

## The Fourth Sunday of Easter

*Day of Prayer for Vocations*

(The Month of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> of May 2019



**The Church of the Way of the Cross (1972)**  
**Togher, Cork, T12E292**

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## Feasts during the week ahead

**Monday:** Our Lady of Fatima

**Tuesday:** St Matthias

**Wednesday:** St Carthage

**Thursday:** St Brendan

### *Day of Prayer for Vocations*

The word *vocation*, comes from the Latin, *vocare*, which means to be called. It is hard to describe in words what a calling is, because, people who have a calling, just do what they do naturally. Take for example, being a mother. Mothers, instinctively, look after their children, often without thinking. Another example would be a carpenter: a carpenter may not be able to express his/her creation in words but can most certainly express it through what he or she makes.

With this in mind we know that many people have many different vocations. But today, the Church asks us to focus in a special way on vocations to the priesthood. To be called to the priesthood is a very special calling. The main duty of a priest is to offer Holy Mass. In doing this the priest takes the place of Jesus, in the same way that the people take the place of the apostles, as we make present, once again, the last supper.

The priest is called to celibacy: sacrificing the natural right to a family, so that he can understand sacrifice, in the same way that Jesus sacrificed his rights on the cross. Similarly, the priest is called to obedience: in obedience to his Bishop, he loses the choice of where he wants to live or work. He does not choose his place of work, the Holy Spirit, through the Bishop makes this decision, so that the priest can be where God needs him to be.

This is one angle on the calling to priesthood. Another angle must be the joy which it is to be a priest. But, please remember, that priests are human, and fragile like every other person. Priests are capable of getting things right and wrong. Priests are sinners like most other people! Priests cannot be all things to all people, but a priest can certainly do one thing: what God calls him to do!

Somebody once asked what is the best way of advertising the priesthood: one response was posters, another response: leaflets, but the best response was:

*the best advertisement for priesthood is a happy priest!*

### *An open day for men considering Priesthood in the Diocese of Cork and Ross*

**Sunday 12-May 2019**

**3pm-6pm**

At the Pastoral Office, Ballypnehane Church Campus

Contact Fr Charlie 021 4537474 or 085 8777723

### *Upcoming Events*

**Saturday 18-May:** First Holy Communion 10.30am (All are welcome)

**Sunday 19-May:** Canon Michael Riordan (Pastor Emeritus) will be concelebrating the 11am Holy Mass with us to honour the sixtieth anniversary of his priestly ordination. At his own request he would simply like to concelebrate Holy Mass and greet the people afterwards.

**Monday 20-May:** May Procession around the Church, with the First Holy Communion children, directly after the 9.30am Holy Mass

### *Annual Pilgrimage to Knock*

4-6 June

Accommodation: St Marys Convent, Knock.

Spiritual Director: Fr P. Nugent CC OFS

#### *Contact*

Sr Annunciata @ Presentation

Convent Ballypnehane before May 30<sup>th</sup>.

Or Rita @ 021 4963604

### *Children's Corner: The May Altar*

Take a look at our May altar again this week. Well done to the girls for your creativity!

*The contribution of our children is always welcome!*

### *Padre Pio Pilgrimage*

*(Visiting Pietrelcina, San Giovanni Rotondo and the Shrine of St Michael the Archangel)*

**9-13 October 2019.**

**Cost 699e pps**

Spiritual director: Fr Ben Hodnett

#### **Booking:**

Full details on [www.marian.ie](http://www.marian.ie) or

Marian Pilgrimages 01-8788159

**Easter Dues:** Thanks to all who have returned the Easter Dues. Easter Dues envelopes are still available at the doors if you wish to contribute to the upkeep of the parish clergy.

### *The Rosary of the grottos*

This is an initiative to pray the Rosary at our local Grottos throughout the month of May. Please look up the website [www.coastalrosaryireland.ie](http://www.coastalrosaryireland.ie) to find your nearest grotto.