



# Parish of Botha

Parish Priest: Fr. Cathal Deery Tel: 028 68641207

Email: [frcathaldeery@clogherparishes.ie](mailto:frcathaldeery@clogherparishes.ie)

Parish Office: Tel: 028 68641889 Email: [botha@clogherparishes.ie](mailto:botha@clogherparishes.ie)

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 12<sup>th</sup> January 10am Mass People of the Parish

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January 10am Mass **Months Memory:** Gerald Magee, Dublin

### St Patrick's Derrygonnelly:

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 11:30am Mass **Months Memory:** Owen McCormick, Derrygonnelly

**Anniversary:** Patricia Johnston, Rosnarick Close

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January Eucharistic Adoration 10am – 7pm

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 7pm Mass and Novena to St Peregrine

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January **St Ita** 10am Mass

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 10am Mass

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January 11:30am Mass **Anniversary:** Kevin McGovern, Doagh – Charlie McGowan, Faugher

**Baptisms:** We welcome to the Christian world through the waters of baptism Eleanor Love, Rían Thomas Swift and Rian McHugh- Currie. May they grow in faith.

**Praying for our priests:** during this Jubilee Year of Prayer in the Universal Church, you are invited to keep in your prayers the clergy of our diocese. At a time when the age profile of priests continues to rise and their numbers decline, you are encouraged to remember one or two of the priests in Clogher each week in your personal prayer. The names of our clergy (drawn randomly) will appear in the parish bulletin so that parishioners can keep them in prayer.

*Please pray for Father Brian Early P.E. and Father Ben Hughes.*

Father Brian was formerly PP of Tydavanet parish and is now retired. Father Ben serves as Chaplain to the university of Galway.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:** takes place from **18<sup>th</sup> January – 25<sup>th</sup> January**. This year of 2025, in addition to being a Jubilee Year based on the theme '**Pilgrims of Hope**', is also the 1700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Ecumenical Council of the Church, the Council of Nicaea, held in 325. That Council gave us the Nicene Creed which we profess on most Sundays and other Solemnities. Fittingly, the theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity this year is "**Do you believe this?**", based on the Gospel of John 11:17-27 and Martha's confession of faith to Jesus.

**Christian Unity Week Service in St. Michaels Church, Enniskillen** will be held on **Thursday 23rd January at 7.30pm.**

**Envelope Collection:** Week ending **5<sup>th</sup> January** – Weekly offerings £2700.00 and €21 Thank you for your generous support.

**Save our Acute Services Public Meeting:** Save Our Acute Services (SOAS) has devised a roadmap (or plan) to save our South West Acute Hospital. It's positive and practical. Come along to the launch on **Monday 13th January** to Fermanagh House at 7PM. Your support is essential.

### Thought for the Day

*May God make your year a happy one!  
Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain,  
But by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes;  
Not by making your path easy,  
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;  
Not by taking hardships from you,  
But by taking fear from your heart;  
Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,  
But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;  
Not by making your life always pleasant,  
But by showing you when people and their causes need you most,  
and by making you anxious to be there to help.  
God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead.*

**Irish Lessons at Killyhommon PS:** Last term, we held two Irish lessons open to the wider community, and there was a fantastic response. We are keen to see these community lessons continue, and Sharon Keown has kindly offered to lead Irish lessons at Killyhommon PS starting on **Thursday, 16th January, from 7:00 to 8:00 pm**. The cost will be **£2.00 per person per week**, and children can attend free of charge. Please help us spread the word to anyone who might be interested. Sharon's lessons will cater for all levels of ability, so whether you're a complete beginner or looking to improve your skills, you'll be very welcome!

**Derrygonnelly Harps GFC:** Jackpot £3500. £20 Adam Rutledge, Churchill, Paddy Greene, Coa, John and Mary Duffy, Monea. Draw in Doogies tonight. Thanks to everyone who support and promote the lotto. Entries are also available online via the klubfunder.com platform. Sincere condolences to the Murphy, Foy, Cassidy, Smyth and Daly Families on their recent bereavements.

**Al-Anon offering Family support for those affected by alcoholism: - Dry January 2025** Local people, from all backgrounds are being urged to think about drinking and the effects on Families as we approach Dry January 2025. Al-Anon is launching a new campaign **'You are not alone!'** to encourage more people living with problem drinkers to find their local Al-Anon meeting. In Northern Ireland there are 30 Al-Anon groups, they provide support to anyone whose life is, or has been affected by someone else drinking. By attending Al-Anon Family Group meetings, individuals discover that they didn't cause the problem, and cannot control or cure it. They also learn how best to cope with their situation by switching their focus from the alcoholic to themselves. Whatever your relationship to the drinker, whatever your story, Al-Anon can help. Our Information Office, based in Belfast is opened from 10am – 1pm Monday to Friday; contact number 02890682368. All meetings are listed on the website [www.al-anonuk.org.uk](http://www.al-anonuk.org.uk), or you can call our Confidential Helpline on 02890682368 10am – 1pm or 6pm – 10pm daily.

### Points to Ponder

Most of us who were baptised as infants cannot remember the moment of our baptism. Fortunately, we have an abundance of symbols and rituals to anchor us in our 'baptismal memory'. When we pass by the baptismal font in our Church we can 'remember' our baptism. Anytime we have the pleasure of being in the congregation at a baptism ceremony we can 'remember' our baptism. We can look at photographs or take out the family christening gown or baptismal candle to have a visual reminder of our initiation into the Christian faith. But most significantly whenever we turn to one of the Gospel passages that tell the story of Jesus' baptism we can 'remember' our baptism in an especially powerful way. The simple act of entering a Catholic Church and blessing ourselves with water from the font at the entrance is a way of remembering our baptismal commitment. And it makes even more sense to put water on our foreheads as we leave the Church and go out into the world – for there the battles are fought. This is a month in which many of us are feeling overwhelmed. In January, the holidays are over and the bills are looming. Some people are dealing with a variety of post-holiday emotions; others already feel that they have failed in their new year's resolutions. The message of Jesus' baptism and a reminder of our own is needed at a time such as this: 'Lord we are yours, help us to know it, To know it in the depth of our hearts and to act accordingly.'  
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