



Martha and Mary were people of faith but Jesus led them to an even deeper faith. Who were the people who led you to a deeper faith in Jesus? Remember them and give thanks.

Martha and Mary were struggling to come to terms with their bereavement. What has helped you in similar situations? The concern of Jesus is palpable and touching. Recall those who matter to you and to whom you matter. Such love mediates God's love, which surpasses human love with the gift of new life and Easter joy. One can imagine Lazarus as a symbol of people and groups that are written off as dead (sometimes by themselves), and yet through faith come back to life again. Have you had the experience of being revived by faith? Has faith helped to free you from what held you in bondage, or was destructive of your life?

The context for the story of the raising of Lazarus is the Jewish leaders' growing animosity toward Jesus. Jesus has been in Jerusalem, taking part in the feast of the Dedication, which we have come to know as Hanukkah. The people have been pressing him to declare plainly whether he is the Messiah. Jesus tells them to look to his works, which testify to his coming from God. Many do not believe Jesus, however, and some try to stone him for blasphemy.

Into this scene of confrontation, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus, send word to Jesus that his friend is ill. Jesus is said to love Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, but he delays his journey for two days. The delay heightens the drama and shows Jesus' obedience to God, who is to be glorified through Lazarus's resurrection. When Jesus finally declares that he will journey to Bethany, his disciples fear for his life. Thomas declares that he and the other disciples should prepare to die with Jesus.

The scene described at Bethany is a sad one. Martha meets Jesus weeping and saying that if Jesus had been there, Lazarus would not have died. Yet she remains confident that God will do whatever Jesus asks. Martha affirms her belief that there will be a resurrection of the dead in the last days. Then Martha's sister, Mary, comes to Jesus with the same confidence, saying that Jesus could have cured Lazarus. Jesus asks to be brought to Lazarus's tomb where he prays and calls Lazarus out from the tomb. At this sign, many come to believe in Jesus, but others take word of the miracle to the Jewish authorities, who begin their plans for Jesus' death.

St. Brigid's Church Killeshandra

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Sunday 26th 10am Anniv. Owen Lynch Church St. / James and Rose Smith Lavey / Susan Greashan. **Friday 31st** 7pm

Palm Sunday April 2nd 11am Anniv. Jim Hayes Main St. / Richard Magee Drumgoa

Sacred Heart Church Arva

Sunday 26th 10am Anniv. Fr. Charlie and Fr. Vincent Brady Sacramento Diocese formerly Gurteen / Kathleen Bouchier and dec. Bouchier family. **Friday 31st 10am** Mass for Lent.

Palm Sunday April 2nd 10am Anniv. Mary, Patrick, John Mc Glade Corlespratten / John and Pauric Kierna Enaghan

Church of the Immaculate Conception Coronea

Saturday 25th 7.30pm Vigil, Anniv. Frank and Kathleen Harrington **Tuesday 28th 10am** Mass for Lent

Saturday April 1st Vigil for Palm Sunday Anniv. Bernard, Brigid, John P. Mc Caffrey Drumbess

New Parish Pastoral Committee: The new committee will meet Wednesday April 5th 8pm in Cornafean Hall.

Holy Week at a glance; Confessions Ballinamore 6pm and 7.30pm Ballyconnell Palm Sunday.

Confessions Arva Tuesday 4th at 7pm. In Killeshandra Tuesday 4th at 8pm

Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper Arva 7pm in Killeshandra 8pm

Good Friday The Passion of Our Lord; Killeshandra 3pm Arva 5pm

Coronea 7pm

Parish Easter Vigil Saturday 8th at 9pm Killeshandra

Easter Sunday Mass of the Resurrection Coronea 9.30am Arva 10am Killeshandra 11am

Priests Charlie O Gorman PP Killeshandra 049-4334179 killeshandra@kilmorediocese.ie or blcog54@gmail.com

Fr. Oliver O Reilly CC Arva, Farnham Rd. Cavan 086 2368446 milltown@kilmorediocese.ie

Fr. Oliver is the duty priest until Thursday 30th March

