

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME 18th July

The heart of Jesus is the "heart of compassion".

He sees his people in need of his teaching and of his love, and so he gives us his word and his body and blood, food for mind, heart, soul and body.

MASSES

Vigil Saturdays 6p.m. Sundays: 9a.m. & 11a.m.
Working Holy Days: Vigil 6p.m. Holy Days 10a.m. & 7.30p.m.

Weekdays: Monday to Saturday 10 a.m.

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Deaths

We remember in our prayers John O'Shea, Marble Hall Park, may he rest in peace. Our sympathies to his family, friends and neighbours.



Feast days of the week

Tuesday 20th St. Apollinaris

Wednesday 21st St. Lawrence of Brindisi. Capuchin.

Thursday 22nd St. Mary Magdalene. Stood by the Cross of Jesus, she discovered the empty tomb; she was granted an appearance of the Risen Lord, from which she has been described as 'the apostle to the apostles'.

Friday 23rd St. Bridget, was born in Sweden, founded the Bridgettine Order and lived in Rome. She was declared a Patron of Europe in 2000.

There will be a second collection (at the door) at all Masses this weekend 17th/18th July in aid of Diocesan Needs.

Lesson from Pencils

He stocked all kinds of pencils: little ones, thin ones, fat ones, pencils of all colours, shapes and sizes. He was a quite old man who had a shop beside a school. In the shop he sold all kinds of items for the children in the school but had a fascination with pencils. He was a bit of an eccentric. In the shop, among other things he used to talk to the pencils. The time came for the man to retire and sell his shop and stock of pencils. One evening he was in the shop and all that was left on the shelves was an enormous stock of pencils. He turned the box of pencils out on the counter and he began to speak to them. He said to them: "Everything else is gone and now you will have to leave me as well. You are going to be scattered to all corners of the world. Before we part company there are a few things I would like to say to you by way of advice."

Firstly, wherever you end up the one thing each of you will be asked to do is to make your mark in the world.

Secondly, the mark you make must come from the centre, the heart, because of course, it is the lead and not the wood that does the writing.

The third thing, there will be times when you need to be pared back and sharpened so that you can make your mark better. This by its nature will be painful but always necessary.

Fourthly, don't forget that the little eraser on the end is very important. There will be times in your life when you will make mistakes and other people will make mistakes and it will be important to rub those mistakes out and begin again.

The fifth and final thing that the man said to his pencils was the most important of all. Wherever you end up always remember that you are but an instrument in the hands of someone much greater than yourself.

The three-legged stool

In the days before milking machines and milking parlours, cows were milked by hand with the milker sitting on a three-legged stool. If one leg was missing or loose the milker was likely to topple over.

Each one of us sits on a stool with three legs, Body, Mind and Spirit and if we do not take care of and develop each of the three we too will topple over.

Today many neglect the spirit leg.

