

**6th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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**The Sign of the Leper**

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 17th February. Pope Francis, in his message for Lent, invites us to renew our faith, draw from the living waters of hope and receive with open hearts the love of God....the journey of conversion, through fasting, prayer and almsgiving, makes it possible for us to live lives of sincere faith, living hope and effective charity.

To mark the beginning of Lent, I offer a **blessing** with holy water at the three churches **on Ash Wednesday**

. Please do not leave your car.

I will be at:

Grangegeeth church 11.15 until 12 noon

Rushwee church 12.15 until 1pm

Rathkenny church 7pm until 8pm

There is a **prayer for Lent**, borrowed from the diocese of Derry, available in the churches and, on the website, at the end of the bulletin. Though we can't attend Mass together at this time, we can be united in praying this prayer each day.

I continue to join Fr Timothy for Sunday Mass, on YouTube, in Lobinstown. I will offer Mass each day, along with the Mass on RTÉ News Now, at 10.30am, for booked Masses when they arise. On other days, Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Monday 10.30am Eddie Bellew

Tuesday 10.30am Gerard Kinsella

Wednesday 10.30am Christopher and Mary Downey

### **Think outside the box and put something into the Trocaire box.**

Boxes are available from the churches. This year the envelope containing the box has a helpful Lent calendar and ideas on how money is spent. In challenging times for us all a little can go a long way.

We continue to pray for our primary and secondary school communities. We pray especially for exam classes and those with special needs. We follow the guidelines so that they can return to school soon.

COVID-19 remains a major challenge for our country and world. Compliance is bringing down the numbers and vaccines are on the way. Please stay up to date with the facts and do all you can to keep yourself and others safe.

### **Lent Prayer**

Loving Father,  
to prepare for his mission of proclaiming your kingdom to the world,  
your Son, Jesus, was guided by your Holy Spirit to the quiet of the desert.  
In these Lenten days, I pray that I will be guided by that same Spirit,  
to a place of renewal in my heart and mind,  
so that I will seek opportunities for daily personal prayer,  
personal sacrifices and acts of kindness.  
With your help, may I too be truly prepared  
to share in the story of the Passion, Death and Resurrection  
of Jesus, your Son, our Lord.  
Amen.

### **ONLINE DONATIONS**

Online donations can now be made to parish and diocesan collections via the Diocesan website [HERE](#)



