

First reading

A reading from the book of Genesis

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.' When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son. The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Second reading

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans

With God on our side who can be against us?

Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, O Christ! From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus: 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

The Gospel of the Lord



CONTACT



ARLES, BALLYLINAN & KILLEEN NEWSLETTER



Parish Website: arlesparish.ie

28th February 2021 2nd Sunday of Lent

Reflection



Every Lent is a new beginning; sometimes beginnings are welcomed, other times half and half! We welcome Lent as a time to make our faith fresh, but we know from other Lents that it's hard to keep going, and it's for a long time! We might ask ourselves what Lent is really for.

The focus of Lent is not on what we give up but on what we are given. We focus our minds on the self-giving love of Jesus which we will celebrate in Holy Week. We allow ourselves believe in this love. Often it's difficult to believe in the tender love of God. This conquers all else in the world; it is given in the mercy and compassion of God.

Lent pours the grace of forgiveness into our world, needed individually and as a people. We need to know that God is bigger than any of our sins, wars, violence and hatred. God wants his kingdom to come now. Lent is our time of saying 'yes' to a partnership with God in saving the world from the effects of evil and sin.

Pray a bit, read the gospel every day, do something good for another every day – this is the way to share in the saving love of God.

Maybe we can ask what our Lent does for others rather than just what we are doing for Lent. It is a time of renewal, then it shows in love, forgiveness and care of others in our lives.

Donal Neary SJ



In Memoriam

This Mass is broadcast on radio Medium 109

Anniversaries for 28 Feb

(11.30am): Pierrie & Annie Kelly
Eamon & Pierrie Kelly
Margaret & Mick McCafferty
Ned & Betty Kelly
Esther Brennan
Gavin Brennan
Jim Davis

Anniversaries for 07 March

(11.30am):

Anniversaries for 09 March

(Tuesday 10am): Ann Kelly,
Tierernane, Ballickmoyler
(Months Mind)



Safeguarding

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We continue to wear a mask to protect ourselves and others.



An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



Thank you for your continued support of our Covid 19 practices.



Trocaire

“Love... It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.” 1 Corinthians 13, 4-7.

To find out more visit www.trocaire.org



Parish Office & Shop

The Parish Office will remain closed for the duration of this phase of lockdown.

Emails will be monitored during this time. Please contact us at:

arlesparish@gmail.com



Parish Webcam

Last October we invested in a Parish Website (arlesparish.ie). It was created as a platform to communicate any relevant notices and parish information. During periods of lockdown, where our weekly newsletter could not be circulated, we needed some other means to communicate with parishioners. I was also mindful that this website could eventually host a Parish Webcam where we could broadcast our parish masses and religious services into people's homes. After paying for the setup costs of the website we didn't have funds to go the extra step and install a webcam so that stage of development was put on hold.

I now feel, more and more, that we need to invest in a webcam because 2021 has been one long period of lockdown and it is set to remain so for the coming months ahead. Whilst the parish radio system helped us during the previous lockdowns, its broadcasting capability really only covers Ballylinan village. The truth is that some people can receive a signal and many others cannot. To address this inadequacy I am currently working on setting up a webcam in Arles Church - I hope that it will mean that our Sunday and weekday masses are available to everyone throughout the parish and that we can celebrate Easter together. Even those family members who have moved away from the area or who are overseas can stay in touch via the webcam.

The cost to the parish is not insignificant in these very lean times. I estimate it will cost us €5,000. I ask for your support for this project and thank all those who continue to support our parish during this very difficulty times. Any donation, however big or small, will certainly help alleviate the costs and any further burden on our parish finances that are under strain as it is.

Fr. Pdraig

