

PARISH OF POBAL

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

31st January 2021

Website: pobalparish.com and Webcam - www.churchservices.tv/Tempo.

Priest: Fr. John Halton, Parochial House, Tempo. Tel. 895 41344.

Sunday Masses: Tempo: 11.00am (via Webcam only)

All weekday Masses are currently suspended until further notice.

Anniversaries: Today - Sunday 31st Jan (11.00am) Violet and Tommy McPhillips, Bohulkin

John and Mary McCaffrey, Edenmore.

Let us Dream: The Path to a Better Future: By Pope Francis. We Belong to “A People”.

Pope Francis fears that we are losing our sense of belonging. In losing our sense of belonging we can easily lose our faith. We are “A People”, and we belong to “A People”. We are “A People” who are loved by God, and we are a people who love one another. He refers to this sense of belonging again and again and again in his book. This sense of being “A People” is our distinguishing mark. We are not a group of individuals; we belong to an “A People”. We grow and develop as “A People”, and we come closer to Christ as “a People” The Pope uses the words 1: Individualism: 2: Narcissism, 4: Rigid Mind Set to describe obstacles to being “A People”. Narcissus looked into a well and fell in love with himself. Individualism can play the same trick on us. He says “that there is no vaccine against individualism, but there is an antidote, and it is freely available, and it costs nothing but our pride. It’s called Self Accusation. In accusing ourselves we lower ourselves, making room for the action of God to bring us together again. Just, as individualism comes about by accusing others, so too unity is the fruit of accusing ourselves. Rather than justifying ourselves—the spirit of self sufficiency and arrogance—self accusation expresses what Jesus in the Beatitudes calls poverty of spirit. It is the contrast he draws between the tax collector and the Pharisee in Luke (18:9-14), The tax- collector prays: “God be merciful to me a sinner”, while the other who thanks God for not being like others and isn’t able to pray. Rather than accusing others for their failures and limitations, I find some fault or attribute in myself. Don’t let the wrong you believe that another has done to you trigger your descent into individualism. As St Dorotheus puts it: “Suspicion and supposition are full of malice, and never leave the soul in peace”. “Once we were not a people, but now we are God’s People”.(1Peter: 2 10)

We are brought together by a loving God who is very close to us. And because we are loved by God we love one another. Our faith in God who loves us, and calls us to love one another, is what draws us together. We grow in our togetherness in many ways, and we express this togetherness when we pray. It is important to ask ourselves what we pray for when we pray. All of us pray for health, work, family, school; for a decent place to live; for enough money to get by; for peace between neighbours; and for a fresh chance for the poor. These aims may not seem very revolutionary or high minded. But we know too well that they are the fruits of justice, and it is this search for justice, and for dignity that brings us together.

Confirmation: St Patrick’s Primary School will celebrate Confirmation this year on Thursday 6th of May 2021 and St Marys Primary will celebrate Confirmation of Thursday 13th May 2021. Both will be in Tempo Church.

Mass on Sundays: *Sunday Masses will only be available online at present. Anniversaries currently booked for Friday night will be included in the 11.00am Sunday Mass. Sunday Masses in Tempo will be streamed. Sunday Masses in Cradien and weekday Masses in both Churches will cease until further notice.*

Anyone in the Parish who has a Communion Pyx and not using it are asked to kindly return it to the Parochial House.