

Cabinteely website : www.cabinteelyparish.ie – includes Mass Live Link
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Foxrock website : www.foxrockparish.ie
Johnstown website : www.johnstownkillineyparish.com

ONE STRIKE AND YOU'RE OUT?

Over the past few weeks, St Matthew, aided and abetted by the prophets Isaiah and Ezekiel, has been hammering home one of the most basic points of the Good News. The thrust of his teaching has been that God is so utterly different from us that we cannot reduce him to our petty ways of thinking and acting. For God is kindness itself.

And nowhere is this more obvious than in the area of judgement and forgiveness. Our legal and societal codes are loath to give people the benefit of the doubt. Second chances are few and far between. Lock them up and throw away the key is the order of the day when we find people guilty of transgressing our system of justice.

What Jesus shows is an extraordinary willingness to go the extra mile with those whose lives clearly contradict the mores of the time. And so the gospel pages show him much more at ease with sinners and outcasts than with lawyers and religious leaders. We know what mercy is, but we often forget that God is pure mercy. Our idea of mercy is only a shadow of God's. That is because God so loves us that the last thing he ever wants is for us to be condemned and put outside the bounds of reconciliation. Whereas we feel civilised when we operate a three strikes and you're out system, God only feels civilised when he is still offering a person the chance to change their mind and return to the straight and narrow.

That's why God never gives up on us. God is not lenient with crime and sin, but he is unconditionally lenient with sinners. The arrogance of those in society who would claim to be upright citizens when in their hearts they are only too aware of their own deceit is what angers Jesus. When people recognise their transgressions and genuinely turn to God they are always assured of a welcome. But those who have no time for giving people second chances Jesus calls hypocrites. Those you consider to be the scum of the earth, he says, will make it to heaven before you.

Mass times in St. Brigid's Church
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri - 10 am
Saturday (Vigil Mass) – 6.30 pm
Sunday – 10 am and 12.30 pm and
11.15 am Park Mass Centre (term-time)

Weekend Intentions

Along with their families and friends the following people are especially remembered this weekend. This time of the year holds a special significance for all those who knew and who loved them.



6.30pm – Christine O'Reilly -6th Anniversary
James Finnegan – 6th Anniversary
10.00am – Patricia Carroll – Anniversary
Herbie Magee - Anniversary
12.30pm – Mary Kelly – Anniversary
John Mooney – 13th Anniversary
11.15am (The Park) – Mary Hand – Rec
decd.

Recently Deceased:

Months Mind:

Anniversaries: Anna & Jim Keegan, William Boylan, Valerie Woods

There are **Confessions** every Saturday after 6.30pm Mass here in St. Brigid's, Cabinteely.

Workshop for Ministers of the Word

There will be a workshop for all our Ministers of the Word from the three parishes in our Pastoral Area. It will take place on Sat, 7th Oct from 11.15 am – 12.30 pm in Foxrock Pastoral Centre.

If you would like to become a reader in our Parish and attend the course please leave your details in the Sacristy or Parish Office.

Workshop for Baptism Team

A workshop for members of our Baptism Team will take place in St Brigid's Pastoral Centre on Mon, 16th Oct at 7.30 pm. If you would like to join our Baptism Team please leave your name and contact details in the Sacristy or Parish Office.

Congratulations to **Cabinteely Tidy Towns Committee** on their Silver and two Bronze Awards in the Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition earlier this week. Well done to all involved.

