Parish of Stranorlar Church of Mary Immaculate

PRIESTS:Rev. Kieran McAteer, P.P.
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28th Sunday of the Year - 10th October 2021

World Food Day

MASSES: Weekdays: Monday - Saturday 10am. Saturday - 6pm (Vigil) Sunday - 9am & 11am.

All masses can be viewed on churchservices.tv/stranorlar

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 12 -1pm & 5.15pm - 5.45pm

ADORATION: Thursday from 10.30am - 7.30pm.

BAPTISMS: Every Sunday & 1st Saturday of the Month. To book contact the Parish Office on 9131135 on Mondays, Tuesdays or Fridays between 10am –12.30pm.

October is the Month of the Rosary. We encourage all families to recite the Rosary during this month.

Monday 11th October is the Feast of St John XX111 (Pope)

Friday 15th October is the Feast of St Teresa of Avila

1st Anniversary: The 9am Mass on Sunday 17th October will be offered for the repose of the soul of Margaret O'Brien, Woodlawn.

November Novena: The Novena of Masses for the Holy Souls will start on Tuesday 2nd November at 7.30pm each evening excluding Saturday & Sunday and continue until Friday 12th November. The names of all those who died since last November will be written on a scroll in the sanctuary. **Message from Bishop Alan McGuckian:** This weekend Pope Francis is launching a pathway towards a Universal Synod of Bishops to be held in Rome in 2023 on the question of 'Synodality'. Each diocese is invited to share in the preparation. The purpose of our phase is to garner a snapshot of how we currently journey together (synodality) and to explore how we could do so more meaningfully in the future. We have a short timeframe - from now until February 2022. You will have an opportunity to answer a number of questions which will be made available at the launch and over the next three months.

Bishop McGuckian will launch our Diocesan Phase of the Synod at the 12.30pm Mass in St Eunan's Cathedral, Letterkenny on Sunday 17th October - (www.churchservices.tv/letterkenny).

"The purpose of this Synod is to help the Church become ever more authentically what She is meant to be. My hope and prayer is that our time of reflection will push us to seek in our Church 'all that is good and true' and to grow together as we do so."

TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:

The rich man kept his wealth, but he was sad. The gospel reminds us that full and true happiness is found, not in possessions and reputation, but in the way we share our lives in love with God and others.

The gospel of the rich man who could not let go of his wealth focusses us today on wealth, prosperity and possessions in our lives. A few indications from Pope Francis are challenging to us personally and in society.

From Gaudete et Exsultate, 'Wealth ensures nothing. Indeed, once we think we are rich, we can become so self-satisfied that we leave no room for God's word, for the love of our brothers and sisters, or for the enjoyment of the most important things in life'. From Fratelli Tutti: Not to share our wealth with the poor is to rob them and take away their livelihood. The riches we possess are not our own, but theirs as well. In the words of Saint Gregory the Great, "When we provide the needy with their basic needs, we are giving them what belongs to them, not to us".

Wealth has increased, but together with inequality, with the result that "new forms of poverty are emerging". The claim that the modern world has reduced poverty is made by measuring poverty with criteria from the past that do not correspond to present-day realities. In other times, for example, lack of access to electric energy was not considered a sign of poverty, nor was it a source of hardship. Poverty must always be understood and gauged in the context of the actual opportunities available in each concrete historical period.