

Father Mathew's Prayer

Apostle of Temperance Father Mathew (1790-1856) was a Capuchin friar from Tipperary whose 19th century crusade against the abuse of alcohol gained him the title of "Apostle of Temperance". Father Mathew's call to sobriety has relevance to modern Ireland. The cost to the nation by way of, human suffering, abstention from work, criminality and social upheaval is inestimable.

Compassionate Lord and Saviour,

you inspired the Capuchin Friar Theobald Mathew

to show your compassionate face to those addicted

and burdened by the abuse of alcohol or addicted behaviour,

and to promote temperance.

May we today, continue to serve our brothers and sisters with love and joy,

And to foster balance, and moderation in our life styles with the help of God.

So, we pray, "here goes in the name of God."

Amen

Reflection after Communion

Archbishop Oscar Romero

It helps now and then to step back and take the long view.

The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.

Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said.

No prayer fully expresses our faith.

No confession brings perfection.

No pastoral visit brings wholeness.

No programme accomplishes the Church's mission.

No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about:

We plant the seeds that one day will grow.

We water seeds already planted knowing that they hold future promise.

We lay foundations that will need further development.

We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realising that.

This enables us to do something and to do it very well.

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way – an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the workers.

We are workers, not master builders, – ministers, not messiahs.

We are prophets of a future not our own.

SATURDAY 6th + 7th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME PRIEST ON DUTY: FR. MARK BENNETT C.C. 071-9650881

ST.MARY'S Sunday 10am: Joe Lowe (Anniv)

Josie Murray (6th Anniv)

Pat & Siobhan Barrett (Anniv)

Michael Cassidy (Anniv)

MASSES FROM MONDAY 15th – SATURDAY 20th FEBRUARY

Monday 8pm: Private Intention

Tuesday 10am: Patrick & Molly Clifford & their son Martin & Granddaughter

Ciara Kelly & deceased members of the Clifford family

Wednesday 10am: Private Intention

Thursday 10am: Edward Anthony Stokes (1st Anniv)

Friday 8pm: Dick & Vera Butler & their son Seamus

Sat 10am: Private Intention

MASS FOR SUNDAY 21st FEBRUARY

Sun 10am: Charlie Lavin (Anniv)

Joe & Julia Regan (Anniv) Shannon Lodge

Ian Burke (3rd Anniv)

Ciaran Flynn (3rd Anniv)

DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES: Wednesday next, 17th February is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Ashes will be blessed at 10 a.m. Mass and will be available in all churches during the day. To minimise the risk of contamination people are asked to bring and use a cotton bud when applying ashes. If taking ashes for use in home, please be mindful of the needs of others. A Lenten pack containing prayers for home and with children will also be available in churches.

DEATHS: We pray for the happy repose of the souls of Maureen Daly (Arigna, mother of Carmel Doherty, Annagheary) Eileen Brennan (Donegal, sister of Lily Treacy, Summerhill), Nellie McGovern (Drumshanbo, mother of Terry McGovern, Leitrim Village) and Tom Cadogan (Gorey, Co. Wexford, son-in-law of Tom & Margaret Regan, Effernagh) who died recently. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

ALCOHOL: The Challenge of Moderation

Alcohol confronts us with our own frailty and weakness. Even those who are not addicted need the support of a higher power in the journey through life if we were to avoid the perils of addiction. We need the support of friends, of family and of God. Indeed, there may be people around us who need our support. The love and support of God is mediated through people just like us when we reach out to others, bringing God's love and care into our world.

LOST AND FOUND: a sum of money was found on the footpath near the entrance to Oaklands on Tuesday 9th February about 2pm. Please contact the parish office on 071-9620118.