

Parish of Botha

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Fifth Sunday of Lent

St. Patrick Principal Patron of Ireland

*Patrick was born very probably in the early years of the fifth century in Britain. He was taken captive at the age of 16 and brought to Ireland, where he worked as a slave. His captivity had a positive impact on his spiritual life. He escaped at the age of 22. It was obvious to him that God was calling him to return to convert the Irish. After studies in Europe he returned to Ireland and made a very large number of converts. His spiritual journey is recounted in his **Confessio**.*

Masses for the Week

Immaculate Conception Monea:

Sunday 17th March **St. Patrick's Day** 10am Mass.

Sunday 24th March **Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion** 10am Mass. **Months Memory:** Elizabeth Greene, Mullykivet. **Anniversary:** William and Mary Carroll, Leitrim.

St Patrick's Derrygonnelly:

Sunday 17th March **St. Patrick's Day** 11.30am Mass. People of the Parish.

Tuesday 19th March Eucharistic Adoration 10am – 7pm.

Tuesday 19th March **St. Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary** 7pm Mass and Novena to St. Peregrine.

Wednesday 20th March 10am Mass.

Thursday 21st March 10am Mass.

Sunday 24th March **Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion** 11.30am Mass. **Anniversary:** Owen Foy, Blaney; Beatrice Creamer, Enniskillen.

Recently Deceased: Your prayers are requested for the souls of Tommy Flanagan, Drumadillar and Eamon Corrigan, Aghamore. May they rest in peace.

A St. Patrick's Day Prayer Of Praise

Father,
We give You praise for the many men and women whom You have used in history to spread the gospel. On this day, we remember the life of St. Patrick, who took on the dangerous task of returning to the country of his captivity and preaching the gospel. Through him, You brought Christianity to those who did not know Christ. And You brought thousands to faith. May we use this day to bring You praise for the work You do through mankind, and that You continue to do today.
In Jesus' name, Amen.



Wedding: Congratulations to Willie Jones and Oonagh McGurn who were married in St. Patrick's recently. May God bless them with health and happiness.

St. Patrick's cemetery: the switch for the lighting in St. Patrick's cemetery has been relocated and is now found to the right of the main entrance **on the outside of the wall**. Please lift the cover, press the switch once and the lights will remain on for several minutes. They will go off on their own.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend: will be held in the Focolare Centre Prosperous, Co Kildare from **Friday 26th April to Sunday 28th April**. Register online at www.marriageencounter.ie

Parish Fundraising: parish volunteers will be calling to your home over the coming days to promote the standing order scheme. A sincere thank you to the parish fundraising committee, along with others, that have agreed to help promote this initiative. Thank you to all who continue to support the parish through standing order and in other ways.

I make an appeal to as many as possible to sign up, so that the load can be shared by us all. I urge those who are not regular contributors, as well as anyone that has joined the workforce in more recent times, to support this fundraising initiative. Likewise, I encourage people from the parish who may live elsewhere, to also consider signing up. While the refurbishment project on the Sacred Heart Church is ongoing, meeting its cost can be achieved through the goodwill and support of everyone.

St Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary Feast Day 19th March

Parents Prayer

O Glorious St Joseph, to you,
God committed the care of His only
begotten Son amid the many dangers
of this world.

We come to you and ask you to take
under your special protection
the children God has given us.

Through holy baptism,
they became children of God
and members of His holy Church.
We consecrate them to you today,
that through this consecration they may
become your foster children.

Guard them, guide their steps in life,
form their hearts after the hearts of Jesus and Mary.

St Joseph,
who felt the tribulation and worry of a parent when the
child Jesus was lost,

protect our dear children for time and eternity.

May you be their father and counsellor.

Let them, like Jesus,
grow in age as well as in wisdom and grace before God
and men.

Preserve them from the corruption of his world, and give
us the grace one day to be united with them in Heaven
forever. Amen.



Seeing your life through the Lens of the Gospel: John 12:20-30.

1. The parable of the grain of wheat reminds us of a truth that any parent can testify to, namely that it is in dying to ourselves that we can give life to others. We will never be of benefit to others if we remain wrapped up in ourselves. In what ways has your dying to yourself brought life to another? How has the generous giving of another brought life to you?

2. Sometimes our emotions rebel at the thought of what lies ahead, and we feel like praying *Father save me from this hour*. Then a realisation may come for you as a parent, a teacher, a spouse, a friend: *No, it is for this reason I have come to this hour*. Recall times when you have accepted pain or hassle and been a source of life to others for doing so.

3. The story presents the death of Jesus as the moment of his glorification by God. We are also *glorified* when the grace of God enables us to give generously of ourselves. When have you experienced this in yourself or in another?

4. *This voice has come for your sake and not for mine*. The angel spoke so that we might recognise the love being shown us by Jesus. Sometimes it requires the voice of another to draw our attention to love that is being offered to us. When was this your experience?

John Byrne OSA

Permanent Diaconate: The Diocese of Clogher invites Expressions of Interest from men who feel called to the Permanent Diaconate in the Diocese. All relevant information can be found on the Diocesan website www.clogherdiocese.ie/diaconate/ and the Diocesan Facebook page. The closing date for expressions of interest is **30th April 2024**. Those interested should speak firstly to their Parish Priest before a referral is made to the Director of Permanent Diaconate in the Diocese.

Derrygonnelly Harps GFC: Jackpot £9600. £20 John Walmsley, Enniskillen, Christopher Walmsley, Enniskillen, Leigh Greene, Derrygonnelly. Draw in the Doogies tonight. Thanks to everyone who promotes and supports the Lotto. Online entry is available via klubfunder.com Condolences to the Gallagher family on the passing of Anna, the Maguire family on the passing of Mrs Rita Maguire, the Cosgrove Family on the passing of Sharon Donnelly, and the Flanagan family, on the passing of Tommy Flanagan. Sympathies also to the Jones family, who held a memorial mass for their brother Raymond at the weekend. May their souls rest in peace.