

Parish of Botha

Parish Priest:

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Baptisms: on the 1st Saturday of each month at 4pm in St Patrick's, Derrygonnelly.

Parish Office Hours:

Monday and Thursday
6.30pm – 9.30pm
Wednesday
1.30pm – 9.30pm

The Baptism of the Lord

Jesus is anointed with the Spirit and his power. He is proclaimed Messiah. He now goes about doing good, working the signs that make him known as the Servant of God. He is the one who brings good news to the poor and tells of salvation. Through our baptism each one of us is ordered to the life of Christ – Priest, Prophet and King – and the Father looks on us with favour.

Masses for the Week

Immaculate Conception Monea:

Sunday 8th January **The Baptism of the Lord** 10am Mass Anniversary: Patsy and Bridie Duffy, Castletown; James and Mary Greene, Killyveagh.

St Patrick's Derrygonnelly:

Sunday 8th January **The Baptism of the Lord** 11.30am Mass **Months Memory:** Nora McGowan, Cosbystown.

Tuesday 10th January 7pm Mass and Novena to St Peregrine.

Wednesday 11th January 10am Mass.

Thursday 12th January 10am Mass.

Sunday 15th January 11.30am Mass **Anniversary:** Patricia Johnston, Rosnarick Close; Deceased of Derrygonnelly Harps and Boho St Fabers GFC.

Sacred Heart Boho:

Sunday 15th January 10am Mass **Anniversary:** Charlie McGowan, Faugher.

Recently Deceased: Your prayers are requested for the souls of Margaret McGovern, Enniskillen formerly Carrickbeg; Mgr. Richard Mohan, Clones; Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. May they rest in peace.

Thought for the Day

After the joyous celebration of Christmas culminating in the Epiphany, we turn now to the start of Jesus' public ministry, which begins with His baptism. When we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, we recall with joy and gratitude the amazing, sanctifying grace of our own baptism. It is fitting to spend time pondering the Gospel accounts of Jesus' baptism while at the same time engaging in rituals to claim again our own baptismal call on this holy day. In short, we can celebrate by not only reflecting on the Gospel accounts of Jesus' baptism and pondering this great mystery, but also by reflecting on and celebrating our own baptism.

Visitation of the Housebound: the elderly and housebound will next be visited in February.

Altar Society January: Derrygonnelly – Breege McConnell, Angela Gallagher and Marie McGowan. Collection after 11.30am Mass in St Patrick's on Sunday 15th January 2023.

A Fundraising Dance: in Derrygonnelly Community Centre with **The Tumbling Paddies** on **Saturday, 4th February 2023**. Doors open at 8.30 pm. Tickets cost £15 and are available on Eventbrite or at the door on the night. Over 18's only. ID required.

Boho Community Centre: Crochet, chatter, knit and natter class will resume on Monday 16th January at 7.30pm. Boho Seniors' lunch will resume on Tuesday 17th January at 1pm

The Sacrament of Baptism: this is the first sacrament that we receive on the Christian journey and is one of the three Sacraments of Initiation, along with Penance and Confirmation.

In baptism we become

- A child of the Father,
- A brother/sister of Jesus Christ,
- A temple of the Holy Spirit,
- A member of God's family – the Church.

Parents request baptism for their child and an important question for them is, Why? Why do we want our child baptised? People's reasons are many and varied.....because it is what everyone else does.....someone else in the family wants it as a type of insurance policy, just in case something happens as believers, we see baptism as a significant first step on our child's faith journey.

The Liturgy of Baptism comprises of four parts:

- The reception of the Child – meeting the child at the door, welcoming and receiving the one to be baptised into, not just the church building but into the Family of God, the Body of Christ.
- At the Book - Scripture is read from the Ambo. The word of God is proclaimed to help us all experience a living God. As a community we are called to listen, as without listening, there is no living word. The word gives meaning and direction to our lives.
- At the Font – water is blessed to be used in the Baptism. Water gives nourishment, it is the source of life. The Sacrament of Baptism marks our receiving the gift of new life from God.
- At the Altar – the lighted baptismal candle is carried for the child and the journey from font to altar is the child's first following Christ. Gathering at the altar reminds us that this is where we gather for Eucharist.

In our parish, baptism is celebrated on the **first Saturday of each month at 4.00pm**. On any date that the priest is unavailable, baptisms take place on the first Sunday at 1.00pm.

While some parents desire to have their child christened in their native parish, **it is preferable and encouraged that baptism should take place in the parish where the child resides**. Please contact the parish office on bothaparish.com or 028 68641889 to book a baptism.

The Diocese of Clogher stipulates that a child's Godparents must be;

1. at least 16 years of age.
2. a Catholic who is baptised, confirmed and has received the Eucharist.
3. one who "lives a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken".

When there are two Godparents, there must be one male and one female. If two people of the same gender are nominated by the parents, only one is registered as a sponsor, the other is a witness. A baptised non-Catholic may participate in the ceremony as a witness, not as a Godparent.

NI Blood Transfusion Service: donation sessions will be held in St Macartin's Cathedral Hall, Enniskillen on Thursday 12th January and Friday 13th January 12.30pm – 4pm and 5pm – 7.30pm. **To Book an appointment call 08085 534 653**. Your donation could help save a life.

Local Helplines:

Fuel Poverty. WHEAP team (Fermanagh and Omagh District Council) – 0300 303 1777.

Food Banks. Enniskillen Foodbank – 075 1254 8849. ...

Family Support Groups. Community Advice Fermanagh – 028 66 324 334.

St Vincent de Paul – Enniskillen 028 66 329 893

Cancer Connect – Enniskillen 028 66 340 102

Aisling Centre – Enniskillen 028 66 325 811

Northern Ireland Association for Mental Health: Telephone 02890328474