparation of meals for delivery to our recipients in the greater Bishopstown area. Never before has the need for volunteers for this very important service been as great as it is at present. Unless we can increase the number of volunteers we may no loner be in a position to continue to prepare and deliver a quality daily meal to those who require the service.  
If you could spare some time to help it would be greatly appreciated. The commitment is small. We need your help for 3 hours approximately one morning every third week. **We also require drivers.**  
Please contact Cathy in the kitchen in Wilton Park House Mon to Friday between 9.00am to 10.30 am at 021 4543757  
Pat at 086 3183950 - Sheila at 021 4343575.  
Please leave a message if we are unable to answer phone and we will return your call.

The Lough Flower and Garden Club will visit the gardens of D J Murphy at Killumney on Tuesday next June 26th 2018. Members, please meet in the **Wilton car park at 6.15pm to travel to Killumney.** Supper will be in The Killumney Inn.

### PARISH MONTHLY CHARITY

During the month of June we are supporting the old Cork charity “The Cork Sick Poor Society’. As we have come to expect, the response to our appeal has been very encouraging. To date are we have collected €834.

### TAX BACK 2017

Income to the parish from our Tax Back Appeal for 2017 is now being received from the Tax Office. To date we have received an amount of **€14,746.96** . This represents a wonderful income for our parish at these difficult times. It’s a source of income that is made possible by Tax paying members who have enlisted and support the program through our weekly envelope scheme. This money will be used for on-going church maintenance. Any member paying tax can enlist. Information can be obtained from the sacristy.

### PARISH CENTRE RENOVATION.

Renovation work on the Parish Centre is now in progress. We thank the SMA for their generous financial support in enabling the work to happen, we also thank those members who have supported our raffle. The raffle is our way as a parish of showing our solidarity with the work of the Centre. Envelopes, containing tickets **only to the value of €20**, are available on tables around the church.

The Irish Blood Transfusion Service will hold a Blood Donor clinic in **The Barr’s Club, Togher on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June from 5pm – 8.30pm.** Your support is greatly appreciated.

EVERY WORD OF GOD PROVES TRUE

*He is a shield  
to all who  
come to Him  
for protection.*

PROVERBS 30:5 NLT

The new edition of the Living Faith (July to Sept) is now on sale in the Mass Office. €1 per copy. The Living Faith is a great source of support to enable us to enter more fully into the meaning and challenge of the Mass readings for each day.

#### Things to Do

**Use reusable Shopping Bags:** Most of us do in Ireland but we can still do better. Ask for paper bags if a plastic one is offered.

**Boycott Micro-beads:** Found in some products, e.g. facial scrubs, tooth-pastes, body washes. One product can have up to 300,000 plastic micro-beads. Opt for products with natural exfoliants, like oatmeal or salt, instead. Micro-beads are a major ocean pollutant.

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

A man was sent from God, whose name was John. He came to testify to the light, to prepare a people fit for the Lord

## PENITENTIAL ACT

Have mercy on us, O Lord.

**For we have sinned against you.**

Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

**And grant us your salvation.**

May almighty God have mercy on us,.....

Amen.

## THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,  
we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;

you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father  
have mercy on us;

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## OPENING PRAYER

O God, who raised up Saint John the Baptist to make ready a nation fit for Christ the Lord, give your people, we pray, the grace of spiritual joys and direct the hearts of all the faithful into the way of salvation and peace. Through our Lord Jesus Christ.....

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

**FIRST READING** *Isaiah 49: 1-6*

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

Islands, listen to me,  
pay attention, remotest peoples.

The Lord called me before I was born,  
from my mother's womb he pronounced  
my name.

He made my mouth a sharp sword,  
and hid me in the shadow of his hand.

He made me into a sharpened arrow,  
and concealed me in his quiver.

He said to me, 'You are my servant (Israel)  
in whom I shall be glorified';

while I was thinking, 'I have toiled in vain,  
I have exhausted myself for nothing';



## THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

John's ministry was to point to the Messiah – and to bow out gracefully when Jesus came. We can have no higher ambition than to prepare the way for the Lord and then leave ourselves and our work in his hands.

24th. June 2018

and all the while my cause was with the Lord,  
my reward with my God.

I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord,  
my God was my strength.

And now the Lord has spoken'

He who formed me in the womb to be his  
servant, to bring Jacob back to him,  
to gather Israel to him:

'It is not enough for you to be my servant,  
to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back  
the survivors of Israel;

I will make you the light of the nations  
so that my salvation may reach to the ends of  
the earth.'

*The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps. 138: 1-3. 13-15

**R. I thank you for the wonder of my being.**

1. O Lord, you search me and you know me,  
you know my resting and my rising,  
you discern my purpose from afar.  
You mark when I walk or lie down,  
all my ways lie open to you. [R]

2. For it was you who created my being,  
knit me together in my mother's womb.  
I thank you for the wonder of my being,  
for the wonders of all your creation. [R]

3. Already you knew my soul,  
my body held no secret from you  
when I was being fashioned in secret  
and moulded in the depths of the earth. [R]

**SECOND READING** *Acts 13: 22-26*

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

Paul said: 'God made David the king of our  
ancestors, of whom he approved in these  
words, "I have selected David son of Jesse, a  
man after my own heart, who will carry out my  
whole purpose." To keep his promise, God  
has raised up for Israel one of David's  
descendants, Jesus, as Saviour, whose  
coming was heralded by John when he  
proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the  
whole people of Israel. Before John ended  
his career he said, "I am not the one you  
imagine me to be; that one is coming after me

and I am not fit to undo his sandal."

'My brothers, sons of Abraham's race, and  
all you who fear God, this message of  
salvation is meant for you.'

*The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

**As for you, little child, you shall be called  
a prophet of God, the Most High.  
You shall go ahead of the Lord  
to prepare his ways before him.  
Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL** *Luke 1: 57-66.80*

*A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke*

The time came for Elizabeth to have her  
child, and she gave birth to a son; and  
when her neighbours and relations heard  
that the Lord had shown her so great a  
kindness, they shared her joy.

Now on the eighth day they came to  
circumcise the child; they were going to call  
him Zechariah after his father, but his  
mother spoke up. 'No,' she said 'he is to be  
called John.' They said to her, 'But no one  
in your family has that name,' and made  
signs to his father to find out what he  
wanted him called. The father asked for a  
writing tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.'  
And they were all astonished. At that  
instant his power of speech returned and he  
spoke and praised God. All their  
neighbours were filled with awe and the  
whole affair was talked about throughout the  
hill country of Judaea. All those who heard  
of it treasured it in their hearts. 'What will  
this child turn out to be?' they wondered.  
And indeed the hand of the Lord was with  
him. The child grew up and his spirit  
matured. And he lived out in the wilderness  
until the day he appeared openly to Israel.

*The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.*

## NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.  
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,

born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
All bow for following three lines:  
and by the Holy Spirit  
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius  
Pilate, he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven and is seated at  
the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,  
the giver of life, who proceeds from  
the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy,  
catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness  
of sins and I look forward to the resurrection  
of the dead and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*Pray brothers and sisters,.....*

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your  
hands for the praise and glory of his name, for  
our good and the good of all his holy Church.

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

We place these offerings on your altar,  
O Lord, to celebrate with fitting honour the  
nativity of him who both foretold the coming  
of the world's Saviour and pointed him out  
when he came.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

## AFTER THE CONSECRATION

When we eat this Bread and drink this  
Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
until you come again.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Through the tender mercy of our God,  
the Dawn from on high will visit us.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having feasted at the banquet of the  
heavenly Lamb, we pray, O Lord,  
that, finding joy in the nativity of Saint John  
the Baptist, your Church may know as the  
author of her rebirth the Christ whose coming  
John foretold.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.