



Mullingar Parish

Cathedral of Christ the King, St Paul's,
Walshestown, Brotenstown & Gainstown

www.mullingarparish.ie

5th May 2024

PRIESTS OF THE PARISH

Fr. Phil Gaffney, ADM
Fr. Norman Allred, CC
Fr. Vincent Daka, CC
Fr. Andrei Stolnicu, CC
Fr. Barry White, CC

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9am-4pm

T: 044 9348338

E: office@mullingarparish.ie

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Cathedral Shop Hours

Monday-Friday 9am-4pm

Saturdays 10am-3pm

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Cathedral 7.45am & 10am
(Mon-Sat)

St Paul's 9.15am (Mon-Fri)

Sunday Mass Times

Cathedral: Vigil 6pm (Sat)

Cathedral 8.30am, 11am &
12.30pm

St Paul's 10.30 & 12noon

Walshestown 9am

Brotenstown 10am

Gainstown 11am

Confessions Cathedral

Saturday 2pm—3pm.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Cathedral 8am-8pm **Mon—Fri**

Child Safeguarding Repre-
sentatives Linda Duncan &
Maeve Corroon

Contact Parish Office.

Couple & Relationship Counsel-
ling In-Person and Online in Ac-
cord Mullingar Phone 044 93

48707 or email [accordmullin-](mailto:accordmullingar@gmail.com)
[gar@gmail.com](mailto:accordmullingar@gmail.com)

Sixth Sunday of Easter

‘As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love.’

Today's readings centre on the theme of love: the totally faithful, unconditional love of God for us.



The **First Reading** describes a turning point in the growth of the Early Church. Peter visits the house of Cornelius, a Roman centurion and Gentile, announcing that ‘God does not have favourites’. God reaches out to those who listen to him through his Holy Spirit. He creates a community of love that embraces all humanity.

St John (**Second Reading**) reminds us that God loved us first. God's nature is love. The great depth of that love is revealed in God sending Jesus, whose self-sacrifice redeems our sins and draws us into the life of God.

The **Gospel** shows us Jesus teaching his disciples about his loving relationship with his Father. Jesus chooses and invites us into that same intimate relationship. He tells us how to follow him: that we should love one another.

A series of speeches from Jesus, with powerful sentiments, are designed to ground the disciples and the early Church in one of the most fundamental aspects of his teaching. God's love for all of humanity. When John talks about the love of God, he is clear what he means: ‘This is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us.’

The same message appears in the Gospel: ‘You did not choose me, no, I chose you.’ God has made an everlasting decision to love us. God's love is first, God has opted for us, declared his choice, taken us on. It is a decisive movement of love that began with the Father.

‘As the father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love.’ So here lies the task before us believers. Allowing God's love to come into our lives, to feel it, to recognise it, to believe it. These are the first steps. But now comes the challenge. We are to remain in God's love.

This will mean that we too must make a choice. We choose to believe that for some reason, God has seen fit to embrace humanity, with all its shortcomings. We remain in his love. Jesus shows that he could have no greater love than to lay down his life for the sake of others. That the powerful message of Easter.

As we approach the end of the Easter season, we pray for the grace that we ourselves might reflect the gift of God's love, through our actions to our brothers and sisters, and to all creation. We also give thanks for the love of our friends, and for the joy that they bring to our lives.



May, the Month of Mary: May, the month in which the earth springs into bloom and we start thinking about planting gardens, brighter sunny weather, holidays and indeed exam season looms. For centuries, the Church has set aside the entire month of Mary to honor Mary, Mother of God. The custom spans both centuries and cultures, with roots going back as far as the Ancient Greeks. In early Greece, May was dedicated to Artemis, the goddess of fecundity. In Ancient Rome, May was dedicated to Flora, the goddess of blooms, or blossoms. They celebrated *ludi florals*, or floral games, at the end of April and asked the intercession of Flora for all that blooms. In medieval times, similar customs abounded, all centering around the practice of expelling winter, as May 1 was considered the start of new growth. During this period, the tradition of *Tricesimum*, or “Thirty-Day Devotion to Mary,” came into being. It’s a long-standing tradition to create a May altar and to crown the statue of Mary during May – a custom known as May Crowning. Often, the crown is made of beautiful blossoms representing Mary’s beauty and virtue. It’s also a reminder to us all to strive to imitate our Blessed Mother’s virtue in our own lives.

May altars and crownings aren’t just “church” things. We can create a May altar in our homes. For May, give Mary a special place in your home. It can be a statue or picture placed on a cloth and decorated with flowers. Why? It’s a beautiful way to celebrate and honour Mary and her role within salvation history; she is our mother, our heavenly mother given to us by Jesus during his hour on the cross. For that, she deserves an entire month in her honour! Mary, Mother of God and Mother of the Church, pray for us!

Mullingar Choral Society will present their Summer Concert ‘**May we Sing**’ tonight, in St. Pauls Church, at 7.30pm. Included in the programme will be the beautiful **Cherubini Requiem**. We are delighted to announce that famed Soprano **Claudia Boyle** will be joining us again this year. Tickets from Eventbrite, any choir member, or on the door.

Mullingar Town Band; ‘Sounds of Summer’ Saturday 11th May, The Atrium, County Buildings, 7pm. Free Entry.

Meath Pilgrimage to Lourdes. The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will travel on September 10th and will be led by Bishop Deenihan. All pilgrims will be accommodated in hotels and there are 4, 5 and 6 night options with fares starting at €769 with various hotels available. Further information and booking forms are available from Joe Walsh Tours Tel.: 01 2410800.

Italian Pilgrimage Visiting San Giovanni. Assisi & St Padua. Visiting the shrines of St Pio, St Michael the Archangel, St Anthony, St Francis, St Clare & Blessed Carlo Acutis, 7th—15th October, for information contact Mary Briody 087-6336513.

Mass Intentions 4th—12th May

Cathedral Vigil 6pm: Kathleen Devlin, Ballinderry (M.M.) Sunday 5th May 11am: Kathleen Treanor, Austin Friars Street (M.M.) 12.30pm Aedin Collins, Lynn (M.M.) St Paul’s 12noon: Ann McLoughlin, Tower View. Gainstown 11am: Paul O’Grady, Corbally, Gaybrook (M.M.)

Monday Bank Holiday 10am Mass only in the Cathedral

Tuesday 7.45am: Tony Dougan & Elizabeth Doyle. 10am: Paddy McWade. 9.15am: Clare Lucy.

Wednesday 7.45am: Kathleen Houlihan, England (1st Ann) 10am: Mary Keegan & Maura O’Brien Keegan. 9.15am: Patricia Shaw.

Thursday 7.45am: Brigid Dunne. 10am: Pat & Betty Cleary & Peggy Tighe. 9.15am: Kevin Molloy Snr & Kevin Jnr.

Friday 7.45am: Simone Rowley. 10am: John & Annie Caffrey & Mary Coffey. 9.15am: Billy, Freddie & Bridie Gaye & deceased members of family.

Saturday 7.45am: Margaret McAuliffe & Parents Michael & Nora Gavin. 10am Anniversaries Occurring Mass. Cathedral Vigil 6pm; Sean Brennan, Green Road (M.M.) Sunday 12th May Cathedral 11am: Charlie Kavanagh, Dalton Park (M.M.) 12.30pm Jack Taaffe, Rathcolman (1st Ann) Walshestown 9am: Deceased members of Brennan family. Brotentown 10am: Peg & Eddie Tynan. Gainstown 11am: Thomas McCormack.

March for Life (1km) Monday 6th May 2pm; St. Stephen's Green Dublin. Help protect innocent human life from conception to natural death. Mass 12.30pm at Newman University Church. www.marchforlife.ie Bus 10am from Kinnegad. Booking essential. Text Siobhan 083-0254809

First Holy Communion

Next Saturday we welcome the children and their families from St Mary’s Primary School to the Cathedral at 11am and Holy Family School to St Paul’s at 11am, who will all receive their First Holy Communion.

Rosary at the Grotto for the month of May

Tuesdays; Railway Station, 6.30pm
Wednesdays; Cathedral Grounds, 6.30pm
Fridays; Springfield, 6.30pm

Rest in Peace

Tony Masterson, Brookfield
Frances Reynolds, nee Delaney, Curraghmore
Moira Dunne, Cloughan
Monica Murphy, Ennell Park
Declan Gartland, Clady & formerly Mullingar