

Parish of Botha

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Thirty - First Sunday in Ordinary Time

'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' The community that lives according to the commandments of love is coming near to heaven here on earth. The milk and honey once given in the rite of Baptism reminded the neophytes that they were entering God's promises.

Masses for the Week

Immaculate Conception Monea:

Sunday 3rd November 10am Mass - **Anniversary:** Rose Jones, Drumma

Sunday 10th November 10am Mass - **Months Memory:** Vonnie Greene, Scandally **Anniversary:** Pat and Agnes McHugh, Drumgaph

St Patrick's Derrygonnelly:

Sunday 3rd November 11:30am Novena Mass for the Dead

Sunday 3rd November Memorial Service for the Dead 3pm

Tuesday 5th November Eucharistic Adoration 10am – 7pm

Tuesday 5th November **St. Martin de Porres** 7pm Mass and Novena to St. Peregrine **Anniversary:** Joe Duffy and Deceased of the Duffy Family, Doagh

Wednesday 6th November **All the Saints of Ireland** 10am Novena Mass for the Dead

Thursday 7th November 10am Novena Mass for the Dead

Sunday 10th November 11:30am Mass **Anniversary:** Mary, Pappy and James McConnell, Knockmore – Pat Sheerin, Rossinuremore – Packie and Bridie Flanagan and Deceased of the Flanagan Family, Knockmore.

Recently Deceased: As a parish community, we extend sympathy to the family, relatives and friends of Christine Kelly, Derrygonnelly Road, Liam Love, Coventry and Annie Cameron, Birmingham. May they rest in peace.

Sacred Heart Cemetery Blessing: it is hoped that the annual blessing of the graves can take place in this month of November - Sunday 17th is the chosen date. However, this can only happen if, and when, the scaffolding around the church has been removed. In short, there will only be a gathering on that Sunday if it is safe for people to congregate, and it can only be safe when the church building is free of its scaffolding. Otherwise, no public ceremony can happen, and people will instead be encouraged to visit the cemetery at a convenient time over that weekend, to bless their own plots. More details next weekend.

Remembering our Dead: In this month of November we remember our dead and pray for the repose of their souls. Attending Mass and visiting the cemetery is part of what we do as Catholics. When a loved one dies, we gather as a family and a community to offer sympathy and support. While it is customary to pray publicly for the recently deceased, this can only happen at the request of their family. In other words, if you wish to have a deceased loved one mentioned in the prayer of the Mass, please forward their name along with your own name to the parish.

Memory Tree: During the month of November a 'Memory Tree' will be in St Patrick's Church, where you can place the name of your loved one on a label provided.

This Week's Bulletin is sponsored in Memory of Kevin McGovern.

Save the Date:
Festive Flower Demonstration
With Timothy Elliott, Manor Garden
Centre, Lisnaskea
on Thursday 12th December 2024
at 8pm in
Derrygonnelly Community Centre.
All proceeds in aid of Botha Parish Renovation Fund.


Points to Ponder

We all struggle to try and get our priorities right. We need to be able to sift out what is more important from what is less important. This is perhaps all the more needed today when so much comes at us from so many different directions. Today's gospel reading is the story of a scribe who wanted to get his priorities right. He came to Jesus to know which of all the more than six hundred commandments of the Jewish Law was the most important one. In reply, Jesus gave him more than he asked for, not just the first of all the commandments but the first and the second of all the commandments. Jesus seemed to be saying that these commandments were inseparable. What they have in common is the commandment to love; what distinguishes them is the object of that love, God in the case of the first commandment and neighbour in the case of the second. Also the quality of the love differs, God is to be loved with all our heart, soul, mind and strength; the neighbour is to be loved as ourselves. God alone is worthy of the total love of our being, but such love must flow over into the love of our neighbour. The journey in love to God leads us to the other; in loving God we are caught up in God's love for others. Today, at least in our western culture, it is the first commandment rather than the second that is more liable to be neglected. Yet Jesus implies that our relationship with God is at the heart of all other relationships.

Fr Martin Hogan, Parishes of Finglas,

Synod on Synodality: The final document from the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod has been published and is available below as a working translation in English. In a departure from usual practice, Pope Francis said, "I want... to recognise the value of the completed synodal journey, which through this document I hand over to the holy faithful people of God.... There are already very concrete indications in the document that can be a guide for the mission of the Churches, on the different continents, in the different contexts: that is why I am making it immediately available to everyone." Our synodal pathway journey in Ireland and locally here in our diocese will continue over the months ahead, taking this as a guide. The document can be accessed here - [ENG-final-document-Synod-2021-24.pdf](#)


Envelope Collection: Week ending **27th October** – Weekly offerings £1230.00 Renovation £1475.00. Thank you for your generous support.

 **Pioneer Pledge for the month of the Holy Souls:** A short-term pledge gives spiritual support and encouragement to people and their families who are living under a shadow of addiction. Contact the pioneers on www.pioneers.ie/pray or 00353 1 805 4226.

Thought for the Day

God, thank you for the people in our lives whom we are remembering in a special way during the month of November. We thank you for being a compassionate God who walks with us in our dark moments of grief and loneliness. We are thankful for all who continue to love and support us through our grief. Lord, continue to be a light for us, giving us hope, direction and courage. May we now live our lives treasuring the memories of those special people we have known and loved and help us to bring light and hope to others. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Derrygonnelly Harps GFC: Despite really inclement weather conditions the 'Skele-bration' event was very well supported. We are very grateful to the organising committee and volunteers who made it such a success. Congratulations to Mickey Walmsley of Tracey Concrete who won the jackpot of £6000. Draw in Doogies tonight. Thanks to everyone who support and promote our Lotto. On 30th November our men's senior and junior teams will take part in a Move challenge; completing 60k an hour on bikes in our new gym facility, remembering the 60 men that suicide takes globally every hour. Finally, moustaches! Have you ever imagined yourself with one? Time to try it out! The Health and Well Being committee are organising an event to raise awareness for men's mental health. It couldn't be any easier, shave down at the start of the month, and let your 'mo' do it's thing. It's one simple action that unites, gives purpose and starts conversations than can sprout real change. We encourage the whole community to get involved and have a bit of craic along the way!

 **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.**