

Dunleer Parish Bulletin

Rev. M. Murtagh P.P., Phone: 041-6851278, Mobile: 086 8795804
Parish Website: www.dunleerparish.ie Email: gmichaelmurtagh@gmail.com



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Sat 12 th 7 30	Annie and Patrick Devine Oliver and Olive Matthews
Sun 13 th 10 30	Gerry and May Walker Jane Callan and Dec'd family.
Sun 13 th 11 30	Brendan Bowhan Jim McCabe
Sat 19 th 10 a.m.	Terry Fitzpatrick Tom, Noel and Tony Dunne
Sat 19 th 7 30 p.m.	Brenda Higgins Maggie Meehan and Dec'd of O'Brien Family Seamus Reynolds Fintan Matthews B Rem Brian Lynch Av Tom Cassidy and Brendan Cassidy
Sun 20 th 10 30	Patsy McCullough Pat Bellew
Sun 20 th 11 30	Mary Reynolds

Pray For:
Eamon Stokes
Cliven. R.I.P.

History of St Brigid's Church and parish.
New book available in churches and in porch at side of Parish House.
Pre-Launch price 10 Euro. Copies can be picked up from porch.

The life and death of each us, says Saint Paul, has its influence on others. That leaves us with a profound responsibility. One of the most important characteristics of anyone's life is how they deal with anger and forgiveness.

There is much anger within and without. There are even officially diagnosed 'rages' to explain our violence. We all carry with us resentments which we tell ourselves are justified, while the anger of others towards us is not. To express our anger, when it is justified, in a constructive way is difficult.

Forgiveness is also difficult, even impossible sometimes. It is also sometimes even more difficult to accept forgiveness. We do not understand and cannot fathom the limitless forgiveness of God. Seventy seven times invokes the magical number of wholeness and perfection and completeness, seven. Persuading people to accept forgiveness can be difficult. Many times we wish somehow to carry the burden of guilt with us and are loath to let forgiveness displace the guilt.

Remembering our own sins makes us milder towards others. It makes us wiser, gentler and more compassionate. It is good though to allow ourselves to be forgiven by God in a spirit of generosity. Sin always leaves its mark and like all marks and scars it may remain ugly and insensitive. These marks heal though and it is good to ask for forgiveness, good to receive it graciously, good to understand God's generosity and good to pass on that forgiveness in turn.

There is a righteous anger sometimes, but it is good to keep in mind our own sins and weaknesses and to have accepted and given forgiveness with the generosity of the Lord's gospel command. We cannot expect compassion and forgiveness the readings and the scriptures tell us, if we are not ready to act likewise.

The Wisdom reading puts it most succinctly.

'Remember the last things and stop hating
Remember dissolution and death and live by the commandments.
Remember the commandments and do not bear your neighbour ill-will

Remember the covenant of the Most High and overlook the offence.'