

Your contributions last week to support:

- Your priests - 1st Collection : **€870**
- Share - 2nd Collection: **€620**
- Running Expenses of the Parish (Family offering/weekly envelope: No collection last week due to bank holiday)

Are you playing your part?

Family Offering envelopes / Standing Order forms are available through the parish office.

Exploring the Bible

and its meaning in our lives -

Mondays - 7.30pm - 8.30pm in Shalom
(beside St. Mark's Church). All welcome.

Eucharistic Adoration

There will be **no** Eucharistic Adoration next Friday, 18th May, as Confirmations will be taking place that day.

Please note: Morning Mass next Friday will be at the earlier time of 9.30am

Bohernabreena Cemetery

The Rosary will be recited in the cemetery each Sunday during May at 3pm. All are welcome

Family Carers

Are you caring for a family member at home? A spouse, a partner or a close relative or neighbour? Then you are a Family Carer - become a member of Family Carers Ireland and benefit from a local and national network that helps family carers who need advice and that informs and influences government policy relating to home-based care. As a member you can also avail of our exclusive deals. For more information call 057-9322920 or visit our website www.familycarers.ie

Choose Life

"In my 40 years of practice I've seen many difficult cases but I've never felt the Eighth Amendment had a negative impact on the safe practice of medicine." -

Dr. John Monaghan - a retired obstetrician and Gynaecologist

Dr. Monaghan's Story - "Doctors have always been faced with the care and management of a woman who develops serious illness when she is pregnant. Unfortunately, in these cases, because delivery has to be brought forward, the baby may lose his or her life.

"No doctor in Ireland has ever been accused of wrong doing for intervening in this way to save a mother's life. This intervention is not the same as performing an abortion which deliberately ends the life of the unborn child.

"There has been a lot of debate about the need to remove the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution in the interest of women's health. The amendment does not restrict doctors from acting to save a woman's life when a serious complication arises in pregnancy.

"The number of mothers who lose their life during pregnancy in Ireland is lower than in the UK and considerably lower than in the United States. People can be assured that Ireland is a very safe country to have a baby.

"The reasons for repealing the Eighth Amendment are not about healthcare, despite what is being claimed. Doctors are being asked to end pregnancies where both mother and baby are healthy. This goes against the clear duty of a medical doctor to 'first do no harm' and a fundamental call to preserve life, not to end it. The health issue in this debate is being used as a lever to broaden the grounds for abortions which are not related to health.

"In my 40 years in obstetrics and gynaecology I have seen many difficult cases but I have never felt the Eighth Amendment had a negative effect on the safe practice of medicine."

'The Will of God never takes you to where the Grace of God will not protect you.'

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2018

We are taking bookings for our annual parish pilgrimage to Lourdes which takes place this year from the **23rd - 28th August**. The cost is **€699 per person sharing (full board)**. The hotel is the Sant Sauveur which is very close to the grotto. **A non-refundable deposit of €200 is required.** When deposit is paid the balance can be paid on a weekly/ fortnightly/ monthly basis in the parish office or with Sylvia after 12.30 Mass on Sundays.

The Vine Mass Team Presents Movies with Meaning

This Sunday, 13th May at 7.30pm in the **Church of the Incarnation, Fettercairn**
this month's movie is **'Heaven is for Real'**

Movie is FREE - All Welcome

Church of the Incarnation, Fettercairn

Please note that the tea room in the church will be closed until after the Confirmations which take place on Saturday, 19th May.

St. Joseph's Young Priests' Society

You are invited to come along to the monthly Prayer Meeting of the St. Joseph's Young Priests' Society on **Monday, 14th May, at 7.30pm** in Shalom Parish Centre (beside the church) to pray for vocations to the Priesthood and religious life.

GODLY PLAY

EASTER STORIES -

KNOWING JESUS IN A NEW WAY

For three Tuesdays only: May 15th, 22nd and 29th in St. Thomas the Apostle Pastoral Centre, Jobstown - 11am-12 noon for adults and 3-4pm for children. All welcome.



WE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF THE FOLLOWING:

ANNIVERSARIES

**Christy and Agnes Reardon
Deceased Members of the Reardon Family**

**Tom McKenna
Catherine Coloe
Frank Malone**

**Trisha Brennan (Month's Mind)
Joseph Costigan
Johnny McGee
Tony Kavanagh
Michael and Mary Kavanagh**

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

BOOKINGS FOR BAPTISMS:

Bookings for baptisms take place in the parish office (church porch) Mon to Fri- 10.30am -12.30 pm, tel: 4620777. Three month's notice is required. Baptisms take place: 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month in St. Mark's Church at 1.30pm.

MASS TIMES THIS WEEK

St. Mark's Church

**Monday - Thursday: 10am
Friday: 9.30am**

WEEKEND MASSES

St. Mark's Parish Church

Saturday: Vigil - 6.30pm

Sunday: 12.30pm

**1st Sunday of the month: 12.30pm -
Family (Children's) Mass**
(St. Mark's Youth Choir - 12.30 Mass 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month)

**Church of the Incarnation,
Fettercairn**

Sunday: 10.00am

**Last Sunday of the month: 10am -
Family (Children's) Mass**

**1st Saturday of the month:
Vine Mass (Taize style): 7.00pm**

Confessions

6pm - 6.20pm on Saturdays (subject to availability of a priest)

13th May 2018 - The Ascension of the Lord



Fr. Pat McKinley

68 Maplewood Rd.
Tel. 451 3109

**Fr. Jimmy
McPartland**

Brookfield
Tel: 4625320

**Rev. Bill
O'Shaughnessy**
70 Maplewood Rd.
Tel. 4590746

Parish Office

Monday to Friday
10.30 - 12.30pm
Tel: 462 0777

Duty Phone

087 4652258
(emergencies only,
when above contacts
are unavailable)

The Deep End - Forgotten Feast

Sandwiched between Easter and Pentecost, the feast of the Ascension can sometimes tend to be overlooked. It can be hard to make sense of the artistic images we see of Jesus disappearing into the clouds as the disciples stand and stare after him. But the Ascension does more than simply mark the culmination Jesus' earthly life; it opens up for us a path to God. Where Jesus has gone, we hope one day to follow.

As Pope Francis puts it, 'the Ascension does not point to Jesus' absence, but tells us that he is alive in our midst in a new way. He is no longer in a specific place in the world as he was before the Ascension. He is now ... present in every space and time, close to each one of us. We are never alone: the Crucified and the Risen Lord guides us.'

It is this very presence of Jesus that gave the disciples, and gives us, the strength for mission. Immediately before he is taken into heaven, Jesus issues his final and most important instruction: 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the good news to all creation.' And after he goes, the disciples straight away set about the task. Far from being suddenly absent, we are told the Lord is now working with them in a new way. The Ascension is less a loss than a transition, a promise that Jesus will always be with us.

Triona Doherty

**e-mail: stmarkschurch@eircom.net
www.stmarksspringfield.com**