



**CHURCH OF OUR LADY,
MOTHER OF DIVINE GRACE**

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Please remember in your prayers our Parish Priest, Fr. Martin, as he prepares to leave Raheny, after nine years of dedicated and loyal service to the Church here, in the Parish of Our Lady Mother of Divine Grace. We are sad that he is moving - he will be missed.

WALK to MASS for IRAQI CHRISTIANS

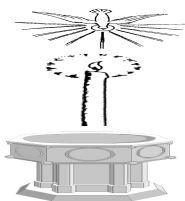
Catholics throughout Ireland are being asked to walk to Mass, next Sunday, 31st August, in a symbolic gesture of solidarity with the Christian community in Iraq.

People might also like to consider supporting *Aid to the Church in Need*, a charity which works with persecuted Catholics around the world.

Feastdays this week

Mon: St. Louis, King of France
Wed: St. Monica
Thurs: St. Augustine
Fri: The Passion of St. John the Baptist

**NEXT BAPTISM
PREPARATION MEETING**



- in the church at 8pm, on Tuesday, 2nd Sept., for Baptism on Saturday, 6th Sept.

THE DEEP END : Why are we Here?

'Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value' (Albert Einstein)
How easy it is to lose our way. Business people who start out with a great idea can sometimes become overly focused on money and lose sight of their passion. Politicians who start out young and idealistic can become disillusioned or corrupt. Teachers may become overly focused on exam success and forget enthusiasm for the subject.

It is all too easy to get caught up in rules and regulations, and forget to take a step back and ask ourselves: why are we here? The Church, too, can lose its way. Over her history, we know the Church has not always lived up to the great responsibility to communicate God's love to the world.

Today's readings form an interesting mix as we reflect on our Church and her mission. The Gospel passage is often seen as a reference to the origins of the Church and the papacy, as Jesus hands Peter 'the keys of the kingdom of heaven'.

But look what Jesus asks him just before this: 'Who do you say I am?' Everything we do as Church should come back to this question – who do we say that Jesus is? Lest we get too sure of ourselves, the Second Reading reminds us: 'Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? All that exists comes from Him; all is by Him and for Him'. Everything comes from God, and everything we do should be for God.

'The Church sometimes has locked itself up in small things, in small-minded rules. Ministers of the Church must be ministers of mercy above all.' (Pope Francis)

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**READINGS - Next
Sunday**

Jer. 20:7-9.
Ps. 62:2-6, 8-9.
Rm. 12:1-2.
Mt. 16: 21-27.



Vigil	6.00 pm	
Sun.	8.30 am	
	10.00 am	
	11.30 am	
Mon.	10.00am	Aedan & Jean Robinson (Anniv.)
Tues.	10.00am	Mass for Peace
Wed.	10.00am	Bryan Gleeson (Rec. Dec'd.)
Thurs.	10.00am	James & Cecelia Spellissy; John & Esther Bennett (Anniv.)
Fri.	10.00am	Shelia McCarthy (Rec. Dec'd.)
Sat.	10.00am	Evelyn Cassidy (Rec. Dec'd.)

Sunday Mass times in Kilbarrack / Foxfield Parish for August will be at 9.30am & 12.30pm. There will be no 11am Mass during August.

GETTING MARRIED SOON?

"Week-End Away" preparing for marriage. Get away from it all. Have a Pre-Marriage course with a difference, focussing on your relationship. Contact: Esker, Athenry, (091) 844549, OR www.redemptoristsesker.ie OR search for "Esker Couples" on Facebook.

✠ Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of Patricia Brennan, Ashcroft, who died recently in Raheny, in tragic circumstances. May she, and all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in the peace of Christ. ✠

