



OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH CASTLEKNOCK, DUBLIN 15

**3rd Sunday of Lent
7th March 2021**

The first reading at Mass this Sunday, the 3rd Sunday of Lent, lists out the Ten Commandments that we are probably all familiar with. These ten commandments, given by God through Moses on Mount Sinai, are the guiding principles for the people of Israel to help them respond in an appropriate way to their commitment to living God's ways in life.

The virtue of respect is at the heart of the Commandments, a respect for God and a respect for people. The first three commandments deal with our relationship with God. We acknowledge God as our creator and our saviour. We offer our praise and worship to God alone. We use the name of God with due reverence. We recall on the sabbath day the wonders that God has done for us. The remaining seven commandments cover our relationships with other people. They speak to us of our responsibilities to respect the inherent dignity of every person and to behave towards others in a way that upholds that inalienable dignity. In whatever we do, we must take reasonable care to avoid causing any hurt or harm to our neighbour.

The Commandments are often viewed in a negative light today, with the focus more on what they prohibit us from doing rather than seeing them as a constructive framework that informs us about how to live more fully our desire to love God and to love our neighbour. In these Lenten days the Commandments can help us examine our consciences. In seeking to turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel, reflecting on the Ten Commandments can point us in new directions and encourage us in our efforts to be more faithful disciples of Jesus.

Fr. Kieran Coghlan

Lenten Talks

A series of Lenten Talks is available on the Parish Webcam during Lent. A new talk will be uploaded from 7pm on each Monday of Lent.

22nd February: *The Lenten Journey - Fr. Brendan Walsh*

1st March: *My Journey of Hope - Simon Marriott*

8th March: *Listening to the Cry of the Earth - Jane Mellett*

15th March: *Women Witnesses: The challenges of proclaiming the Reign of God today - Sr. Sheila Curran*

22nd March: *A Journey of Hope through Grief - Olive Foley*

29th March: *How to Discern God's Will - Fr. Patrick Cahill*

To listen to the talks click on the Webcam link on the Parish Website. Across the top, above the image of our church, there are four headings. Click on the 4th heading entitled "Featured Videos". You will see a list of available videos. Click on a video to begin the talk.

Trócaire

Trócaire was established by the Irish Catholic Bishops in 1973 as a response to poverty and injustice in the developing world. Since then Trócaire has supported projects in many countries with the help of Irish people. The annual Lenten appeal is the major fund-raising effort to support the work of Trócaire. If you wish to have a Trócaire box in your home this Lent, you can request to have a Trócaire box sent to you by post or you can make a donation directly online on the Trócaire website – www.trocaire.org

Statue of St. Joseph

Pope Francis declared a special year in honour of St. Joseph in December last. The Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny, Mount Sackville, have very generously gifted a statue of St. Joseph to our parish to mark this year. The statue, which can now be seen in the church, will be installed in a more permanent manner in the coming weeks.