

Dunleer Parish Bulletin

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



Channel 1: St Brigid's RC Dunleer Parish [Livestream]
 Channel 2: Dunleer Parish Media [Recordings]



Issue Date: June 5th

Parish Picnic on Sunday June 26th after last Mass.
 Mosstown Patrún June 19th at 12 noon
 Dromin Patrún Oct 9th at 11 a.m.

One of the most scathing put-downs in Ireland is to describe a person as a 'Holy Joe'. For a culture that used to be noted for its saints and scholars, we Irish have developed a very confused idea of what it is to be holy. It is fashionable, however, in some circles, to claim to be spiritual. I'm sure you have heard all the clichés. I'm not religious but spiritual. I believe but I do not belong. I don't approve of organised religion. Others still take refuge in the woolly language of New Age. Fly high with the angels. I do my own thing. In all of these variations, it is the self-justification, the self-righteousness that gives the game away.

To be truly holy is surely to be wholesome. It is to be a mature human person, fully human and fully alive. 'The glory of God is man fully alive', wrote Saint Irenaeus. On this feast of Pentecost, the gifts of the Holy Spirit are given to lead us into true and not fraudulent spirituality.

Patrick Kavanagh wrote of the necessity of seeing ourselves, 'as small as we really are and as great as God has made us'. To the spiritually pretentious he wrote, 'you haven't got a chance with fraud, you might as well be true to God'.

The fruits of the spirit as listed by Saint Paul are the true test then for authentic spirituality. It is the state of the hidden, interior self or soul that makes one spiritual or worldly, clean or unclean, holy or sinful. There is a lot of spiritual vulgarity and shallowness peddled in the supermarket of self-help literature. In an age of plenty there is much spiritual emaciation. The list given by Saint Paul is like a mirror in which we learn to see ourselves and it is the starting point of spiritual growth and assessment. The Greek philosopher Socrates famously taught, 'know thyself'. This self-knowledge is the spring-board of spiritual transformation, transfiguration and change.

The scriptures call this ongoing change 'metanoia'. It is in the furnace of metanoia that real spirituality is developed. It is a process that has beginning but no end.

Sat June 4 th 7 30	Alisha Kearney Kirwan
Sun June 5 th 10 30	Josie, Frank and Frankie McCartney
Sun June 5 th 11 30	Mollie, James and Patrick Mackin Thomas Catherine Paul and Sr Angela Durnin MM Josie Ward
Thu June 9 th 10 a.m.	Noel Dunne Eliz and John Duffy
Sat June 11 th 10 a.m.	Dermot Humphreys
Sat June 11 th 7 30 p.m.	Bernard Farrell Michael and Esther Lane
Sun June 12 th 10 30	Harry, Mae and Frances Byrne
	Pray For: Michael (Micky) Flanagan Skibblemore Died recently. R.I.P.