

COOLEY PARISH

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Fr Malachy Conlon 042-9376105

St James' Church 042-9397684

Parish email: cooleyparish@gmail.com

Parish website: www.cooleyparish.ie

Fr Stephen Duffy 042-9371327

Fr Oliver Stansfeild 042-9375198

Follow us on Facebook

INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Recently deceased:

Michael Mc Garrity, Mucklagh funeral on Friday

Margaret Martin nee Finnegan, Carlingford funeral on Saturday

Patsy Boyle formerly Irish Grange who died in New York

Helen Moylan, Rathabbey

Fr Tom Hamill, Dundalk

Hugh Sheelan, Rush and formerly of Rathcor.

Anniversaries:

Molly Clarke and deceased family members

Robbie, Mary, Robert and Dennis Marks

Eileen Keenan

Bernard and Josephine Clarke

John, Annie and Terry Doran and deceased family members

Jimmy and Bridie Rooney

Angela and Stephen Malone

Matt and May Campbell

Peter and Mary Dullaghan and deceased family members

Deirdre Finnegan

Johnny, James and Maria Marks and deceased family members

Breda Hall

Michael and Mary Gregory, Marcella Hughes and deceased family members

Thomas O' Neill and deceased family members

Patrick and Elizabeth Savage

Daily Mass will be celebrated privately at 10.00 in the Church of St James Grange, Sunday Mass at 11.00. Can be viewed at:

<https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-james-church-grange>

Diocesan website: <https://www.armaghdiocese.org>

Easter 2020 message to the people of Ireland from Archbishop Eamon Martin.

“The sun dances on Easter morning ... as surely as Christ rose on Easter morning, we will come through this, hopefully as better people, strengthened by the experience” –
Archbishop Eamon

Easter message

I have an early childhood memory of my mother leaving a basin of water out in the back yard on a bright Easter Sunday morning and inviting us to look in and watch the sun dance! ‘The sun dances on Easter morning’, she told us.

It’s the kind of message of joy and hope that we all need during these difficult days.

The Easter story begins in darkness and sorrow. The disciples were hidden away behind locked doors, isolated and feeling alone, fearing for their lives. But when Christ rose from the dead he brought back the light of hope into the darkness of despair. The stone was rolled away from the entrance to the tomb. He entered through the closed doors of the place where the disciples were and he said to them ‘peace be with you.’

Easter reminds us that, as Pope Francis keeps saying, we must never let ourselves be ‘robbed of hope’. As the children’s hymn joyfully puts it:

‘They buried my body

And they thought I’d gone,

But I am the Dance,

And I still go on.

Dance, then, wherever you may be, I am the Lord of the Dance, said he’.

We know how important it is to continue to make sacrifices and to maintain the current restrictions in order to protect and save lives. Please God it won’t be too long before we can go back to singing and dancing together, to meeting and greeting, travelling and discovering, and gathering in church to celebrate and praise God.

But what will we have learned? What is this crisis teaching us about ourselves and others, about faith and hope, about the importance of caring and loving, of living simpler lives and managing our expectations? In a strange way these days of seclusion have been helping us stop and think about what we value and perhaps even question some of the ways we have been living our lives.

An old medieval carol about the life of Jesus promises that ‘Tomorrow shall be my dancing day’. We still have a long way to go in the fight against Covid-19 and its consequences.

There will be many more sacrifices to make before this is all over. But as surely as Christ rose on Easter morning, we will come through this, hopefully as better people, strengthened by the experience.

A very happy Easter to you all, and to our loved ones and friends across the world this Easter time.

Archbishop Eamon Martin is Archbishop of Armagh, Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Dromore and Primate of All Ireland