



OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH CASTLEKNOCK, DUBLIN 15

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st August 2021

We continue reading this Sunday from the sixth chapter of St. John's Gospel. The theme of this chapter is Jesus as the Bread of Life, the one who nourishes and satisfies the deepest longings of every human heart.

Having worked the miracle of the loaves and the fishes and fed a very large group of people, Jesus and his disciples then cross over to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. The people soon realise he has slipped away from them and they set out to follow after him. When they catch up with him they ask him for more signs.

Jesus begins to teach the people that what he is offering them is something very different. Jesus refers to himself as the Bread of Life. He promises to feed all who believe in him in a new way. Jesus can say this because he is giving himself to them as the bread that will satisfy the deepest yearnings of their hearts. All human people seek answers to the fundamental questions of life and existence and their meaning and purpose. Jesus tells the people that the answers are to be found through believing in him.

Today we are invited to open our hearts to Jesus who comes to us as the Bread of Life, especially when we receive him in Holy Communion. By welcoming and accepting him into our hearts we are strengthened to face the many challenges of life that confront us at this time. As people seek answers to the problems facing the world, we can say to them with confidence, as Christians, that the answers are to be found in knowing Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Fr. Kieran Coghlan

Bank Holiday – Monday 2nd August

Mass at 10am only. No evening Mass today.

First Friday – 6th August

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 10.30am to 7.15pm

Summer Offering

To help replenish the reserves in the fund that provides for the priests of the diocese, parishioners are invited to make a summer offering at some time between now and the end of August. Summer Offering envelopes are available at the back of the Church.

The Lough Derg Pilgrim Path

The Lough Derg Pilgrim Path on the lough shore is now open daily. The full route is a 12km loop, with a shorter 8km option, and several information boards highlight features of particular interest. Leaflets are available at the Visitors Centre. Dates for a guided walk experience will be offered for late August and early September. For further information see www.loughderg.org For bookings email info@loughderg.org or telephone 071-9861518.

Praying for Vocations

Archbishop Farrell is asking for people and priests to pray for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life on a regular basis. As you are well aware, the need is great, so let's answer God's call and "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest"

PATHWAYS: Exploring Faith as an Adult

Pathways is a two-year, one evening a week, Adult Faith Development course on Thursday evenings, 7pm to 9.30pm from late September to May. Run by the Archdiocese of Dublin in DCU St. Patrick's Campus (MDCCE), Drumcondra Road. Application now open for September 2021. Early application advised. Contact *Pathways* Director, Eileen Houlahan at 01-8087594 or pathways@dublindiocese.ie Web: www.evangelisation.ie

Theology of the Arts. Does the Church need Art?

The Priory Institute, Tallaght have a week-long online Summer School running from 8th to 13th August and again from 22nd to 27th August. The course includes six recorded presentations and is very flexible as it is delivered entirely online. Cost €50. Find out more and register on www.prioryinstitute.com or phone 01-4048124.