

Monsignor
Colm Gallagher



(1932-2021)

A Tribute

It was with great sadness that we heard of the death of Monsignor Colm Gallagher last weekend. Monsignor Colm was born on 15th August 1932 on the feast of the Assumption. The youngest of four children, he was very close to his siblings and his parents, particularly his mother and his sister Bríd. Following his education in Belvedere College where he was very involved in rugby and played on the Junior and Senior Rugby Cup teams, he studied Irish and Philosophy in U.C.D. Growing up on Clonliffe Road in Drumcondra, Clonliffe College was his obvious choice when choosing a seminary and there he studied theology for four years which resulted in his ordination in 1957 at the age of 25.

As a young priest his first posting was to Peamount Sanitorium, a hospital specialising in TB, which was still very prevalent at the time. He remained there for three years and was moved to Ballyfermot in 1960. In 1963 he moved to Newtownmountkennedy, where he remained for 7 years. He spent the next five years in Donnycarney before being made Parish Priest in Killinarden where he was sent to develop the parish, build schools and build the community. At the age of 51, when the Fr Colm Gallagher arrived in Arklow Parish, he was a relatively young Parish Priest, and he was a Parish Priest with a purpose. The experience and knowledge he had gathered in his previous parishes gave him a huge ambition and passion for the work he faced within the strong, established community of Arklow Parish.

Fr Gallagher brought his financial expertise, huge enthusiasm, and boundless energy, and proceeded to build upon the involvement in the already busy parish and made it one of the most forward-thinking parishes in the diocese. He had a true gift to see what jobs needed to be done and exactly the right persons to get to volunteer for those projects. Many of us have had the phone call to get us on board, to give happily of our various gifts and were encouraged to participate more at parish level. He tirelessly gave 100% of his time for the greater good of the people of Arklow and expected no less from his volunteers.

Monsignor Gallagher was a humble man. He may not have given this impression but in fact he did everything, not for his own benefit, but for the benefit of our parish. When he was elevated to Monsignor, he was surprised and honoured but insisted that it was more a tribute to the people of Arklow than it was to him.

When retiring to Raheny Parish after 24 years with us here in Arklow he was torn between leaving the parish he loved and being close to his family in Dublin. Although it has been 13 years since he has left us, he always enquired about the people of the parish. He remembered everyone and was still interested in their lives and families. Only last week, in his final days, he said he was praying for us all and asked that we pray for him. At his farewell celebration speech in 2008, he said that he regarded the people of Arklow as his family, saying, "Partings are difficult, especially with family, and I consider you as family. Sadly, my days with you are numbered. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the support you have given me in my years in Arklow."

Rest in Peace Fr. G. You will be greatly missed.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

Parish of Sts. Mary & Peter, Arklow with St. David, Johnstown Sunday 25th April 2021



Temporary Mass Schedule

- Saturday: 6.30p.m.
- Sunday: 11.30 a.m.
- Monday: 10.00 a.m.
- Wednesday: 10.00 a.m.
- Friday: 10.00 a.m.

www.arklowparish.ie

The week ahead.....



Mass:
Mon, Wed & Friday @10

Adoration Holy Hour:
Tuesday & Friday 7 to 8pm

Thought at the End of the Day:
Wednesday @ 8pm

Sunday Masses
6.30pm Sat Vigil
11.30am Sunday

ALL VIA WEBCAM & PARISH RADIO
www.arklowparish.ie

Mass Intentions

- Saturday 6.30p.m.** **24th April**
- Sunday 11.30 a.m.** **25th April**
Annie Bermingham
Kathleen Brennan Kelly & deceased family members
Patrick (Audie) Walker (Month's Mind)
Kathleen Joyce
David Faud (Recently Deceased)
Maureen Holly
Margaret Leonard
Rose Doyle
John Coneely (Recently Deceased)
- Monday 10.00 a.m.** **26th April**
Deceased members of the Grogan family
- Wednesday 10.00 a.m.** **28th April**
Special Intention
- Friday 10.00 a.m.** **30th April**
Daniel McDonald
- Saturday 6.30 p.m.** **1st May**
Tim McCarthy



Your Parish needs your financial support more than ever at this time when there are no public gatherings.

You may donate a variety of ways. Click the donate button on the parish website. Return your family offering envelope to your collector or in church in the Shrine box. Make your Sunday collection donation in the envelopes provided in church. You can also drop any of the above through Fr David's letter box. Thank You for your support. **It is much appreciated at this challenging time.**

Sincere thanks to all who have returned their **Easter Dues Envelopes**. Envelopes can be returned at either Shrine box or in Fr David's letter box.

The Easter Dues remain an important part of the Common Fund that pays the Priests of the Diocese. With no public gathering presently your support at this time is vital. Thank you.

Árus Lorcáin / Parish Office

Remains Closed due Level 5 Restrictions.



We remain available by:

Phone: 0402 31716

Email: office@arklowparish.ie
To Book Masses contact Fr David on 0402 32196 or simply drop a note in the letterbox at No.2 St Mary's Road.

With Sympathy

Our prayers and sympathy are offered to the family and friends of

Monsignor Colm Gallagher
Sadie Fitzgerald
David Faud
John Coneely
Who died recently.
May they rest in peace.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION 2021

Registration now open on-line



Dear friends,
Many families are thinking about the celebration of the sacraments this year. While we have not been free to gather together the school preparation has been ongoing.

As a first step if you wish your child to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation & First Holy Communion or Confirmation go to www.arklowparish.ie and register your child. It is important that you do this as the parish will need to contact families outside of the school term.

At this stage we are unable to give any indication as to when celebrations are likely to take place, or indeed how many families will be able to attend each ceremony. Our plans will very much depend on the Public Health advice at the time and clearance from the Diocese.

First Holy Communion will initially be celebrated for the classes of 2020 before we can proceed to the classes of 2021

On foot of the Archbishops recent letter circulated to the schools we await word on how and when we can safely proceed. In the meantime, I wish you and your family well. *Fr. David*

The funeral Mass for Sadie Fitzgerald will be celebrated on Monday 25th April at 10 a.m. via webcam on www.arklowparish.ie