

25th October 2015
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary
Time

The War On Christianity.

When historians tell the story of 21st-century Christianity, one word is likely to loom large: persecution. According to the International Society for Human Rights in Frankfurt, Christians are the victims of 80 per cent of acts of religious discrimination. Ours is by far the world's most persecuted religion. As followers of Christ, this should not surprise us. Jesus, after all, said: "If the world hates you, realise that it hated me first" (John 15: 18). Nevertheless, we should not simply shrug our shoulders at this onslaught. The charity Aid to the Church in Need says "the Church is on the verge of extinction in parts of the Middle East. Christianity is on course to disappear from Iraq possibly within five years" The situation is hardly less bleak in Syria. Growing pressure on the faithful in Iran and Saudi Arabia, meanwhile, means that "the Church is being silenced and driven out of its ancient biblical heartland". Islamists in Nigeria, Sudan, Kenya, Tanzania and elsewhere are "destabilising the Christian presence". Yet Islamists are not the sole perpetrators of persecution worldwide. Christians have been targeted by nationalist movements elsewhere. So please support charities that provide desperately needed help to embattled Christians and pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters. (Catholic Herald)

ANNUAL MASS FOR THE DEAD

The annual parish Mass for the dead will be celebrated on Sunday the 8th of November at 11.30am. All our Parishioners who died during the last year will be especially remembered and prayed for. If you have a relative from outside the parish who died during the last year and you would like to include them in the Mass, please contact Steph in the parish office before

WEDNESDAY 4th NOVEMBER.

Weekend Collections **17th /18th October**

For the running of our parish

Envelope Collection: **€621**
Standing Orders: **€370**

The above are the ONLY collections that stay in the parish to support the running costs of our parish. Please consider contributing if you don't already do so. Please contact Stephanie in the parish office for details

Collections for outside the parish

Common Fund: **€595**
(First collection)

Do This In Memory

We welcome all of the children preparing for their First Holy Communion. We wish them every blessing for the coming year



Baptism Dates

Baptisms on the following Sundays
at 12.30pm

Nov 8th and Nov 22nd

Dec 13th and Dec 27th

Welcome into our Faith Community
the following who will be baptised
this weekend

Jocelyn Kathleen o'Callaghan
Arthur Romuald Mierzyjewski
Vivienne Marie Ryan
Ríán Donal o'Connell
Cillian Sebastian Palop
Archie Joe Whittaker
Tom Sullivan
Casey Tierney

World Mission Sunday

**Thank you for your generosity
to the Mission Sunday Collection**
€1,000 was raised. Once again
we would like to thank Michael
Keeley and Rosealeen o Reilly
who shared with us their
experiences in Haiti and India.

The 171st Rivervalley Scout Group are looking for new Leaders, for the Scout and Cub Section. If you have been involved in Scouts previously and have skills you can bring to the young people of our community, come and enjoy the adventure & fun with us. We will provide full training and Garda Vetting. You can contact us on the following email. groupleader@rivervalleyscouts.ie



Week commencing **26th October**

Mon 26th Maureen Mc Cormick
(RD)

Tues 27th Christopher Flemming
(AN)

Wed 28th Richard Grimes (8thAN)

Thur 29th Bella Mc Gill (RD)

Fri 30th Marie and Michael O'Flynn
(AN)

Sat 31st

11am Shane Klyne (RD)

Vigil 6.30pm

Johnathon Egan (RD)

Stephen Cahill (RD)

Sun 1st

10am People of the parish

11.30am James and Bella O'Neill
(AN)

John and Gerty O'Reilly (AN)

RELICS

The relics of Saints Louis and Zélie Martin (parents of St Therese of Lisieux) will be visiting Brackenstown on Tuesday 17th November. There will be prayer service for children at 2.50pm and Mass at 7.30pm followed by a blessing with the relics.