

19 November 2023  
3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A  
World Day of the Poor

## The People's Mass

**GOSPEL** (Mt 25: 1-13)  
*(For Shorter Form, read between #1 & #2)*

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one, each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out.

The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said, "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made."

His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things. I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," he said, "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**Profession of Faith** (Nicene Creed)

I believe in one God, / the Father almighty, / maker of heaven and earth, / of all things visible and invisible. / I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, / the Only Begotten Son of God, / born of the Father before all ages, / God from God, Light from Light, / true God from true God, / begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; / through him all things were made. / For us men and for our salvation / he came down from heaven, /

*At the words that follow up to and including and became man, all bow*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, / and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, / he suffered death and was buried, / and rose again on the third day / in accordance with the Scriptures. / He ascended into heaven / and is seated at the right hand of the Father. / He will come again in glory / to judge the living and the dead / and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, / who proceeds from the Father and the Son, / who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, / who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. / I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins / and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead / and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*The priest introduces the Prayer of the Faithful.*

**THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), ...  
May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

**Eucharistic Prayer**  
The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right and just.

**Sanctus**  
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. ...

**After the Consecration**  
The mystery of faith.  
Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

**THE COMMUNION RITE**

**Communion Antiphon** (Ps 72:28)  
To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

**THE INTRODUCTORY RITES**

**Entrance Antiphon** (Jer 29: 11,12,14)  
The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.  
You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.  
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, ... Amen.  
The grace of our Lord ... And with your spirit.

**Penitential Act**  
Brethren (brothers and sisters), ...  
*A brief pause for silence follows.*  
I confess to almighty God / and to you, my brothers and sisters, / that I have greatly sinned, / in my thoughts and in my words, / in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,  
*And asking their sweet mercy say:*  
through my fault, through my fault, / through my most grievous fault; / therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, / all the Angels and Saints, / and you, my brothers and sisters, / to pray for me to the Lord our God.  
May almighty God have mercy on us, ... Amen.  
Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Gloria**  
Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father, / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING** (Prov 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31)  
A reading from the book of Proverbs.  
A perfect wife - who can find her?  
She is far beyond the price of pearls.  
Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit.  
Advantage and no hurt she brings him all the days of her life.

She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.  
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**  
**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** (Ps 127:1-5)  
O blessed are those who fear the Lord.  
1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper. **Is**  
2. Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. **Is**  
3. Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion in a happy Jerusalem all the days of your life. **Is**

**SECOND READING** (1 Thess 5: 1-4)  
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians.  
You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brethren, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.  
But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day; we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.  
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**  
**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (Apc 2: 12)  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Even if you have to die, says the Lord, keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life. Alleluia!

## Parish Newsletter

Canon Willie Fitzmaurice P.P. 061 397231 / 086 2423 728

Email: croomchurch@eircom.net

Croom and Banogue Parish Website: <https://www.croomparish.com/>

Diocesan Web Page: [www.limerickdiocese.org](http://www.limerickdiocese.org)

Link for live Church Services:

Website: <https://www.croomparish.com/>

Croom Parish - ChurchCamLive.ie

Banogue Parish - ChurchCamLive.ie

Last Sundays Offertory Collection: Banogue €300  
Croom €1,000

### Croom and Banogue Website

The website has been upgraded and can be accessed at Croomparish.com. Church Services in Croom and Banogue can be viewed by clicking on the live streams link for live streaming. The old link ChurchCamLive.ie is still in use.

### Diocese Overview Report

The report is now available to view on the Croom Parish Website.

### Croom Craft Market

Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup> 2-4 p.m. in Croom Sports Hall 40 stalls of Crafts and Gifts.

### Recent Deaths

Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of Renee Barrett, Main St., Croom, Gerry Normyle, Maghera, Croom and Gerard Dillon Listowel. May they Rest in Peace.

Claire O'Sullivan ~~Clair O'Sullivan~~, Newcastle West and Ballyvrennan, Croom. Reposing Monday evening in Daffy's Funeral Home, Croom from 6 pm with evening prayers at 7 pm. Removal to arrive Tuesday for 2 o' clock funeral mass at St Mary's Church, Croom. Cremation service at 4 pm at Shannon Crematorium.

### Banogue Drama Group

Banogue Drama Group will present a 3 Act Comedy 'Love Thy Neighbour' by Jimmy Keary in the local parish hall on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November and Friday 1<sup>st</sup>, Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> & Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 8 p.m. sharp. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

### Prayer to St. Columban Feast Day 23<sup>rd</sup> November

St. Columban or St. Columbanus lived in the 6<sup>th</sup> century. He established monasteries throughout Europe. He is regarded as one of the greatest Irish Missionaries.

O Blessed Columban, who in your zeal to follow Christ left your homeland as a wanderer and spent your life in suffering and exile. Help and protect, we humbly ask you, the missionaries of our day who have devoted their lives to preaching the Gospel throughout the world. Obtain for them, we ask you, that the same wisdom and fortitude by which you overcame the dangers, which beset your path. Assist and protect us dear St. Columban to live for God's glory that when our pilgrimage is over, we may share with you in the joy of our heavenly home, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Prayer to St. Cecilia Feast Day 22<sup>nd</sup> November

Eternal God, you gave us the gift of St. Cecilia, a powerful protector and patron of music. We strive to pass our days faithfully and innocently like holy St. Cecilia so that we may come to Heaven where we may praise You in concert with her. God the Holy Spirit, Have mercy on us. Holy Trinity, one God, Have mercy on us St. Cecilia, a special patron of singers, musicians, and authors. Pray for us.

### Week of Witness Campaign 20-27 November 2023

Remembering Christians around the world who have been persecuted because of their faith.

*O God of all the nations,*

*The One God who is and was and always will be, in your providence you willed that your Church be united to the suffering of your Son.*

*Look with mercy on your servants who are persecuted for their faith in you. Grant them the perseverance and courage to be worthy imitators of Christ. Bring your wisdom upon leaders of nations to work for peace among all peoples.*

*May your Spirit open conversion for those who contradict your will, that we may live in harmony.*

*Give us the grace to be united in truth and freedom and to always seek your will in our lives. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*