But, as Christians, we believe our age is precisely the context in which we are being called to live our faith. Like Catherine, we are being called to respond to the critical issues of our times with attentiveness, courage, love, persistence, and great faith in Jesus. It is not a time for "grand-standing" or an opportunity for the rise of heroes or self-styled martyrs

This coming Holy Week let us reflect respectfully, quietly, and humbly upon the Passion of Christ in the context of life today. Can we remain with Jesus in Gethsemane? Do we accept graciously and work within the context of today looking towards the Resurrection or would we rather rebel and blame? Which of the thieves on Calvary do we have most in common with? What for us is holiness? Conversion?

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus Christ you are meek and humble of heart. We pray that You grant us the same meekness and humility so that God may reveal to us those things He has hidden from the wise and the learned.

Give us the right wisdom so that, despite our qualifications, or our sense of self-esteem we may remain childlike before You because it is through humility that we will be able to serve the poor, sick, beggars, the blind and other least of our brothers and sisters.

Lord Jesus Christ deliver me from the desire of being loved without loving back. Remove from me the want to seek praise and popularity. Help me, Dear Lord, that I may desire others to be esteemed more than I, to see you in the face of others you have gifted with responsibility, skill and talents. I pray all this through Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

CHRISM MASS: mass will be streamline from St. Mels Cathedral Longford on Tuesday 30th March at 7pm.

KILTOGHERT PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mon, Tues, Thurs: 2.pm-5.pm Wed & Fri: 10.30am-5.pm Closed Saturday, Sunday , Holy Days & Bank Holidays 071-9620118 E-mail: parishkiltoghert@gmail.com

PRIEST ON DUTY: FR.MARK BENNETT C.C. 071-9650881 PALM SUNDAY 28th MARCH 2021

ST.MARY'S Sunday 10am: John Talbot (Anniv)

MASSES FROM MONDAY 29th MARCH TO SATURDAY 3rd APRIL

Monday 8pm: For the Intentions of all who sent sympathised at the time of Michael Flynn's death. (Attyfinlay)
Tuesday 10am: Lena Armstrong (2nd Anniv)
Wednesday 10am: Sr. Bridget-Jane McGuinness (Month's Mind)

Holy Thursday: 8 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper Good Friday: 3 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion Holy Saturday: 9 p.m. Easter Vigil

Online at www.churchtv.ie/ carrickonshannon

MASS FOR SUNDAY EASTER SUNDAY 4th April

ST.MARY'S Sunday 10am: Sean Regan (Anniv) Patrick Doherty & Delia

DEATH NOTICE: We pray for the happy repose of the souls of Maura Miney, (St.Mary's Close) and Edward Stokes (Shannon View) who died recently. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

A THOUGHT FOR HOLY WEEK

Some of the Saints lived during terrible times. Catherine of Siena, for example, who lived in 14th Century Italy. During her life, the Black Death raged throughout Europe killing 26 million people (about 30% to 60% of Europe's total population!), mercenary armies prowled the countryside cutting a path of death and destruction wherever they went, it was also a time of schism in the Church. In many ways, Catherine's times were "the worst of times."

Yet Catherine did not bemoan her times. She did not say, "If only the Black Death would go away... If only the world were at peace... If only we had perfect Church leaders, then I could really live my Christian faith." No, Catherine became a saint by accepting her times as the context in which she was called to live her faith. She did not run away from the critical issues of her day; she engaged herself with them.

Sometimes we are quick to bemoan our own times. We assume that the world used to be a kinder and gentler place. That the past was a better, more devout place, that now we have lost so much. But a quick perusal of history shows that every age, for one reason or another, could be called "the worst of times."