



**OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH  
CASTLEKNOCK, DUBLIN 15**

**The Assumption of the BVM  
15<sup>th</sup> August 2021**

Today, the 15<sup>th</sup> August, we celebrate the solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Mary Virgin Mary into the glory of heaven. The doctrine of the Assumption teaches us that at the end of her earthly life, Mary, the mother of Jesus, was assumed body and soul into heaven.

There is no evidence of any standing to say what happened to Mary at the end of her life. We know from the Gospels that Mary was present with Jesus as he died on the cross on Calvary. The *Acts of the Apostles* references her being present with the apostles when the Holy Spirit came upon them on the day of Pentecost. After that it is traditionally believed that John, the beloved disciple, took care of Mary for the rest of her days and that she was assumed into heaven to be with her son and our Saviour, Jesus, when death finally overtook her.

As Mary once watched over the child Jesus, so now today we believe that Mary watches over the entire Christian community, the Body of Christ here on earth, and constantly intercedes for us with her beloved Son. Mary is presented to us as an example of a faithful response to God's call and also as a reminder that the glory of God in heaven awaits all of us who live and die in the Lord.

As we journey in life, we ask the protection of Mary to watch over and guide us as we seek to discern and respond positively to the call of God and do our best at living God's will in our lives today. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us until the day we are called home to join with you and share the glory of God for all eternity.

*Fr. Kieran Coghlan*

**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.

**Youth 2000 - Summer Festival - 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> August**

The festival is primarily taking place online. All talks, testimonies, liturgies, prayer and worship will take place online for the course of the weekend and it is here that you can watch, engage with and participate in the Summer Festival in its entirety.

However, in line with government and church regulations, this year we are able to add in person elements at Naas and Dundalk to our Summer Festival. For all information and to register please visit [www.youth2000.ie](http://www.youth2000.ie)

**ACCORD Catholic Marriage Care Service CLG**

Accord is currently recruiting volunteers who have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church to train as marriage preparation programme facilitators. Successful applicants will receive professional training. Contact Aisling on 01 505 3112 or by email to [info@accord.ie](mailto:info@accord.ie) The closing date for receipt of registration of interest forms is Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August. For additional information see [www.accord.ie](http://www.accord.ie)

**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](http://www.loughderg.org) For bookings email [info@loughderg.org](mailto: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](mailto:pathways@dublindiocese.ie) Web: [www.evangelisation.ie](http://www.evangelisation.ie)