

2nd Sunday of Easter

27th April 2025

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<u>MASS TIMES AT CLONARD</u> <u>Public Mass & Masses via Webcam</u>

Sunday (Vigil Sat- 7.30pm), 7.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am, and 12.30pm. Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri. 7.00am, 9.30am and 6.15pm. Thursday (Novena) 7.00am, 9.30am, 6.15pm and 8.00pm. Saturday 7.00am, 9.30am & 12.00 Noon.



We thank you for last week's collection which came to £8,151, also for your kind donations, online and by post.

<u>The Belfast City Marathon</u> will take place next <u>Sunday, 5th May.</u> No change to Mass times. Traffic will be restricted on the Andersonstown/Falls Road from 9.30am.

This Sunday's Scripture Readings

Acts 5:12-16 — During the Easter season this year, the first reading each Sunday is from the Acts of the Apostles and the second reading is from Apocalypse, the last book of the Bible. Today's excerpt from Acts describes the courage of the first disciples, who were bold enough to meet in the Temple precincts and carry on the healing work of Jesus.

Apocalypse 1:9-13 — John introduces his vision, which he wrote to encourage Christians who were being persecuted.

John 20:19-31 — Jesus appears on the evening of his resurrection, and helps those who doubt to believe.

The last Easter Message from Francis

For in the light of this event [the Resurrection], hope is no longer an illusion. Thanks to Christ — crucified and risen from the dead — hope does not disappoint! (cf. Rom 5:5). That hope is not an evasion, but a challenge; it does not delude, but empowers us. All those who put their hope in God place their feeble hands in his strong and mighty hand; they let themselves be raised up and set out on a journey. Together with the risen Jesus, they become pilgrims of hope, witnesses of the victory of love and of the disarmed power of Life.



Christ is risen! These words capture the whole meaning of our existence, for we were not made for death but for life. Easter is the celebration of life! God created us for life and wants the human family to rise again! In his eyes, every life is precious! The life of a child in the mother's womb, as well as the lives of the elderly and the sick, who in more and more countries are looked upon as people to be discarded.

What a great thirst for death, for killing, we witness each day in the many conflicts raging in different parts of our world! How much violence we see, often even within families, directed at women and children! How much contempt is stirred up at times towards the vulnerable, the marginalized, and migrants!

On this day, I would like all of us to hope anew and to revive our trust in others, including those who are different than ourselves, or who come from distant lands, bringing unfamiliar customs, ways of life and ideas! For all of us are children of God!

In the Lord's Paschal Mystery, death and life contended in a stupendous struggle, but the Lord now lives forever. He fills us with the certainty that we too are called to share in the life that knows no end, when the clash of arms and the rumble of death will be heard no more. Let us entrust ourselves to him, for he alone can make all things new (cf. Rev. 21:5)! (from Urbi et Orbi – Easter Sunday, 2025]

Diocese of Down and Connor

Bishop Alan Mc Guckian SJ, Bishop of Down and Connor



will celebrate Solemn Requiem Mass for the happy repose of the soul of

Pope Francis

on Wednesday 30th April 2025 at 7.00pm in St. Peter's Cathedral, Belfast

All are welcome!

Milltown Cemetery Sunday, Sunday 11th May at 3.00 pm.

Feast of the Divine Mercy will be celebrated today, Sunday 27th April in St. Peter's Cathedral, beginning at 2.30pm and in St. Paul's Church, Mass at 3.00pm. All Welcome.