

## WHAT'S DRIVING YOU?

Imagine going to visit a sick neighbour in hospital. Perhaps it is someone who doesn't receive very many visitors, and so they are thrilled to see you arriving into the ward. When they have thanked you for the kindness of your visit, you inform them that you were forced into it, and that you'd really rather not be there at all! It is fair to say that your neighbour would be deeply hurt and probably feel like a nuisance by the end of the exchange. What on paper may seem like a nice thing to do for someone is transformed because of our negative motives. So, when we try to form moral conclusions about human behaviour we must pay close attention to the intentions and attitudes that accompany our actions. It is not enough to perform acts that are objectively good if we are not becoming people of moral character also.

Growth in moral character presupposes several things: the ability to be self-critical and honest with ourselves; openness to the wisdom of those around us; prayer and reflection; and a willingness to revise our stance in light of new insights and further learning. Our personal growth can be stunted in many ways, however, including the jealousies and envies that strive for the control our lives. Desire is a very real part of the human condition, and our desires can play very positive roles in our lives, but we need to keep them in check. In other words, we must integrate our desires appropriately so that the right ones can take over. As James Keenan puts it, we must be sure to have a proper hierarchy of desires, so that they do not inhibit

our personal growth or damage our relationships. "The ethical enterprise is about putting our loves in order. In this way we achieve our deepest desires. Our ordered loves help us to realize them" (Commandments of Compassion, 51).

## OUR BONDS



The ninth commandment is also about not resenting what others have, and not resenting the good fortune of those around us. The focus of this commandment in a particular way rests with our intimate relationships, and we see here again the wisdom contained within. If we continually look with envy at other people's relationships, we start to neglect our own. We become indifferent to the people in our own lives, and fail to give them the time and attention that they deserve. Once again, Keenan captures this point beautifully. "The ninth commandment," he writes, "recognizes our humanity. Candidly it engages us where we engage others, in our hearts and our minds. It invites us to see what we so often are unaware of: that everything and everyone we hold to dearly, ought to be dearly held." The challenge here, then, is to recognize our desires, intentions, and feelings in such a way that they become a wholesome part of our bonds with others rather than allowing them to become our false masters. ■



## Today's readings

Exodus 22:20-26

1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

Matthew 22:34-40

## GOD'S WORD TODAY

Many people probably wish that all the rules of the road could be summed up in one guiding principle which everyone could understand and live by.

If only all the regulations about which lane to keep to and when, traffic lights, overtaking (and passing on the inside) could be summed up in one short sentence, how much simpler life would be! Perhaps something like *Treat other road users as you would like them to treat you* would help us all appreciate that the Highway Code is not intended as an arbitrary restriction on personal freedom

but a guide as to how road users can (ideally) co-exist and use their shared space in harmony with each other.

Something similar underlies the Pharisee's question to Jesus in today's Gospel passage. Is there any way in which the 613 rules of the Torah, the Law can be easily summarised? Jesus' reply is based on two quotations from the Torah, one about loving God (from Deuteronomy), the other about loving one's neighbour (from Leviticus). If these two are uppermost in the person's mind, then all the others will follow. They give the guiding principles: the others show how these are put into practice.



# Soul Space

SERIES: THE TEN COMMANDMENTS  
IN A MODERN WORLD

Season colour: GREEN

In this series, **Suzanne Mulligan** looks at the commandments and their relevance for our world.



(EXODUS 20:17)

At the beginning of this series of articles, we identified a basic distinction about the Ten Commandments. The first three treat our relationship with God; the remaining seven are directed more to our relationships with those around us. If we look closely at these latter seven commandments, we might make one further distinction. Commandments four to eight deal with key areas of life - life itself, respect for our elders, the body and sexuality, property, and truthfulness/honesty. The remaining two, which are the focus of our final articles, turn their attention to the internal workings of the person. That is, they focus on our intentions, motives, desires, and attitudes in a more explicit way than earlier commandments did.

**THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**29<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

Today, through the strength that Christ gives us we can celebrate with the joy of the Holy Spirit that great commandment of love which once had to be imposed on men under the threat of God's avenging anger.

**CHOOSE LIFE**

"The right to life is unique, of course, because, in the absence of that right, no other civil or natural right can be exercised, either now or in the future." Irish Catholic Bishops, Two Lives One Love

**ALL SAINTS DAY - WEDNESDAY, 1<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER 2017**  
**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

Today we remember all the saints who share the happiness of heaven. We are called to be saints by becoming children of God, by becoming more like our Father. This is our greatest possible fulfilment. It begins already, if we ourselves be moulded by the Beatitudes. **Masses:** Tuesday - Vigil 7.30pm, Wednesday - 8.00am, 10.30am & 7.00pm.

We gather this year for our annual  
**MASS OF REMEMBRANCE** on  
**Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 7.00pm**

At this mass, we pray especially for all those whose funerals we celebrated in our Cathedral during the past year, all are welcome to join us and pray for their beloved dead. This well attended liturgy allows us once again to mourn our loss with others who are also grieving. Together we look with hope to what our loved ones have gained and seek strength and comfort as we continue our own journey.



**ALTAR SOCIETY CAKE SALE**  
**IN SUPPORT OF OUR CATHEDRAL**  
**ALTAR SOCIETY**

Takes place today, Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> October in the Gillooly Hall *after the 10.30 A.M. Mass.*

Your continued support is greatly appreciated enabling our volunteers adorn the Cathedral **Sanctuary** beautifully throughout the year.



**WEDDINGS** Congratulations and best wishes to JENA RAMOS and JORDAN STA. ANA who were recently married in our Cathedral.

**MISSION SUNDAY** Thank you so much for your contribution to last week's Mission Sunday collection. Your prayers and donations will help missionaries across the world to share the Gospel with those in need, and help to build a worldwide Church. Those who have never heard the message of Jesus are given the chance to experience the love of Christ and to know the support of our Church family. Please pray for the work of World Missions Ireland and all those working to offer the love of Jesus, that we may remain strong in our witness to Christ's love for all peoples. To continue supporting mission throughout the year, please go to [www.wmi.ie](http://www.wmi.ie) or call 01 4972035 for further information.

**SLIGO CATHEDRAL PARISH – 2200 FAMILIES**  
SUNDAY, 22<sup>nd</sup> October **PARISH ENV: €1,722 PL/STAND. ORD: €1,799**  
THANK YOU for your contribution.  
**ST MARY'S PRESBYTERY ☎ 071 9162670 SACRISTY ☎ 071 9161261**  
✉ email us at [info@sligocathedral.ie](mailto:info@sligocathedral.ie) We welcome your comments.

**FIRST FRIDAY** Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November, is the First Friday. Mass will be celebrated at 7pm. Confessions will take place before the 8am, 10.30am & 7pm Masses.

**CHILDRENS HOLY HOUR** Adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Cathedral, Sligo on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> November from 3pm to 4pm. Rosary, songs & Sunday Gospel Reading. Confession available. Parents to stay with children. For more information contact 087 2655762. All welcome.

**PARISH OFFICE at St. Mary's Presbytery ☎ 071 9162670**

Please note that the parish office is open to the public at the following times: Monday - Thursday 9.30am - 4pm & Friday 9.30am - 2pm.

**CAR PARK UPGRADING** In keeping with Health and safety standards upgrading work is still ongoing on the car park in our Cathedral and should be completed shortly. We apologise for any inconvenience caused. Thank you for your understanding.

**SEARCH FOR CENTENARIANS** Are you or do you know of anyone who is 100 years old or more? In association with Athlone IT, we are currently examining the health of Irish centenarians. If you were born in 1918 or before or know of someone who fits the bill please get in touch! There are only approx. 450 people at this age and we are looking to learn from them. Contact Alison on 085 7515678 or email [alimaryfagan@gmail.com](mailto:alimaryfagan@gmail.com).

**SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL** have informed us that with the onset of the winter months all burials must be scheduled so as to arrive at Sligo Cemetery no later than 3pm. They advise us that these times will come into effect from 19<sup>th</sup> October 2017 until 25<sup>th</sup> March 2018 and they say they must insist on this in the interest of the Health and Safety of the cemetery personnel. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

**LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR** at Carraroe Community Centre, Sligo on each Friday from 6<sup>th</sup> October to 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017 for a 7 week period. Start time 8.00pm each Friday night. Please contact 085 7765294 or 087 6998397.

**WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES 2018** Sign up to volunteer for the World Meeting of Families 2018 in areas like logistics, event services, liturgy, media, meet & greet, translation services and much more [www.worldmeeting2018.ie/volunteer](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/volunteer)

**SUNDAY READINGS for 5<sup>th</sup> November:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Mal. 1:14-2:2. 8-10; 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1. Thess. 2:7-9.13; Gospel: Matt. 23:1-12.

**BINGO, GILLOOLY HALL, TONIGHT,**  
**SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup> October at 9.00pm**  
TONIGHT'S JACKPOT €2,550.  
Raffle at interval with refreshments available. All welcome.

**CATHEDRAL of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

*Upcoming* **EVENTS**  
**THE WEEK AHEAD**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November **All Saints Day** Holy day of obligation.  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November **"Wednesday Tea"** after 10.30am Mass.  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November **Mass of Remembrance** at 7pm.  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November **First Friday** Masses: 8am, 10.30am & 7pm.  
Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November **Confessions** from 2.00pm to 4.00pm.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**HSE RETIRED ASSOCIATION GROUP** Monthly meeting takes place in St Michael's Family Life Centre on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 3pm. New members welcome.

**P.T.A.A. SLIGO** - Meeting in St. Mary's Presbytery at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November immediately after the 7pm Mass.

**ANNUAL CHURCH GATE COLLECTION** in aid of North West Simon Community next weekend, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> November at St. Mary's Cathedral. Please support the homeless charity.

**HOLY HILL HERMITAGE** Fr. Matt Blake OCD will be attending for Visiting Sunday on Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> November. We will have Mass at noon, followed by tea and tour for anyone who is interested.

**ROOM TO LET FOR SPORT/ FITNESS** training purposes at Mercy College, Sligo. For further information, please email [mercycollegesligo@eircom.net](mailto:mercycollegesligo@eircom.net) or phone 086 0231252.

**FREE COMPUTER COURSE** (Yeats Country Tourism with I.T.) MSLETB (Fás) – FETAC (Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim Education Training Board Quality Qualifications of Ireland). Starting October 2017 for 36 weeks, 9.00a.m. - 4.15p.m. Teeling Centre, Collooney, Co. Sligo. Visit: [www.colloneycr.com](http://www.colloneycr.com) For information call: 087 2414355. This is a FETAC Level 4 Course - an opportunity to return to further education, acquire computer skills, get work placement and have a better chance of getting a job.

**ARTS EXHIBITION** IT Sligo 3<sup>rd</sup> year performing Arts present Live Art 2017. A 23 piece exhibition performed and created by actors and designers in training. On Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm The Factory space, lower Quay St, Rathquarter will host this event. With free admission to the event it's surely one of Sligo's must see events this month. Support the Arts.

**LEITRIM WARMER HOMES** Are offering FREE ATTIC & CAVITY INSULATION to home owners with homes built before 2006. To avail of this you MUST be in receipt of Fuel Allowance OR Family Income Support OR One Parent Family Payment OR Job Seekers Allowance for over **SIX** months with a child under 7 years old. Contact **Warmer Homes Team** on 071 9640771.

**anniversary & remembrances**

DAY	8.00 a.m. Mass	10.30 a.m. Mass
MON 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary</b> MARJORIE HEGARTY ✠	—
TUES 31 <sup>st</sup>	—	JOHN & MOLLY MCDONAGH
WED 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>FEAST OF ALL SAINTS</b>	<b>FEAST OF ALL SAINTS</b>
THURS 2 <sup>nd</sup>	JACK MCLOUGHLIN	TERESA & JOHN GREENE
FRI 3 <sup>rd</sup>	DON & CARMEL NEILL & PADRAIG MORAN	—
SAT 4 <sup>th</sup>	KATHLEEN PORTER	<b>Month's Mind</b> ANN CONLON ✠

**rest in peace** Your prayers are asked for the repose of the souls of: JOAN FITZPATRICK, Pearse Road; MARY WEIR, Strandhill and ROISIN DOLAN, Finisklin.  
*May God grant them eternal rest and comfort and console their bereaved families and friends.*