### TODAY'S MASS READINGS

## First reading

A reading from the book of Exodus



God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord vour God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the

house of slavery. 'You shall have no gods except me. 'You shall not utter the name of the Lord vour God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave Gospel unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it. 'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you. 'You shall not kill. 'You shall not commit adultery. 'You shall not steal. 'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. 'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

The Word of the Lord

## Responsorial Psalm

Response: You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.

## Second reading

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Word of the Lord

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord: whoever believes in me will never die.

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money-changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said. During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man: he could tell what a man had in him.

The Gospel of the Lord



# Reflection

In the Gospels Jesus calls us to "be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."

Mercy or tender compassion (*chesed* in the Hebrew of the Old Testament) is God's most distinctive characteristic. St. Augustine reminded us that we are, by our very nature, ordered to God. But since God is tender mercy, "having" God is tantamount to exercising compassion, being merciful ourselves.

And attend to what Jesus says next: "Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give and gifts will be given to you." According to the "physics" of the spiritual order, the more one draws on the divine life, the more one receives that life, precisely because it is a gift and is properly infinite. God's life is had, as it were, on the fly: when you receive it as a gift, you must give it away, since it only exists in gift form, and then you will find more of it flooding into vour heart.

If you want to be happy, Jesus is saying, this divine love, this *chesed* of God, must be central to your life; it must be your beginning, your middle, and your end.

## Form a new heart within.

This Sunday brings us closer to the font of renewing our baptismal commitment. It is also the first of three Scrutinies for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

> We are deeply aware that there is a struggle going on in us. We turn to God, that we might not become discouraged. We rely on God's compassion and love for us. We acknowledge who we are

- sinners who experience the consequences of our selfishness but we know we are loved and we desire to be filled with hope.

We go into this week renewed in our desire to continue our prayer, fasting and generosity toward others.



Recitation of the Rosary (Arles): 9.30am Tuesday - Friday

Confession: After 10am Arles Mass (First Friday)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Tuesday 11am - 1pm (Killeen) & Friday 7.30pm - 8.30pm (Ballylinan)

# In Memoriam

## Anniversaries for 03 March '24

Killeen (9am): Mary Kelly, Coolenaugh (34th Anniv.)

Arles (10am): Katie Graham (Months Mind)

Joseph Graham (1st Anniversary)

Kitty Kelly, The Pike and Ballylinan (7.30pm):

> deceased members of the Kelly family

Kitty Farrell, Balycorman

(11.30am): Mona Morris (Months Mind)

Liam Brennan (5th Anniversary)

## Anniversaries for 10 March '24

Killeen (9am):

Arles (10am): Bridget Dolan, Ashfield (60th Anniv)

Ballylinan (7.30pm):

(11.30am): Norah Byrne

## A Day for Choirs, Musicians & Cantors



Dominican College, Newbridge Saturday 16 April, 10am to 7pm.

€32 including three-course lunch.

Content: New liturgical music from Poland, good liturgical practice, filling gaps in your repertoire, launch of a new hymnal, record music for Irish Dominicans' 800 years in Ireland.

Book: DominicanDayChoirs2024.eventbrite.com

## **Weekly Collections**

Sunday 25th February

€332.61 Arles: Offertory

> Envelope €506.70

Ballylinan: Offertory €316.19

> Envelope €161.20

€138.06 Killeen: Offertory

> Envelope €143.50

A sincere word of thanks to all those who contribute to the upkeep of our parish.

# **Community Employment Scheme vacancies:**



Applications on jobsireland ie and enquiries to CE Supervisor 087 2232515.

Office Administrative Assistant, Luggacurren -From April 2024 - Ref CES2322844

Ballylinan Village - Ref CES2322816

Immediate start.

Ballylinan Village - Ref CES2322823. -Immediate start.

The Swan Community Hall & Village - Ref CES2322822. Immediate start.

St. Joseph's Cemetery, Ballyadams CES2322833 - Immediate start.

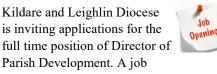
## 25th Pioneer National Ball



Calling Pioneers and Friends to the 25th Pioneer National Ball next month. An evening of celebration and fun

on Saturday April 6th 2024. Mass at 6pm in the Cathedral of Christ the King, Mullingar, followed by special guest speaker, dinner, music and dancing at the Annebrook House Hotel, Mullingar. Extra activities on Friday night and Saturday and Sunday afternoons. For details/ tickets contact Dermot Fagan 085-7201646 or Daisy Carey 087-6544626.

## **Director of Parish Development**



Registered Charity: 20061920 CHY16897. Thank you.

full time position of Director of Parish Development. A job description and information on how to apply can be found on www.kandle.ie. Closing date for applications is 25 March 2024. This is a very important appointment for our diocese, and we ask your prayers that our search to fill this position will be successful.

## Safeguarding

DLP: Mick Daly, mobile number 085-8021633 and email: dlp@kandle.ie Parish Safeguarding Rep: Christine Oglesby (087) 654 6149

## St Abban's NS Killeen

### **Parents Association**



On the behalf of the Association we would like to say a big thank you to all who supported the recent clothing collection. We collected a total weight of 2210kg and raised a total of €884:80 for our school. The clothes are going to Syria.

# Ballylinan GAA hosting



Kilquan Players performing

Separate Beds

in St. Anne's Hall, Ballylinan Sunday night 3rd March at 8 pm sharp.



To book tickets: 087-4193965/059-8625125. Fundraiser towards Walking Track on GAA Pitch



## Millions Facing Starvation in Ethiopia

All are encouraged to please pray for the people of Tigray in Ethiopia, where drought and civil war have left many in crisis and in danger of starvation. Mary's Meals feeds tens of thousands of children one meal in school each day in the region. If you feel called to support our mission, and to help us reach more children, please visit marysmeals.ie or contact 01 853 5163. Mary's Meals is a simple idea that works. The charity provides hungry children with one daily meal in a place of education in areas where hunger and poverty often stand in the way of education. Mary's Meals feeds more than 2.4 million children in 18 countries. The average cost to feed a child with Mary's Meals for a whole school year is just €22. Mary's Meals Ireland is a

# Parish Contact Details

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