

Killiskey Parish

Sunday 8th November 2020 @ 11.00am



The Third Sunday before Advent

Remembrance Sunday

Preparation

GREETING

We meet in the presence of God who knows our needs,
hears our cries,
feels our pain,
and heals our wounds.
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

This I call to mind,
and therefore I have hope:
the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning.

Lamentations 3:21-23

Opening Hymn: 537 *“O God our help in ages past”*

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.

Under the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is Thine arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting Thou art God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
soon bears us all away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

*Isaac Watts (1674-1748) altd.
based on Psalm 90: 1-6*

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Beloved in Christ,
we are here to worship God, whose purposes are good;
whose power sustains the world he has made;
who loves us, though we have failed in his service;
who gave Jesus Christ for the life of the world;
who by his Spirit leads us in his way.
As we give thanks for his great works,
we remember those who have given their lives
in the cause of freedom and security,
all who suffer through war and the violence of evil men.
We ask for God's protection on the members of the Garda Síochána
and the Defence Forces of this country.
We pray for help and blessing that we may do his will
and that the whole world acknowledge him as Lord and King.

ACCLAMATION

Let us praise God for his mercy
And give thanks to him for his goodness.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever.
Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the king of all:
Govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,

and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Song of Praise: 12 *“God is our strength and refuge”*

God is our strength and refuge,
our present help in trouble,
and we therefore will not fear,
though the earth should change!
Though mountains shake and tremble,
though swirling floods are raging,
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

There is a flowing river
within God's holy city;
God is in the midst of her-
she shall not be moved!
God's help is swiftly given,
thrones vanish at his presence-
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

Come, see the works of our maker,
learn of his deeds all-powerful:
wars will cease across the world
when he shatters the spear!
Be still and know your creator,
uplift him in the nations-
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

Richard Bewes (1934-2019)
based on Psalm 46

ACT OF REMEMBRANCE (Tony Dunne)

Let us remember before God, and commend to his sure keeping those who have died for their country in war or in peacekeeping operations; those whom we knew, and whose memory we treasure; and all who have lived and died in the service of others.

The list of those from Killiskey Parish who died in the First World War is read, followed by those who served in it or the Second World War.

When you go home
tell them of us and say,
for your tomorrow
we gave our today.

They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,
we will remember them.

We will remember them.

Anthem: *For the Fallen (Peter Thompson)*

The Last Post

The Silence

Reveille

When you go home tell them of us and say -
For your tomorrow we gave our today.

Prayer

Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day; fulfil in them the purpose of your love; and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Ministry of the Word

The First Reading: Ezekiel 37: 1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord God, you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.'

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.'

The Psalm: Psalm 126

1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

**2 Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
our tongue with shouts of;
then it was said among the nations,
'The Lord has done great things for them.'**

3 The Lord has done great things for,
and we rejoiced.

**4 Restore our fortunes, O,
the watercourses in the Negeb.**

5 May those who sow in tears
with shouts of joy.

**6 Those who go out weeping,
the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
their sheaves.**

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.*

The Second Reading: Revelation 1: 1-7

The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place; he made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw.

Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of the prophecy, and blessed are those who hear and who keep what is written in it; for the time is near.

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;

eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

Gradual Hymn: 222 *"Here is love, vast as the ocean"*

Here is love, vast as the ocean,
loving-kindness as the flood,
when the Prince of life, our ransom,
shed for us His precious blood.
Who His love will not remember?
Who can cease to sing His praise?
He can never be forgotten
throughout heaven's eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion
fountains opened deep and wide;
through the floodgates of God's mercy
flowed a vast and gracious tide.
Grace and love, like mighty rivers,
poured incessant from above,
and heaven's peace and perfect justice
kissed a guilty world in love.

Robert Lowry (1826-99)

The Gospel: John 15: 9-17

“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

SERMON

COLLECT FOR PEACE

Merciful God,
whose Son called the peacemakers blessed,
remind us of the devastating effects of war
and, in the healing power of the Holy Spirit,
help us to exercise the ministry of reconciliation given to us
so that throughout the whole world
the knowledge of your love may be known
and your kingdom of justice, joy and peace may come.
We ask this through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Response

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
And fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens
us with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

PENITENCE

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.

Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion, and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

Lord God,
you sent your Son to reconcile us to yourself and to one another.

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus,
you heal the wounds of sin and division.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Holy Spirit,
through you we put to death the sins of the body – and live.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

INTERCESSIONS

In peace let us pray to the Lord.
We pray for the leaders of the nations,
that you will guide them in the ways of freedom, justice and truth.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for those who bear arms on behalf of the nation,
that they may have discipline and discernment, courage and compassion.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for our enemies, and those who wish us harm,
that you will turn the hearts of all to kindness and friendship.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the wounded and the captive, the grieving and the homeless,
that in all their trials they may know your love and support.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Most holy God and Father,
hear our prayers for all who strive for peace
and all who fight for justice.
Help us, who today remember the cost of war,
to work for a better tomorrow;
and, as we commend to you lives lost in terror and conflict,
bring us all, in the end, to the peace of your presence;
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathering up all our prayer and praise into one,
as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,

**On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, The power, And the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.**

THE PEACE

Jesus said: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
I do not give to you as the world gives.
Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

John 14:27

Closing Hymn: 503 "Make me a channel of your peace"

Make me a channel of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me bring love,
where there is injury, Your pardon, Lord,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you:
*O Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved, as to love with all my soul!*

Make me a channel of your peace:
where there's despair in life, let me bring hope,
where there is darkness, only light,
and where there's sadness, ever joy:
*O Master, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved, as to love with all my soul!*

Make me a channel of your peace:
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned
in giving of ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we are born to eternal life.

*Sebastian Temple (1928-97)
based on The Prayer of Francis of Assisi*

Dismissal

THANKSGIVING

Let us give thanks to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:
For all your blessings of love, peace and joy in this world,
We give you thanks, O Lord.
For the work of peacemakers, negotiators and arbitrators throughout the world,
We give you thanks, O Lord.

For all agencies of reconciliation and those who heal divided communities and nations,
We give you thanks, O Lord.

For opportunities in our own lives to bring to an end hatred and division,
We give you thanks, O Lord.

For all peace accords, treaties and peaceful ends to conflict,
We give you thanks, O Lord.

For all that opens our hearts towards our neighbour
and enables us to work together for the common good,
We give you thanks, O Lord.

For all that brings release to those with memories of hurt and injury,
for the healing of memories and the restoration to wholeness of life,
We give you thanks, O Lord.

For the commandment to love one another as you love us and for your call to the world to live in peace
and harmony,
We give you thanks, O Lord.

For your Holy Spirit who enables us to speak for all that is just and true in the world.
We give you thanks, O Lord.
For past generations who have defended the causes of justice, equality and freedom,
We give you thanks, O Lord.

For the all the blessings of this life, for the gift of peace,
the joy of harmony, and the end of conflict,
We give you thanks, O Lord. Amen.

COMMITMENT TO RECONCILIATION

We say together:

Almighty God:

**We pledge ourselves anew to be peacemakers
in our homes, in our community,
in our country and throughout the world.**

**Lord God,
guide us by your Spirit
give us wisdom, give us courage,
give us hope and keep us faithful, now and always. Amen.**

**Merciful God,
we offer to you the fears in us
that have not yet been cast out by love:
May we accept the hope you have placed
in the hearts of all people,
and live lives of justice, courage and mercy;
through Jesus Christ our risen Redeemer. Amen.**

BLESSING

God grant to the living grace,
to the departed rest.
to the Church and to the nations, peace and concord
and to us and all God's servants, life everlasting;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

SALUTATION

Neither death nor life can separate us from the love of God.
Thanks be to God. Amen.