

Mass Intentions

You would have noticed in the Newsletter, names beside the various Masses that occur over the course of a week. This is what is known as the *Mass Intention*.

So, what is a *Mass Intention* about?

We believe that each Mass makes present for us the one sacrifice of Jesus Christ which He offered to the Father for our salvation. Thus, through the action of the Mass spiritual graces are offered to us and for us; this comes into special focus in the context of the *Mass Intention*. Here, the priest applies the particular Intention to the self-giving love of God who came, in Jesus, to **give us life 'in all its fullness'**. In other words, the Intention is directly and formally placed into the realm of the blessedness and love of God.

According to an ancient custom of the Church, people make a financial offering to a priest, asking him to apply the special fruit of the Mass for their intention. By making an offering, we associate ourselves in a special way with the sacrifice of Christ and we also contribute to the good of the Church by supporting the priest.

As the priest begins Mass, he keeps the special intention in his mind and heart, and so it forms part of his prayer for that particular Mass. The intention is printed in the Newsletter as an invitation to the congregation to keep the intention in their prayers too. In this way, those for whom the Mass is offered have a very special share in the graces flowing from that celebration.

We can have a Mass offered for our loved ones – living or dead – or for all sorts of special intentions.

If you would like to book a Mass intention, then please contact the parish office.

Fr. Brett Adams