

**Our Parish Newsletter**  
*5th March - 2nd Sunday in Lent*  
**Confirmation Week**

Rev. Peter McKiernan PP 4336798  
 Brid McEvoy, Parish Secretary,  
 Thursday 2.30 - 5.30 pm - 0861553930  
 Parish Website: [www.crosserloughparish.ie](http://www.crosserloughparish.ie)  
 Mass Broadcast - 108FM

**Mass Times :**

St. Mary's - Sunday - 10 am; Mon, Tues, 10 am; Thurs - 7.30 pm; Friday - Confirmation 6 pm.  
 St. Joseph's - Saturday - 7.30 pm; Wednesday - 10 am;  
 St. Patrick's - Sunday 11.15 am;

**We Pray For The Deceased:**

**St. Joseph's**

Saturday 4th 7.30 pm Bridie, Andrew Galligan Drumackinoo & Decd  
 Saturday 11th 7.30 pm Harry, Tessie and Sr. Mary McVeety, Kilmainham

**St. Mary's:**

Sunday 5th 10.00 am For the People of the Parish  
 Thursday 9th 7.30 pm Brendan Sheridan Gallonbawn, 3 AM  
 Friday 6.00 pm Confirmation  
 Sunday 12th 10.00 am Mary O'Reilly, Killanure  
**Offertory Collection : Will be taken up during Mass from this Sunday**

**St. Patrick's:**

Sunday 5th 11.15 am Adriana Donohoe 3rd AM, Cul Lana  
 Also Joe & Joan Donohoe, Upper Main St.  
 Sunday 12th 11.15 am Michael & Ursula Kelly & their Daughter Ursula

**Volunteers in March**

**Readers**

St. Joseph's - David Galligan  
 St. Patrick's - Patricia Rennix  
 St. Mary's - Anna McCabe 5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Micheál O'Reilly - 17<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>

**Altar Society:** St. Joseph's Mary O'Reilly Mary Callery

**Eucharistic Ministers** - St. Joseph's - Rosaleen Smith, Rose Galligan

**Collectors:** St. Joseph's Donal Smith, John O'Reilly

**The significance of the Dove in our understanding of Confirmation**

When we read about the creation of the world in the book of Genesis we see that at the end of each day of creation God looks at what he has created and he says "This is Good". Most of our lives we spend trying to remember this reality that because God has made us we are good. Religion is trying to help us deal with the forces of evil that rob us of this sense of security. As we are at the top of all creation we have access to the world of symbolism that nothing else in creation has. The word symbolism is a Greek word which means "that which draws together" (the opposite of diabolism" that which draws apart"). When we reach 12 or 13 our mind has access to a whole world of symbolism. And so in the symbolism of Confirmation preparation we are introduced to the Dove, Fire, Wind and Breath. The unlimited possibilities of happiness conferred on Adam and Eve came to a tragic end when Cain murdered his brother Abel, and things got worse. The flood that overcame Noah was perceived to be a punishment from God but there was still hope. As it rained for 40 days and 40 nights and all land disappeared the "end" was staring Noah in the face. However he got a brain wave and took a raven and allowed him to go free, but he returned because the Ark was the only solid thing he could land on. Then he decided he would release a dove, but the same happened she returned to the security of the Ark. After some time he released the dove and this time she returned with a leaf in her beak, indicating that some land had re-emerged from the flood. This return was of great significance but of greater significance, was what was in her beak - the branch was that of an olive tree and of course "olive branch" has become a universal symbol for peace making. For the writer of this part of the book of Genesis this was God telling the people that He had forgiven them for drifting away from him

**Kilnaleck St. Patrick's Day Parade:** is back in 2023, starting at 3pm. If you'd like to enter a float, meet at the handball alley at 2:30pm. There will also be a kids tractor run, meeting at Peadar's shop at 2:30pm and joining the parade.

**Kilnaleck Church Committee** meeting at 8pm on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March. All members please attend.

**Be still my soul**

Be still my soul the Lord is on thy side  
 Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain  
 Leave to thy God to order and provide  
 In every change He faithful will remain  
 Be still my soul thy best, thy heavenly friend

Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end  
 Be still, my soul, thy God doth undertake  
 To guide the future as He has the past  
 Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake  
 All now mysterious shall be bright at last

**Nearer My God to Thee**

Nearer, my God, to Thee  
 Nearer to Thee  
 E'en though it be a cross  
 That raiseth me  
 still all my song shall be  
 Nearer, my God, to Thee  
 Nearer, my God, to Thee  
 Nearer to Thee

Though like the wanderer  
 The sun gone down  
 Darkness be over me, my rest a stone  
 Angels to beckon me, nearer my God