

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (1 Sam 3:9; Jn 8:68)

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:  
you have the message of eternal life.  
Alleluia!

GOSPEL (Mk 7:31-37)

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**  
Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spit. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, "Ephphatha", that is, "Be opened." And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. "He has done all things well," they said, "he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak."  
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,  
and became man. /

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), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.  
**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. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

**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

At the Saviour's command ... Our Father, who art in heaven, ... Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, ... For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.  
Lord Jesus Christ, ... Amen.

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And with your spirit.  
**Lamb of God, you take away the sins ...**  
Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

**Communion Antiphon (Cf. Ps 41:2-3)**  
Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

# The People's Mass

8 September 2024  
23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

### THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

**Entrance Antiphon (Ps 118:137-124)**  
You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, ... Amen.  
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. 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, striking their breast, they 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, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. 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 bless you, / we adore 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 (Is 35:4-7)**  
A reading from the prophet Isaiah.  
Say to all faint hearts,

'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.'  
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.  
The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 145:7-10)

**1** My soul, give praise to the Lord.  
It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. **1**  
**2** It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord, who loves the just, the Lord, who protects the stranger. **1**  
**3** The Lord upholds the widow and orphan, but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. **1**

### SECOND READING (Jas 2:1-5)

A reading from the letter of St James.  
My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seat'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?  
Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.  
The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

(cont'd on back page)

## 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:  
Croom Parish - [ChurchCamLive.ie](http://ChurchCamLive.ie)  
Banogue Parish - [ChurchCamLive.ie](http://ChurchCamLive.ie)  
Croom Church Eircode: V35 R972  
Banogue Church Eircode: V35 WN59  
Banogue Adoration: Tuesdays 3 – 6pm.  
Croom Hospital Mass Sunday 8am. Thursday 11am. Followed by Holy Hour. Public Welcome  
Last Sundays Offertory Collection: Banogue €375  
Croom €800

### Recent Deaths

Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of Frank Burke, Donoman and David Begley, Caherconlish and late of Croom. May they rest in peace.

### Rosary at the Grotto

The Rosary will be recited on every Wednesday evening at the Grotto in the Church grounds during the month of September.

### Relics of St. Bernadette

The relics of St. Bernadette will visit Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Childers Road, Limerick on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September. All are welcome to visit Our Lady of Lourdes Church on Wednesday and Thursday.



### Season of Creation "To Hope and Act for Creation" 2024

**Introduction:** The "Season of Creation" – a time set aside by Pope Francis for all of us to reflect on our place within the story of creation and to accept our individual and collective responsibility to care for our universe. The theme this year is "To Hope and Act for Creation". Care for creation is not an add on to our faith but is an important part of it. Many of us renewed our relationship with nature and came to a greater appreciation of it. For numerous people nature became a spiritual shelter and a way of communication with God of all creation.

May this year's theme raise our awareness, our hope, our concern and our action in taking responsibility to ensure that our children and coming generations inherit a beautiful world to live in.

### A Heart Meditation

Breathing in, I open my feelings in response to the climate change.  
Breathing out, I allow these feelings to be here, whatever they are...  
Breathing in, I tenderly hold the suffering in me in response to the climate crisis  
Breathing out, I tenderly hold the collective suffering, including that of the earth....  
Breathing in, I am aware of the many animals and plant species now threatened with extinction.  
Breathing out, I am aware of the many animals and plant species now threatened with extinction.  
Breathing out, I am aware of the growing threat to human health and safety.  
Breathing in, I look deeply to see how I have contributed to our global crisis.  
Breathing out, I see the individual and collective ignorance at the root of this destruction....  
Breathing in, I allow myself to feel sorrow and regret for my own harm and the collective harm.  
Breathing out, I ask for forgiveness and understanding....  
Breathing in, I know I am also part of the solution, and I can contribute to sustainability and social justice.  
Breathing out, I see the individual and collective awakening happening all over the world...  
Breathing in, I open to what I truly, deeply long for in my own life and in the world.  
Breathing out, I commit to making concrete steps in my daily life to manifest this reality...  
Breathing out, I commit myself to hope in action....

### Reflection - Priceless gifts

The gift of hearing is a priceless gift.  
But it is only with the heart that we can hear rightly.  
The cry of a needy person may reach our ears, but unless it reaches our heart, we will not feel the person's pain, and it is unlikely that we will respond.  
And the gift of speech is a priceless gift.  
But again it is only with the heart that we can speak rightly.  
For our words to ring true, they must come from the heart.  
If they come only from the lips, they will have a hollow sound and will have little effect.  
They will be like a wind that ruffles the surface of the water but leaves the depths untouched.