

WELCOME TO ST. PATRICK'S ESKER/DODSBORO/ADAMSTOWN
NEWSLETTER

22ND NOVEMBER 2020



Welcome To
St Patrick's Esker/Doddsboro/ Adamstown
November 22, 2020

We remember **Michael Healy, Joe Connell, Brigid Cogger** who died recently. **Joe & Margaret O'Brien, Lavina & Jimmy Buggle, Anthony English, Rosaleen Walsh and Deirdre Murphy** whose anniversaries occur.



Biblical Reflection ~ Fr. John will be broadcasting a five minute biblical reflection Mon-Fri at 10am on the parish web site – www.st.patrickslucan.ie

The Deep End – Finding our Feet ~ It can be very hard to live with uncertainty. Back at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, a counsellor was interviewed on radio about how people were coping with the 'lockdown'. People were anxious and fearful, she said. Many were experiencing loneliness, as their normal routines and social life came to an abrupt halt.

Another thing that people really struggled with was the inability to make decisions. They felt trapped and stuck, unable to plan ahead. They couldn't make plans to visit family or go on holidays. They didn't know if their jobs were secure, or if their children would return to school. When things are up in the air, it is hard to find your feet and feel grounded. Many of us are still struggling with these feelings.

Today we enter a new church year, and our first Advent season since the pandemic hit. Many of us are feeling more subdued than normal as we begin our preparations for Christmas. It will be very different from the usual family and social occasion, and we are saddened and worried by this.

In today's Gospel, Jesus urges his disciples to 'stay awake'. We might feel we have no choice at the moment – the feeling of not knowing what is coming is

very familiar. We are on our guard, on edge, waiting for the latest news. Yet already, there are initiatives springing us to support those who are vulnerable or in need this Christmas. In our families, we are plotting ways to ensure no one is alone or isolated. We are 'awake' to the strange circumstances, and we are finding ways to cope. We pray today for the strength to guide us through the coming weeks, and for the peace and joy of Christ to live our hearts and carry us onwards. (Jane Mellett, mellett@gmail.com) *Intercom Magazine*

'In this time of tribulation and mourning I hope that you will be able to experience Jesus, who comes to meet you, greets you and says Rejoice'. (Pope Francis)