

St. Colman's Parish
Feast of the Assumption of
Mary Mother of God
14th /15th August 2021

The Taj Mahal:

The Taj Mahal has been described as a "love song in marble." Completed in 1645, the magnificent marble mausoleum was built by Shah Jahan, India's Mogul emperor, in memory of his favourite wife, Mumtaz Mahal (= "the chosen one of the palace"). Her maiden name was Princess Arjumand. Shah Jahan loved her deeply, calling her his "Taj Mahal," meaning "The Pearl of the Palace." But Princess Mumtaz Mahal died giving birth to their fourteenth child, and the emperor was inconsolable. So, he summoned a great architect from Persia to build the Taj Mahal, telling him that it must be "the one perfect memorial in the world." Seventeen years were needed to build this enchanting edifice of gleaming white marble embroidered with flashing jewels. It is an enduring monument to love that still inspires tourists, artists, and writers from all over the world.

This beautiful love story gives us some idea of how much God must have loved Mary, the mother of Jesus. Today's feast of her Assumption into Heaven is proof of this. By raising her from the dead and taking her into Heaven — body and soul — God demonstrated His undying love for Mary. Like Shah Jahan, God could not bear the death of His beloved. However, God could do what no Indian emperor could do — raise His beloved from the dead and restore her to life even more beautiful than before. Moreover, God didn't have to build a Taj Mahal to memorialize Mary. Her glorified body is itself a magnificent temple of the Holy Spirit.

Fr. Danny Broderick (087) 9061255

Parish Residence: 18 Ballyoughtragh Heights, Milltown

Rev. Conor Bradley (087) 3664057

Parish Office: Tues. & Thurs 9:30-12:30 066-9767312

Email: <u>milltown@dioceseofkerry.ie</u>
Website: www.milltownlistryparish.com

Safeguarding Children: Contact No (087) 6362780

Recent Deaths: Please pray for

Eugene Lowery, London/Lisaree, Listry **John Langford**, Tinnahalla, Milltown

Baptisms: We welcome into our Christian community

Éabha Anne O' Connor, Ard Na Gréine & Callum Clarke O' Connor, Callinafercy

Masses & Intentions No Mass Mon Aug 16th Liturgy Tues Aug 17th Listry 7:00 p.m. of the Word Liturgy Wed. Aug 18th Milltown 9:00 a.m. of the Word Thurs Aug 19th No Mass Liturgy Aug 20th Milltown 7:00 p.m. Fri. of the Word Shane Courtney Aug 21st Listry 6:00 p.m. Sat. Faha East Duncan Davidson Sun. Aug 22nd Milltown 11:15 a.m. Carraig An Dúin

Reminder

Mass is broadcast on 106fm, and all Weekend Masses will be streamed online via www.milltownlistryparish.com

- Log into www.milltownlistryparish.com
- Click on Milltown & Listry Parish
- Scroll down the page to where it says Live Streams
- Click Church of the Sacred Heart for Mass in Milltown
- Click on **▶** to play
- Click Church of the Immaculate Conception for Mass in Listry
- Click on ► to play

Last weekend's collection - €905.00 Special Collection Pastoral Centre €165.00 Thank you for your generous and continuing support **St Patrick's College, Maynooth:** Are you looking for an introduction to Theology, a qualification that allows you to teach Religious Education or a master's degree in theology or Pastoral Ministry. (01) 7083964 or *maynoothcollege.ie/courses/higher-dipoloma-in-theological-studies*

<u>Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service CLG</u> is currently recruiting volunteers to train as marriage preparation programme facilitators.

- Accord is seeking registration of interest from those who have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church and the enthusiasm to be part of a team supporting couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage.
- Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation programmes locally in accordance with best practice.
- Accord has two centres, Tralee and Killarney, in the diocese of Kerry.
- Contact Aisling on 01 505 3112 or by email to <u>info@accord.ie</u>.
- The closing date for receipt of registration of interest forms to be included in Selections for this year is Friday 27 August.
- Additional information is available on <u>www.accord.ie</u>.

Siamsa Tíre: Auditions for children between 7 and 12 years, will be held at Siamsa Tíre on Fri & Sat 20th/21st Aug. All auditions must be booked in advance (066) 7123055.

<u>Eucharistic Ministers/Readers:</u> We hope to welcome back our Eucharistic Ministers and Readers to the church in September. Anyone wishing to become a Eucharistic Minister or Reader, please give your name and contact number into the office.

<u>Celebration of Light 2021:</u> Recovery Haven would like to invite you all to join them live on their Facebook page for their virtual Celebration of Light on Aug 19th at 8pm. If you would like to purchase candles to light with them in your homes during the ceremony, you can purchase them in no5 haigs terrace. Candles are also available at SUPERVALU Killorglin, Listowel and Castleisland and at both Mod's & Minis shops in Killarney.

Our churches are sanitised daily

- Please sanitise your hands on entering and leaving the church
- Keep a safe distance from others who may be in the church
- Wear a mask whilst in the church.

The Irish Catholic is available for sale in the church or parish office

Milltown -Usher/Sanitiser: 22nd Aug—Christy & Mary Murphy Priest on Duty this Sunday: Fr. Fergal Ryan (087) 2408540

Pastoral Message

<u>Covid-19: parish finances, Communions, Confirmations and</u> Church congregations.

The diocese has carried out a small survey of the returns for parish collections in the 6 months January to June 2021. In the first 6 months of this year, at all Masses it has been either a case of no congregations or congregations limited to small numbers. On average collections have reached 50% of what they were pre Covid-19. This is a good achievement.

Some parishes are under greater financial pressure than others. Over the whole of 2021 I encourage everyone to seek to contribute the same amount as in a full year pre Covid.

A sincere thank you to every parish for the level of payments to the offertory collections during the pandemic. It is a great comfort to everyone that so many have been so loyal to parish collections.

It is sad that so many people have been deprived of the opportunity to gather for **weekend Mass** over the past 18 months. Not everyone has found it a positive experience praying on their own and joining in Mass via the internet. Hopefully, it will not be long until the restrictions are lifted, and all are free to gather to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in thanksgiving. Together we will pray again the words, "Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, through your goodness we have this bread to offer, it will become for us the Bread of Life."

Hopefully before long it will be possible to safely celebrate **First Communions** and **Confirmations**. The postponement has been very frustrating. It is important that in the weeks ahead, the families and children involved are faithful to prayer in the home and regular participation in Mass in the parish, to be spiritually prepared for these sacraments.

Thank you to one and all for your contribution to the life of your parish over the past 18 months. May the pandemic have led to many of us appreciating our local parish community even more. Continue to look out for and support one another in the community and let us pray for one another.

Our Lady health of the sick, pray for us.

+ Ray Browne 10 August 2021