

Parish of Botha

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St. Brigid Secondary Patron of Ireland

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Blessed are they who live the Beatitudes. They are blessed and know what makes true happiness. Blessed are those who are poor in spirit, leaving space and time for God in their lives, blessed are those who are gentle and kind, merciful and pure in heart. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice, who work for peace. And blessed are they who suffer for Christ.

Masses for the Week

Immaculate Conception Monea:

Sunday 1st February 10am Mass People of the Parish

St Patrick's Derrygonnely:

Sunday 1st February 11:30am Mass **Anniversary:** Molly and Paddy McConnell, Knockmore Road

Tuesday 3rd February Eucharistic Adoration 10am – 7pm

Tuesday 3rd February 7pm Mass and Novena to St Peregrine

Wednesday 4th February 10am Mass

Thursday 5th February **St Agatha** 10am Mass **Anniversary:** Adrian Cassidy, Killyveagh

Sunday 8th February 11:30am Mass **Anniversary:** Raymond, William and Mary Jane Dundas, Knockmore Park – Josephine O'Hagan, Belfast

Sacred Heart Boho:

Sunday 8th February 10am Mass **Anniversary:** Phil Maguire, Mullaghmore – Charlie and Tommy Jones, Corr

Recently Deceased: as a parish community we extend our sympathy to the family, friends and relatives of Carmel Corrigan, Fairview Park. May she rest in peace.

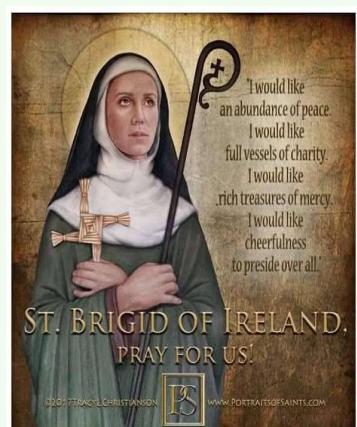
Prayer to St Brigid

St. Brigid, brilliant star of sanctity in the early days of our Irish faith and love for the omnipotent God.

Who has never forsaken us, we look up to you now in earnest, hopeful prayer. By your glorious sacrifice of earthly riches, joys and affections obtain for us grace to "seek first the Kingdom of God and His justice with constant trust in His fatherly care.

By your life of laborious charity to the poor, the sick, the many seekers for light and comfort, obtain for us grace to be God's helpers to the utmost of our power during our stay on earth, looking forward, as you did, to our life with Him during eternity.

By the sanctified peace of your death-bed, obtain for us that we may receive the fullness of pardon and peace when the hour comes that will summon us to the judgment seat of our just and most merciful Lord. Amen.



Brigid – Abbess, Secondary Patron of Ireland – Feast Day 1st February: is renowned for her hospitality, almsgiving and care of the sick. She was born c.454 She died in 524. The St. Brigid's Cross: in legend used by Brigid to explain the Christian faith, remains a popular sign of God's protection.

Candles: traditionally blessed on the feast of the Presentation of the Lord will be blessed at mass today.

Envelope Collection: week ending **25th January** Weekly Offerings £1610.00 and €25. Development £2125.00 and €3.50. Thank you for your generous support.

Parish Contributions: at this time each year the list of envelope holders is updated and amended so that new parish envelopes can be distributed in March. We are grateful for all you do to support the parish. You can use the following details to set up a Standing Order or make a one off donation to the parish.

Botha Parish: Sort Code: 90 48 86

AccNo:62746334

BIC No BOFIGB2B

IBAN GB04 BOFI 9048 8662 7463 34

Please **put your name in the reference field** so contributions can be recorded. If you are a taxpayer please consider signing a Gift Aid form, which incurs no cost to you but is very beneficial to the parish.

Save our Acute Services: Keep the date free! Save Our Acute Services (SOAS) Public Rally and Tractor / Truck Drive-through will take place on **Sunday 8th February at 3PM** at The Diamond, Enniskillen. Come out to show our united support for the full restoration of Emergency Surgery at SWAH.

Thought for Today

Once Brendan the Navigator stood on a cliff top watching two whales engaging in fierce combat. Suddenly, the smaller whale, in a human voice, cried out for help not to Brendan but to Brigid, who was not even present. Immediately, the combat ceased. Brendan was puzzled as to why he had been ignored. 'Do you always think about God?' asked Brigid, when the two met. 'Yes,' replied Brendan, except at times when my boat is caught in a storm at sea and I have to concentrate on keeping it afloat.' 'That's the explanation,' Brigid answered. 'From the moment I first knew God, I have never let him out of my mind, and I never shall.'

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Derrygonnelly Harps GFC: Jackpot £3800. £20 Mel Rasdale, Skerries, Colleen Flanagan, Derrygonnelly, Pat Meehan, Monea. Draw in Doogies tonight. Thanks to everyone who supports and promotes the Lotto. The Ladies Football Committee is meeting at 8pm on **Thursday 5th February** in the Clubrooms. Anyone interested in developing football for girls and ladies in the club is welcome to attend. Congratulations to Brenda Bannon who has been named Vice-Captain of Fermanagh Ladies for the season ahead.

Reflections

Each of the beatitudes describes an aspect of Jesus. Jesus is poor in spirit. He was born in a stable to poor, humble parents (cf. *Luke 2*). Jesus mourns when his friend Lazarus dies (cf. *John 11:35*). Jesus is 'meek and humble of heart' (*Matthew 11:29*). Jesus hungers and thirsts for righteousness when he cleanses the temple (*Matthew 21:12*). Jesus is mercy itself: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice' (*Matthew 9:13*). Jesus is clean of heart, conceived immaculately, and born of an immaculate mother (cf. *Luke 1:26-36*). He undoes Adam's sin with his own sinlessness (cf. *Romans 5:12-21*). Jesus is peace itself, and he offers us his peace, which the world cannot give us (cf. *John 14:27*). Jesus was and is still persecuted, and many evil and false accusations were made against him at his trial (cf. *Mark 14:56*). He was persecuted until death, 'even death on a cross' (*Philippians 2:8*). We who are his disciples are called to imitate the beatitudes in imitation of him, the example par excellence of all virtues. Jesus is the source of all virtues. When we practice imitating Christ and pray to the Holy Spirit to bless us with his gifts, we will joyfully bear fruit and glorify God (cf. *John 15:8*). The things that will make us happy are the things that will bring us closer to God. What Jesus is teaching us is that holiness will lead to our happiness.

Carey Boyzuck epriest.com

Dates for Sacraments:

First Penance: **Thursday 5th March 7pm St. Patrick's Church.**

First Holy Communion: **Saturday 25th April 11am St. Patrick's PS in St. Patrick's Church.**
Saturday 25th April 1pm Killyhommon PS in Sacred Heart Church.

Confirmation: **Friday 1st May 6pm St. Patrick's Church**