



## Easter Sunday

### 31st March 2024



**'Christ is risen, alleluia.'**  
**This is the ancient greeting on this day of great joy and happiness:**  
**The Feast of Feasts .**  
**The Easter day of the Resurrection of the Lord; when Christ overcame death.**

**The Clonard Redemptorist Community wish you all a very Happy Easter! May this beautiful day be a testimony to God's love and glory.**

#### **EASTER WEEK MASSES AT CLONARD**

**Mon, Tues & Wed., 9.30am and 6.15pm**

**Thursday - Novena Day. 7.00am, 9.30am, 6.15pm and 8.00pm.**

**Friday, 9.30am and 6.15pm**

**Saturday 9.30am, 12 noon. Vigil Mass at 7.30pm.**

**Sunday 7.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am & 12.30am.**

**Reception is closed on Easter Sunday Monday and Tuesday.**

Thanks to the many people who helped in any way to make our Easter liturgies so inspirational and prayerful. Their willing participation is gratefully appreciated.



We thank you for last week's collection which came to £2,641 for Clonard, £880 for Needy Parishes. Also for your kind donations, online and by post.

#### **Scripture Readings for Easter Sunday:**

**Acts 10:34, 37-43** — Peter sums up the whole Paschal Mystery – the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus.

**1 Corinthians 5:6-8** — We should celebrate Easter by putting aside any trace of wickedness in us.

**John 20:1-9** — In John's description of the resurrection, Mary Magdalene is the first to witness the empty tomb.

#### ***Christ has turned all our sunsets into dawns'***

*( St Clement Of Alexandria)*

We are an Easter People and Alleluia is our song. The Easter liturgy makes it clear that the centre piece of the great drama of salvation is the passage of Christ from death to new life, from darkness to light.

On that dark Friday in Jerusalem, the capacity of human beings to hate, hurt and harm one another went completely out of control. It's no wonder, then, that 'darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon', that 'the sun's light failed', and that 'the curtain of the temple was torn in two' (Lk 23:24).

Between light and darkness, between good and evil, one mighty struggle is still going on. It's going on in the physical cosmos, in human societies, and within our own personalities. Although the darkness often appears to be stronger than the light, it has not yet triumphed. The light is remarkably resilient. Often in danger of being extinguished, it manages to survive, and even to win many victories. The words of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of modern India, still ring as true as when he spoke them seventy years ago:

'When I despair I remember that all through history the way of truth and love has always won. There have been tyrants and murderers, and for a time they can seem invincible, but, in the end, they always fall.' The words of the Easter Vigil liturgy express the same truth in an equally appealing way: 'The power of this holy [Easter] night,' it proclaims, 'dispels all evil, washes guilt away, restores lost innocence, brings mourners joy. It casts out hatred, brings us peace, and humbles earthly pride.' Our celebration of Easter reminds us that the darkness of evil and hatred will never have the last say. For the resurrection of Jesus proclaims the ultimate triumph of light over darkness and goodness over evil, both in us and in our world. Because of Christ's resurrection we can shout triumphantly in the words of the *Exsultet*: 'O happy fault that brought us so glorious a Redeemer'.

**Feast of the Divine Mercy** will be celebrated on Sunday 7th April in St. Peter's Cathedral, beginning at 2.30pm and in St. Paul's Church, Mass at 3.00pm. All Welcome.

Trócaire thanks everyone for their support of this year's Lenten campaign. Please return Trócaire boxes so that donations can be put to use as soon as possible, helping the most vulnerable in the developing world. [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org)

