

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

First Sunday of Lent

The temptations in today's Gospel are not at all temptations to this or that sin but rather fundamental options which matter for the direction of life. Jesus was tempted in the course of his ministry to choose another way of being God's prophet, the Messiah or anointed. In a less spectacular way, we too can be attracted by choices which shape the way our life unfolds. We ask ourselves, what do I live on? What's my true goal? Where is my nourishment? My humanity is more than food or drink. Only the Word of God truly nourishes and illuminates.

Masses for the Week

Sacred Heart Boho:

Sunday 26th February 10am Mass. **Months Memory:** Joseph Leonard, Belleek. **Anniversary:** John Curran and Deceased of the Curran Family, Reyfad;

Wednesday 1st March 6pm First Penance, Killyhommon P.S.

St Patrick's Derrygonnelly:

Sunday 26th February 11.30am Mass. **Anniversary:** Packie and Lena McKeaney, Rosnarick Close.

Tuesday 28th February 7pm Mass and Novena to St Peregrine.

Tuesday 28th February 7.30pm First Penance, St Patrick's P.S.

Wednesday 1st March 10am Mass.

Thursday 2nd March 10am Mass.

Sunday 5th March 11.30am Mass. **Anniversary:** Joe and Ita Corrigan, Drumary; Carmel Meehan, Main Street; Ryan Toland, Fairview Park.

Immaculate Conception Monea:

Sunday 5th March 10am Mass. **Anniversary:** John and Ann Higgins, Castletown.

Recently Deceased: your prayers are requested for the souls of Geraldine Cassidy, Bray formerly Killyveagh, Kathleen McGurn, Ballyshannon. May they rest in peace.

Stations of the Cross: will be prayed on Tuesday evenings at 6.30pm in St Patrick's and on Thursday evenings at 7.30 pm in the Sacred Heart Church.

Lenten Prayer

Loving God, Caring parent,
I am a child who so often turns my back on your love.
Please accept my small acts of sorrow today
and help to release me from the self-absorption
that closes my heart to you.
As I journey through Lent,
let me remember the feast you have prepared
for me in the resurrection
and let me be filled with thanks to you. Amen.

The Novena of Hope at the

Graan: from Saturday (6.30pm) 4th March to Monday 13th March.

Sunday services are 9am, 10:30am, 12 noon and 4pm. Mon, Tue Thurs 12:30pm and 7pm. Wednesday 8th Mass at 11am and 7.30pm, Service for the sick at 2.30pm. Saturday 12th Mass at 11am and 6.30pm with Service for the Sick at 2.30pm Tel 028 66 322272. Novena and petition leaflets at the back of the church.

Altar Society for March: Derrygonnelly -Yvonne Burke and Nora Gordon. Collection after 11.30am Mass in St Patrick's on Sunday 12th March.

Boho – Kathleen Corrigan and Mary Duffy Collector – Aaron Jones.

Lough Derg Seasonal Employment 2023: Applications are now open for various roles during the pilgrimage season on Lough Derg. More information and application forms available at www.loughderg.org/jobs or email to hr@loughderg.org Closing date: **Friday 3rd March @3pm.**

Derrygonnelly District Partnership: is extending an open invitation to attend a community consultation evening on **Wednesday 1st March 2023 at 7.30pm** in **Derrygonnelly Methodist Church.** We wish to seek the views of all groups, businesses, organisations as well as individual members of the community in developing a village plan for the next ten years. We will be identifying the future needs of our community in relation to health and wellbeing, sport, recreation, economy, culture and heritage. In particular, we would ask all organisations and groups to ensure they send a representative of their group to this meeting. The renewed village plan, when completed, will form a road map for the future needs of our community.

Prayer for Syria and Turkey
All our hearts are going out to the people of Syria and Turkey. May the people of these lands have the courage and strength to keep living each day. May they have all the supports, aid love and compassion needed. Syria is suffering so much pain and turmoil from war and conflict. May leaders open all borders so that all resources can get through. May generosity and God's blessings bring strength and hope to everyone who has been affected. May minds and hearts be moved to remember loved ones who have died, those who are injured and missing. We hold them all in our hearts this day. Amen.

Derrygonnelly Harps GFC: Jackpot £4100. £20 Bridget McGrath, Boho, Carmel and Darren McManus, Boho, Maggie Lyons, Belleek. Draw in Doogies tonight Thanks to all who promote and support the Lotto.

Winter Wise Event: in Derrygonnelly Community Centre on Thursday 2nd March from 10.30am - 12.30. Get advice on benefits, grants and services. Hot meal provided. Booking essential, please contact Frances on 02866386934 or frances@lakelandcare.org.uk by 4pm on Monday 27th February.

Connect Fermanagh: A telephone befriending service providing support to those who are feeling lonely, anxious or vulnerable whatever their circumstances. If you feel you could benefit from this service, know someone who would appreciate regular friendly phone calls, or if you would volunteer with us making telephone calls – do get in touch. Contact 028 66320230 or info@connectfermanagh.org.

Rally for Life: Please join us and be a voice for the voiceless unborn child as we march for life on **Saturday 11th March 2023** gathering in **Custom House Square, Belfast, at 2pm.** Buses to the Rally leaving from various locations. contact **Precious Life** on 07592280522 / 02890278484 email info@preciouslife.com

Seeing your life through the Lens of the Gospel:

Matthew 4:1-11

1. In today's gospel Jesus is enticed to gratify his own needs, or to perform some spectacular act in public. He rejects the temptation because he chooses commitment to his mission and to dependence on his Father over any immediate gratification. We can all be tempted to go for some immediate satisfaction, ... but is that where happiness lies? Have you found that sometimes there is more commitment in saying 'no' for the sake of long-term goal? What are the goals, aims, values that inspire you in this way?

2. One way of looking at this gospel is to say that Jesus went into the desert to face his demons. We all have demons we need to face – compulsions, prejudices fears, anger, and urges that lurk within. It is in facing our demons that we find a way to live a fuller life. Can you recall a time when you grew through facing a 'demon' in this way?

3. In one of her reflections Joyce Rupp describes Lent as a 'time to rediscover lost treasures.' Is there something that that once was a healthy part of your life and is no longer there: e.g., reading, exercise, prayer, socialising, fun? Would this Lent be a time to rediscover that lost treasure? John Byrne OSA

Lenten practices of giving up pleasures are a good reminder that the purpose of life is not pleasure. The purpose of life is to attain a perfect life, all truth and undying ecstatic love – which is the definition of God. In pursuing that happiness, we find happiness. Fulton J. Sheen

O Lord, make this Lenten season different from the other ones. Let me find you again. Amen