

Parish of Botha

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Office Hours: Monday and Thursday 6.30pm – 9.30pm Wednesday 1.30pm – 9.30pm
Parish webcam: churchmedia.tv website: <http://bothaparish.com>

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 7th January 10am Mass. **Anniversary:** Charlie and Tommy Jones, Corr.

Sunday 14th January 10am Mass. People of the Parish.

St Patrick's Derrygonnelly:

Sunday 7th January 11.30am Mass. **Months Memory:** Mary Burns, Lisdoonan.

Anniversary: Francie Reilly, Mill Green.

Tuesday 9th January Eucharistic Adoration 10am – 7pm.

Tuesday 9th January 7pm Mass and Novena to St. Peregrine.

Wednesday 10th January 10am Mass.

Thursday 11th January 10am Mass.

Sunday 14th January 11.30am Mass. **Anniversary:** Patricia Johnston, Rosnarick Close.

The Sacrament of Baptism: in the parish 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 botha@clogherparishes.ie 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 Godparent, the other is a witness. A baptised non-Catholic may participate in the ceremony as a witness, not as a Godparent.



Prayer

Almighty, eternal God, When the Spirit descended upon Jesus at His baptism in the Jordan, you revealed Him as your own beloved Son. Keep us, your children born of water and the Spirit faithful to our calling. Amen

Visitation of the sick: The elderly, sick and housebound will next receive a parish visit at the beginning of February.

Concern Collection: The annual church gate collection raised £675.67 and € 39.60. Sincere thank you to all who contributed.

Boho Crochet Group: will resume on Monday 8th January at 7.30pm

Boho Seniors' Lunch: will resume on Tues 9th January at 12.30. New members welcome.

NI Blood Transfusion Service: donation sessions will be held in St Macartin's Cathedral, Enniskillen on Monday 15th January 1pm – 4pm and 5pm – 8pm. And Tuesday 16th January 12.30pm – 4pm and 5pm – 7.30pm. **To book an appointment online: www.nibts.org or call 08085 534 653**
Your donation could help save a life.

Northern Ireland Foster Care: With an increase in children and young people needing foster homes across Northern Ireland, we really need you now. Every child deserves to have a happy, loving and safe home where they'll feel cared for, valued and supported. Call us on 0800 0720 137.

Standing at the Gates of the New Year

Sacred Mystery,
waiting on the threshold
of this new year,
you open the gates
and beckon to me:
“Come! Come!
Be not wary of what awaits you
as you enter the unknown terrain,
be not doubtful of your ability
to grow from its joy and sorrows.
For I am with you.
I will be your Guide.
I will be your Protector.
You will never be alone.”
Guardian of this new year,
I set aside my fears, worries, concern.
I open my life to mystery, to beauty,
to hospitality, to questions,
to endless opportunity
of discovering you in my relationships,
and to all the silent wisps of wonder
that will draw me to your heart.
I welcome your unfailing Presence
and walk with hope into this new year.

---Joyce Rupp

Seeing your life through the Lens of the Gospel:

Mark 1:7-11

The Baptism of Jesus was an extraordinary religious experience for him. Something happened that was a major step forward for Jesus in coming to know that he was the beloved Son of God. We all have events in our lives that are milestones along the road of discovering who we are. What have been these milestones for you?

‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased’. Bring to mind experiences in which you knew you were the beloved (of God or of another person) and that the one who loved you was well pleased. Remember these experiences with gratitude, knowing that the only proper response to love received is thankfulness. Perhaps you have also given that experience to another.

It is easy to lament the growing secularisation in the world today, but the Spirit of God who spoke loudly to the world in the Christ event is active today. How can we be open to the new things the Spirit is saying to the church today?

John gives an example of humility as a person confident in his own role but not seeking to claim to be more than he is. He acknowledges that Jesus is greater. There is freedom in being able to acknowledge the gifts of others without losing a sense of one's own giftedness. Recall times when you were able to do this.

Lord, remind me that I too bear your seal of approval. I am marked by your Spirit, called to participate in your mission as your beloved son or daughter.

www.sacredspace.ie