

## Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Newsletter 20th November 2022

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### Church of the Visitation Drynam The Visitation of the BVM

Mass Times for Drynam: Sun, 10.00am, Irish Mass at 11.00am



### Mass Intentions this Weekend

Sat 6.30pm Richard Dillon & dec members of Byrne Family(An)

Sun 11.15am Bartle & Lil Weston



### Mass intentions for next Next Week

**Mon** 10.00am Ann & Christy Farren  
Brian Morgan

**Tues** 10.00am Carmel & Christy Farren  
Kathleen Moore

**Wed** 10.00am George & Mary Larmon  
Frank Sheil

**Thurs** 10.00am Martina Phillips  
Special Intention

**Fri** 10.00am Dec members Jennings Family  
Ann & Joseph Walsh

**Sat** 6.30pm Margaret Pawley & Eileen &  
Terry Finnegan

Kyle Dunne (MM)

**Sun** 11.15am Thomas Green Snr  
Alicia Murphy (1st An)

Carmel Savage (MM)  
Brian Owen

### OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

On the last Sunday of the Liturgical Year, today, we celebrate the feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King. It was instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925 at the close of the Jubilee Year. Jesus was questioned at his trial: are you a king? His answer serves to highlight how different his kingship is from that of human rulers.

**Reflection** - For Luke what was written over the cross of Jesus was a statement of fact. This is the King of the Jews. An indication of the values which underlie his kingdom is got from the events surrounding the scene. Jesus bears with mockery and abuse, accepts the questioning of the Jewish leaders, the soldiers and a criminal beside him and dies forgiving his enemies. (Source: St. Paul's Missal)



### RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

Michael Leavy

Melrose Park



### Vatican Council II -60th Anniversary Reflection

By permission of Fr Brendan Hoban ACP website:

Part 2. Continued from last week

If, from the early years after the Council, we had trusted in God's Spirit and prepared the foundations of a People's Church, apart from the ownership of the Church that 'lay' people would have assumed as part of their baptismal calling, so much grief could have been avoided. One example of the latter makes the point. If there was a People's Church, with men and women, parents and grandparents as part of the governance structure, how different the response would be to the child abuse scandals.

But it was not to be. Even though the vision of a reformed Church was, with the pope and the bishops of the world acting in concert, set in stone, during the pontificates of John Paul II and Benedict, while lip service was paid to the documents of Vatican Two, a gradual restoration policy was in operation. The open-minded, trusting, freeing, participative Church envisaged by the Council was firmly placed on the back boiler.

For those of us who were inspired by the vision, the excitement and the promise the future held, it was a long, long winter of our discontent. Many of my generation, including myself, would say that while we didn't enter the seminary because of the vision of Vatican Two, many of us stayed the course because of it.

So, this year, 60 years on, as we remember, Pope John XXIII inaugurating the Second Vatican Council, it is in many ways a bitter-sweet moment. On the one hand, there was the frustration and agonising as a clerical Church held firmly to the instruments of authority and clung desperately to their belief that the oil of ordination alone conferred wisdom and authority – as the Church crumbled around them. On the other, was the gradual but persistent leakage of Catholics (and priests) convinced that the Church was beyond common sense and redemption.

Meanwhile, there was a revival of the old imperious climate, as John Paul and Benedict fed the expectation of 'reforming the reform', by appointing very traditional and conservative bishops, encouraging seminaries to replicate outdated practices of yore; reinstating Latin Masses and generally indicating that the reforms of Vatican Two needed to be reversed. Then, in 2013, as if out of nowhere, Pope Francis arrived and decided that the Council's reform agenda needed to be revived to include: the way power was exercised in the Church; the role of women; the teaching on same-sex relationships; and not least the sponsorship of the synodal process whereby the whole of the Church would have an effective say in discerning where God's Spirit is leading us.

In the last few years, a comprehensive listening process was undertaken in the dioceses of the world, leading to a two-year synod in Rome, starting next year and the Irish bishops are planning a national synod in Ireland in a few years' time – all in response to the expressed wishes of the people.

Six decades on from the opening of the Second Vatican Council in 1962, only now are the reforms getting a fair wind. Even Ben McLoughlin, I suspect, would find it hard to believe.

**Bethany Bereavement Support Group** are offering telephone support, please contact Kay on 086 2209297 from Sunday 20th November to Saturday 26th. Details on the Parish website. You can also find information on <https://bethany.ie>