

Parish of Botha

Parish Priest: Fr. Cathal Deery Tel: 028 68641207 Email: fcathaldeery@clogherparishes.ie
Parish Office: Tel: 028 68641889 Email: botha@clogherparishes.ie
Office Hours: Monday and Thursday 6.30pm – 9.30pm Wednesday 1.30pm – 9.30pm
Parish webcam: churchmedia.tv website: <http://bothaparish.com>

First Sunday of Advent

The Church begins another liturgical year with the season of advent. The word 'advent' means 'arrival' or 'coming'. There is a threefold coming of Jesus to which the church draws our attention to: first, Jesus' coming as a human being; second, his daily coming into the lives of the people; and third, his glorious coming at the end of time. The use of purple vestments underlines the special character of this season.

Masses for the Week

Immaculate Conception Monea:

Sunday 1st December 10am Mass **Anniversary:** Kevin Gilbride, Farnaconnell

Sunday 8th December 10am Mass **Months Memory:** May Jones, Kilnamadoo **Anniversary:** Sarah McBrien, Toneel - Patrick and May McGovern, Tullycalter

St Patrick's Derrygonnelly:

Sunday 1st December 11:30am Mass **Anniversary:** Elizabeth Foy, Ely Lodge – Vera, Francie and Mary Jane Treacy, Rosnarick Close – Vincent Haren, Drumbeggan – Rose and Paddy Corrigan, Coranerk

Tuesday 3rd December Eucharistic Adoration 10am – 7pm

Tuesday 3rd December **St Francis Xavier** 7pm Mass and Novena to St. Peregrine

Wednesday 4th December 10am Mass

Thursday 5th December 10am Mass **Anniversary:** Nellie and Benny Swift, Fairview Park

Sunday 8th December 11:30am Mass **Anniversary:** Mary Burns, Lisdoonan – Una Buchanan, Lisdoonan - James and Bridget Carroll, Lisdoonan – John and Annie Burns, Aughakeeran – Frank and Josie Flood, Main Street – John Melanophy, Tobradan - Paddy and Molly Cassidy, Derrygonnelly – Rose Ann McGrath and Deceased of the McGrath family, Coolarkin – Anthony Carr, Sillees Grove

Parish Readers: Anyone who would like to be a parish reader either in the Immaculate Conception, Monea or St. Patrick's, Derrygonnelly please give your name to the parish office.

Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Lord, our God, we praise You for Your Son, Jesus Christ,
for He is Emmanuel, the Hope of all people.
He is the Wisdom that teaches and guides us. He is the Savior of us all.
O Lord,
let your blessing come upon us as we light the first candle of this wreath.
May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise of salvation.
May He come quickly and not delay. We ask this in His holy name. Amen.



Trocaire Gifts: show people living in some of the most vulnerable communities and some of the most devastating situations that the world still cares and that we still care. Gift cards are on sale at Masses today.

Envelope Collection: Week ending 24th November – Weekly offerings £1325.00 and €34.15. Renovation £1805.00. Thank you for your generous support.

Enniskillen Vocations Society of St Joseph Branch: Holy Hour Devotion for Vocations on Friday 6th December in St Michael's Church at 7.00 pm. Monthly Branch Meeting in St Michael's Parish Centre on Monday 9th December at 7.00 pm. New Members of all ages are welcome to attend.

Some Be-Attitudes

Blessed are those who can laugh at themselves; they will have endless amusement.

Blessed are those who can tell a mountain from a molehill; they will be spared a lot of trouble.

Blessed are those who can go to bed and fall asleep without looking for excuses; they will become wise.

Blessed are those who know when to shut up and listen; they will learn new things thereby.

Blessed are those who are attentive to the call of others without thinking themselves indispensable; they will be sowers of joy.

Happy are you if you can take small things seriously and large things peacefully; you will go far in life.

Happy are you if you can admire a smile and forget a frown; your path will be sunlit.

Blessed above all are you if you can recognise the Lord in everyone you meet; you have the light and true wisdom.

Mary's Meals – Double The Love: Amongst the many challenges we see in today's world, your little acts of love can bring hope to desperately hungry children with a daily school meal with Mary's Meals. At this time, all donations made to Mary's Meals are being doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £900,000. Please keep us in your prayers during this Advent season that we can reach even more children around the world with our life-changing school meals this Christmas. There are many ways to give, Find out more at marysmeals.org.uk or freephone 0800 698 1212.



Waiting

We light an advent candle today, a small dim light against a world that often seems forbidding and dark. But we light it because we are a people of hope, a people whose faith is marked by an expectation that we should always be ready for the coming of the Master. The joy and anticipation of this season is captured beautifully in the antiphons of hope from the monastic liturgies:

See! The ruler of the earth shall come, the Lord who will take from us the heavy burden of our exile
The Lord will come soon, will not delay.

The Lord will make the darkest places bright.

We must capture that urgency today in the small flame of our candle. We light the candle because we know that the coming of Christ is tied to our building of the kingdom. Lighting the flame, feeding the hungry, comforting the sick, reconciling the divided, praying for the repentant, greeting the lonely and forgotten – doing all these works hastens His coming.

EWTN

Botha Parish Presents
Christmas Magic
A night of Christmas Arrangements
By Timothy Elliott
(Manor Garden Centre, Lisnaskea)
Derrygonnelly Community Centre
Thursday 12th December 2024 at 8.00pm
Doors open 7.00pm
Refreshments served
All floral arrangements to be raffled on the night.
All proceeds in support of Botha Parish Renovation Fund
Stationery kindly sponsored by Print
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Tickets for the Christmas Magic Flower Demonstration will be sold after masses on Sunday 8th December. Admission £15.

Derrygonnelly Harps GFC: Jackpot £2900. £20 Martin Duffy, online, Josie Monaghan, Belleek, Tom Dundas, Derrygonnelly, Draw in Old Pals tonight. Thanks to everyone who supports and promotes our Lotto. Our Youth Presentation evening on Sunday December 8th celebrates all girls and boys teams' efforts in the 2024 season, with special guest status for our Under 14 teams, both of whom won their leagues. We will have a special centenary memento for everyone and look forward to seeing our future stars acknowledged for their progress.

NI Blood Transfusion Service: donation sessions will be held in St Macartin's Cathedral, Enniskillen on Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th December 12.30pm – 19.30pm. you could save 3 lives. Book your appointment by tapping on the link - <https://bit.ly/GiveBloodNI> ❤️ ❤️ ❤️ Northern Ireland needs 1200 blood donations per week. That's 1 every 8 minutes.