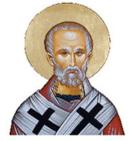


St. Nicholas News

Francis Street Parish, Dublin 8. ---- 01-4530387 ---- 01-5611390



23 April 2017

ATTACK NEAR ST. CATHERINE'S MONASTERY IN EGYPT



Gunmen attacked security forces near St. Catherine's Monastery in Egypt's south Sinai, killing at least one police officer and injuring four others, the Health Ministry said, just a week after two deadly church bombings killed 45. Islamic State claimed responsibility for Tuesday's (April 18) attack on a police checkpoint about 875 yards from the entrance to the monastery, one of the world's most important Christian sites. The attack comes just 10 days before Pope Francis is scheduled to visit Egypt and just over a week after two deadly

suicide bombings on Christian churches, also claimed by Islamic State, plunged the country into mourning and marked one of the bloodiest days for the country's Christian minority in decades. St. Catherine's, founded in the 6th century and located at the foot of Mount Sinai, is one of the oldest Christian monasteries in the world and a UNESCO world heritage site. It is part of the Eastern Orthodox church.

Egypt's Christian minority, which makes up about 10 percent of the country's 92 million people, has increasingly been targeted by Islamist militants, with three deadly church attacks in the span of four months. In February, scores of Christian families and students fled North Sinai province after a spate of targeted killings. A successful assault on St. Catherine's would be the latest challenge to President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, who has pledged to protect the religious minority as part of his campaign against extremism. Egypt has for years been battling an Islamist insurgency in the rugged and thinly populated northern Sinai, which gained pace after the military overthrew President Mohamed Mursi of the Muslim Brotherhood in 2013 following mass protests against his rule.

Attacks in Egypt's southern Sinai, a popular destination for tourists dotted with Red Sea resorts, are by contrast rare. Security sources told Reuters that security had been put on high alert at tourist facilities across southern Sinai after the attack. The attack in southern Sinai comes as Russia is expected to make a long-awaited decision on whether to restore flights to the Sharm el-Sheikh resort after a Russian airliner was downed in 2015, dealing a serious blow to the area's tourism industry, which relies heavily on Russian visitors.

Egypt's tourism industry, a crucial source of hard currency, has suffered in the years of turmoil that followed the overthrow of President Hosni Mubarak in 2011, as well as from the suspected bombing of the Russian plane, which killed all 224 on board. Israel took the unusual step earlier this month of barring its citizens from crossing into the Sinai peninsula, saying the threat of attacks in the area inspired by Islamic State and other jihadi groups was high.

Courtesy Religion News Service

COMING SOON CULTURE DATE WITH DUBLIN 8

Culture Date with Dublin 8 is a new neighbourhood initiative taking place for the first time on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th May 2017. The weekend will see a series of special events and activities taking place in the historical and cultural landmarks of Richmond Barracks, Goldenbridge Cemetery, Kilmainham Gaol, the Irish National War Memorial Gardens, the Magazine Fort in the Phoenix Park and IMMA - Irish Museum of Modern Art. Each of these institutions will welcome you to explore the rich heritage, culture and stories that lie just beyond your doorstep. The weekend highlights include bespoke tours of Kilmainham Gaol, guided tours and family activities in IMMA, a new exhibition launch at Richmond Barracks and the re-opening of Goldenbridge Cemetery. Discover hidden stories and local treasures with guided tours throughout the weekend by Pat Liddy who will help bring this historical area to life. All events are free to the public but some may require ticket booking to secure your place. Visit the website www.culturedatewithdublin8.ie to find out more information and to book your tickets.

NOTICES

Money Matters

Sunday 16 April 2017

Thank you for your contributions.

1st Collection: p371

2nd Collection: p396

Share: p110



Remembered at Mass

Sat 6pm: Nigel Monaghan Month's Mind, John, Josephine & Mary Hannon, Rosanna & Patrick Henessy.

Sun 11.30: Annie & Eddie Edmonds



Information Evening

Come along to Purcell House, Room PG01, DCU All Hallows Campus, Grace Park Rd, Drumcondra, Dublin 9 on Monday, May 8th, 6.30 - 8.00pm to learn about our MA Theology Courses (PAC Code DC693 Full-time, DC694 Part-time) & BA Theology and Lifelong Education: (PAC Code DC300). The Information Evening will provide an opportunity to meet with lecturers to talk about the following academic courses, which provide evening modules to accommodate those who work during the day. There is no need to register, just turn up! For further info. please contact: Dr Joseph Rivera, Ph (01) 700 7053, joseph.rivera@dcu.ie We welcome all prospective students from any background. (Free Parking available)



Synod on Young People

The Faith and Vocational Discernment Pope Francis would like to hear the views of young people around the world. To engage the youth of the Dublin Diocese (16-30yrs) we are arranging a facilitated listening process to the questions the Pope has put forward, in three locations

around the diocese. Those in and out of their faith are welcome: we would like to hear from all and get a real sense of where people are at. (If you are in your 30's and would like to contribute, you are more than welcome to join).
When: Tuesday 27th of April, at 7.00pm Where: St. Paul's Church, Arran Quay (Smithfield)
Contact: st.pauls@dublindiocese.ie Please complete our survey online it takes 2 minutes: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/bigaprilask Please share with friends online.



Reminder

Dublin / Kildare Christmas Pilgrimage to the Holy land 20th - 28th December 2017 (Last Remaining Seats) for 8 nights. Ex Dublin. Taking in Bethlehem, Jerusalem (Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Last Supper Room and Calvary), Mount Tabor, Cana, Nazareth, Jericho, River Jordan, Dead Sea and Sea of Galilee. Contact James Treacy Tel: 061-921470 or 086-0572216.



SUNDAY LITURGY - 2ND SUNDAY EASTER

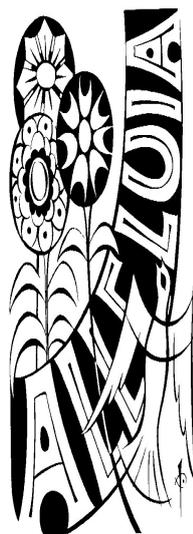
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers. The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone. The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed. They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

Psalm 117: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end,'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' R/
2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling
but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just. R/
3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. R/



A reading from the First Letter of Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by

raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold - only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire - and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation: John 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'
Alleluia!

Gospel John 20:19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe'. Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

A disciple was one day recalling how Buddha, Jesus, and Mohammed were branded as rebels and heretics by their contemporaries. Said the Master, "Nobody can be said to have attained the pinnacle of Truth until a thousand sincere people have denounced him for blasphemy."

From 'One Minute Wisdom' by Anthony de Mello