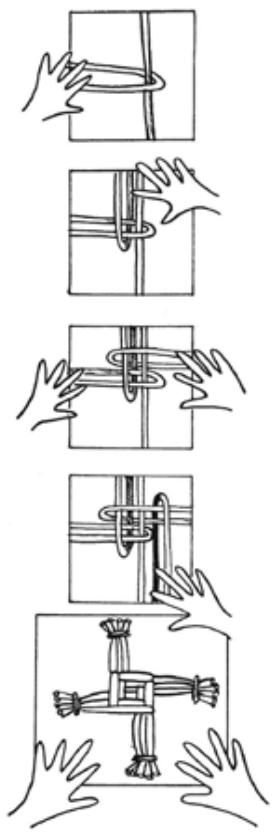


Parent's Page



..Make Your Own St Brigid's Cross

You will need some rushes or reeds or you can even use drinking straws (please use paper straws if possible). You will also need four elastic bands or thread to tie the ends of the cross.

Instructions

1. Loop the horizontal reed around the vertical reed (see fig. 1)
2. Loop the next vertical reed around the horizontal reed (fig.2)
3. Now loop the next horizontal reed around both vertical reeds (fig. 3)
4. Then loop a vertical reed around both horizontal reeds (fig. 4)
5. Finally, loop a horizontal reed around both vertical reeds going down (fig. 5)

You can repeat stages 1-5 approximately four times. Tie the ends and trim with a scissors.



What is Catholic schools Week? Catholic Schools week is a time when we acknowledge the place of our schools in the life of our children, our homes, our parish and our country. Catholic schools are about getting our children ready for life. They are about teaching our children, by example, that they belong to a community. The theme for

this year is: **'Walking together in Faith & Love.'** Check with your school to see how they are celebrating Catholic Schools Week.

Some February Saints



St. Blaise: Saint Blaise's protection of those with throat troubles apparently comes from a legend that a boy was brought to him who had a fishbone stuck in his throat. The boy was about to die when God, through the intercession of Saint Blaise, healed him. His Feast Day is February 3rd. His feast is celebrated with the blessing of throats using blessed candles to protect from illnesses of the throat.



ST VALENTINE: Did you know that St Valentine is the Patron saint of romantic love because he secretly married catholic couples, against the wishes of the Roman Emperor so that the husbands didn't have to go to war? In those days only single men were accepted into the army. Valentine was a priest and possibly a bishop who died around 270 in Rome. He was executed because he would not deny his Christian faith. He was buried on the Via Flaminia but his remains were brought to White Friar Street Church in Dublin where there is a shrine to him.

PARISHES OF ATHY, NARRAGHMORE & MOONE



DTIM NEWSLETTER

*Parish Resource Sheet for the Sacraments of
Reconciliation & Holy Communion
January 2023*



January, for many people their least favourite month of the year. A time for making resolutions, a time to start that diet again, to start walking or exercising more. It is a time for fresh starts. It is also a time when we begin to look forward. We begin to look forward to spring time. The first spring bulbs are beginning to pop up, snow drops are

showing their heads there is the beginnings of a 'grand stretch in the evenings' as the days start lengthening.

However, often by the end of January some of our resolutions have fallen away, it is important that we try to keep going. It is also the time when we can really begin to look forward, with our children, to celebrating the Sacraments for the first time. So it is important to begin again. Perhaps some of the commitments that we made earlier in the programme have begun to fade and that is perfectly normal. So let's start again. Let's renew our commitment to try to get know Jesus better, to try to spend some time everyday praying, to try to treat others as Jesus would like us to, to treat others as we would like to be treated.

Will you spend two minutes each day praying? Will you try to be kinder to your family, friends, school mates, work colleagues? Will you make a Fresh Start in preparing for the Sacraments?

Parish Team Contact Details

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Activity Page

MEET ST MATTHEW

Hello, my name is Matthew, and I one of the twelve Apostles, or really good friends of Jesus. When I was young man I had a job that made me very unpopular, can you guess what it was? There is a clue in my picture. But it wasn't just my job that made me unpopular, I wasn't a very nice person, I used to cheat people and steal their money and keep it for myself. Then I met Jesus and we became really good friends, I even changed the way I was and became the kind of person that Jesus wanted me to be. I became really popular and had lots of friends, just by getting to know Jesus. In fact I got to know Jesus so well that I wrote a book HIS life. This book is called a Gospel. The word Gospel means Good News. The life of Jesus and what he taught us really is good news. Three other people also wrote the Good News about Jesus' life and teachings, they were Mark, Luke & John. But enough about that let's have some fun. Do you think that you could complete this word search about Jesus, me & the Gospel? Give it a go and have fun.



G	L	I	H	N	W	K	L	W	E	H	T	T	A	M
B	O	I	L	U	E	E	O	D	E	K	Q	E	M	Q
Z	H	O	L	G	A	T	T	I	Q	E	Y	A	I	J
D	L	V	D	R	S	J	S	U	X	F	O	C	I	M
M	B	U	N	N	Z	D	Z	I	R	T	H	H	V	Z
I	H	I	K	F	E	S	D	I	L	S	Y	I	A	P
P	N	O	O	E	U	W	E	L	J	E	O	N	I	P
G	F	U	K	S	C	S	S	A	M	I	V	G	B	G
P	R	I	E	W	G	I	D	P	T	R	C	K	F	V
J	L	J	D	H	P	D	X	O	H	P	U	B	D	T
Y	F	D	N	Q	P	J	M	A	R	K	C	T	V	M
C	C	F	H	Z	R	O	A	P	C	H	H	O	B	B
I	P	T	B	L	E	H	S	L	U	A	T	P	Q	P
T	U	Y	O	R	U	N	U	T	A	Z	O	K	I	R
C	J	Y	L	C	X	H	B	U	L	X	K	A	X	J

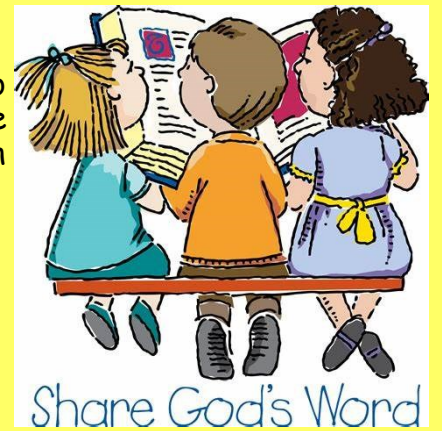
FOUR, GOODNEWS, JESUS, JOHN, LEARNING, LISTEN, LUKE,
MARK, MASS, MATTHEW, PRIEST, TEACHING

LEARNING THE MASS

When we gather at mass it is important that we are all able to participate as fully possible. Each month we will include some of the prayers and mass responses that you can practice with your child.

We gather, we are greeted by the priest, we tell God and one another we are sorry, we praise and glorify God and then we listen to God's Word. This part of the Mass is called the **'Liturgy of the Word'**

The Liturgy of the Word has a number of parts. First the Old Testament Reading, then we respond to that by singing our Psalm, we then listen to the reading from the New Testament, we greet the Good News/Gospel by singing Alleluia, we listen to the Gospel, the priest teaches us about the Gospel in the homily, we profess our faith (the Creed) and we bring our prayers to God in the Prayer of the Faithful.



The Minister of the Word (Reader) announces the reading - "A reading from..." . At the end of the reading the minister says: **"The Word of the Lord."** and we respond with **"Thanks be to God"**.

The psalms were written as hymns and are best sung. When they are not sung we join in the 'chorus' by repeating the refrain usually called the response. This week our response is: **"The Lord is my light and my help."**

The Gospel, the word Gospel means 'Good News', is one of the high points of the mass so that is why we sing Alleluia to greet it, Alleluia means; 'Praise GOD'. The Priest announces the Gospel. **"The Lord be with you"** we reply: **"And with your Spirit"**

The priest then says: **"A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew"** and we reply: **"Glory to You Lord."**

Using our thumb, we make a small sign of the Cross on our foreheads, lips and heart while saying this. Making the sign of the cross like this reminds us that the Word of God is to be on our mind, on our lips and in our heart.

At the end of the end of the Gospel the priest says: **"The Gospel of the Lord"** and we reply with: **"Praise to you, Lord, Jesus Christ."**

The Prayer of the Faithful is when we bring our prayers to God. After each prayer the reader says: **Lord, hear us.** We respond by saying: **Lord, graciously hear us.**



At Mass we usually have readings from four different parts of the bible. Do you think know what they are:

The First Reading is usually taken from the **O__ T_____**.

After the first reading comes the **P_____**.

After the Psalm comes the second reading, which is usually taken from the **N__ T_____**.

After the second reading we have a reading from the **G_____**.

There are four accounts of this "Good News" written by Matthew, Mark, Luke & John.

LET'S PRAY TOGETHER

Prayer at meal times

Thank you for the food we eat, Thank you for the friends we meet. Thank you for the birds that sing, Thank you, God, for everything. Amen

Or...

For all we eat, and all we wear, For daily bread, and nightly care, we thank you heavenly Father. Amen

Or...make up your own!

