

'You do not have to be good. You do not have to walk on your knees for a hundred miles through the desert, repenting. You only have to let the soft animal of your body love what it loves. Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine. Meanwhile the world goes on. Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain are moving across the landscapes, over the prairies and the deep trees, the mountains and the rivers. Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air, are heading home again. Whoever you are no matter how lonely, the world offers itself to your imagination calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting - over and over announcing your place in the family of things.'

Mary Oliver (Wild Geese)

### EASTER PROGRAMME

Penitential Service: Tuesday 27th March @ 7.30pm. Avail of the opportunity to start afresh and asking God to free us from our faults and failings.  
 Holy Thursday: No morning Masses.  
 Mass of The Last Supper by 7.30pm followed by Adoration until 9pm.  
 Good Friday 30th: 3pm Combined Ceremony  
 Holy Saturday 31st: 8pm Easter Vigil  
 Easter Sunday 1st April: 10am & 12 noon  
 Easter Monday 2nd April: 10am Mass only

**Legion of Mary** have played a vital role in the Irish Church over many years. We have started a group in this parish. If interested please join us on the First Monday in the parish office @ 7.30pm. We look forward to seeing you there, especially if you were a former member so that you can share your experiences.

### Bulletin Sponsorship

This weeks bulletin is sponsored in memory of Elma Roche R.I.P whose 5th anniversary occurs now.

### Confirmation

Congratulations to all the children who received their Confirmation on Wednesday last.

**SMA Website** where you will find news of the SMA, its work in Africa and other parts of the world [www.sma.ie](http://www.sma.ie).

### Renovation Fund

I wish to thank you all for your generous support. We have collected €16,120 with donations, 2nd collections and cake sales. We have spent €110,724 and have budgeted €18,000 to complete the work and outstanding payments. We have used up our reserve fund completely and need to build it up in order to plan to do a job on our roof which is long overdue.

### UNFOLDING THE WORD

How to be a disciple of Jesus? St Francis Convent (opposite the church) Wednesday evening 21st March 2018 from 7.30 to 9pm. No expertise needed, just a willingness to share and take part or just listen if you like. All welcome and of course there will be the usual cuppa afterwards.

**Cork Marriage Encounter Weekend @** The Cork International Hotel from 13th - 15 April. A Weekend getaway experience for all married couples who want to rediscover the joy of marriage.

### Lent

**Stations of the Cross** at 5.30pm each Friday during Lent. There will be evening Mass, Monday to Friday at 6pm throughout Lent.

### Pastoral Council Meeting

Tues 20th March in the Parish Office @ 7.30p.m.

### Summer Time begins

Clocks go forward one hour next Saturday 24th.



**St Joseph's SMA Church, Blackrock Road Parish, Cork**

**Priests of the Parish:**

**Fr Noel O'Leary SMA PP**

**Fr Alphonse Sekongo SMA CC**

**Tel: 4616327 Parish**

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**e-mail: [smaparish@eircom.net](mailto:smaparish@eircom.net)**

**Webcam [mcnmedia.tv](http://mcnmedia.tv)**

**Parish office: 4616328**

**Fax 4292890**

**Priest on call: 4616328**

**SMA House: 4292871**



## Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year B - Psalter Week 1 18th March 2018

### Reflection

Jesus invites us to be strong along the path of life. He wants us to be where he is. However, it is important to note that he did not get there by killing himself. So, we must be ready to endure as he did. We must be ready to die as a grain dies in order to regenerate. If we must share in this new covenant, we must be ready to lose our lives so as to find it. Practically speaking, we die every day when we stand up for justices and against injustice, when we speak the truth instead of lies; when we give up our comfort for the sake of others; when we say no to sin, corruption and immorality.

### OFFICIAL FAMILY PRAYER FOR WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES 2018

God our Father, we are brothers and sisters in Jesus your Son, One family, in the spirit of your love. Bless us with the joy of love. Make us patient and kind, gentle and generous, welcoming to those in need. Help us to live your forgiveness and peace. Protect all families with your loving care, especially those for whom we now pray:  
*(We pause and remember family members and others by name).*

Increase our faith, Strengthen our hope, Keep us safe in your love, Make us always grateful for the gift of life that we share. This we ask, through Christ our Lord. Amen.  
 Mary, mother and guide **pray for us**  
 St Joseph, father and protector, **pray for us**  
 Sts Joachim and Anne, **pray for us.**  
**pray for us.**

### Mass Times

**Sunday: 10.00am and 12 noon**

**Saturday Vigil: 7.00pm**

**Weekdays: 7.15am, 10am. & 6pm**

**Confessions: Saturday 10.30am & 6.20pm.**

**Sunday Devotions: 5.00pm**

**Adoration: 1.30 pm - 3.00 pm**

### Masses Saturday 17th March 2018

**7.00pm Vigil: John & Ellen O'Sullivan R.I.P. Anniv.**

### Masses Sunday 18th March 2018

**10.00am Pat & Ellen Coogan R.I.P. Anniversary**

**12 noon Elma Roche R.I.P. 5th Anniversary**

### In Remembrance/Anniversaries

Tom & Mary Lyons /Michael Foley

Molly Culhane-Lehane 50th Anniversary

Marian Hegarty/Patricia Mullane 8th Anniv

Peter McKenna Birthday Remembrance

Paddy O'Brien 14th Anniversary

Stephen Murphy / Nuala O'Riordan

John & Ellen O'Sullivan / Pat & Ellen Coogan

Elma Roche 5th Anniversary/ Edward Hornbrook

Conor O'Donovan 4th Anniversary

Mary Kingston 1st Anniversary

### Recently deceased

Nellie Stack

### May they Rest in Peace

**Last weekends Church collection €1,045**

Thank you for your support and generosity.

Today's 2nd collection is Church Renovation Fund St Louis and Zelig Martin