

Parish of Botha

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Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus is chosen by the Spirit to be Lamb and Servant; Paul is chosen to be an apostle. Each of us in Baptism is chosen. We are chosen to live a life of holiness, to share in God's life, a life for us of praise and worship, of witness and apostolicity.

Masses for the Week

Immaculate Conception Monea:

Sunday 18th January 10am Mass **Months Memory:** Margaret McManus, Drumbeggan

Anniversary: Bridie and Patsy Duffy, Castletown

St Patrick's Derrygonnelly:

Sunday 18th January 11:30am Mass People of the Parish

Tuesday 20th January Eucharistic Adoration 10am – 7pm

Tuesday 20th January 7pm Mass and Novena to St Peregrine

Wednesday 21st January **St Agnes** 10am Mass

Thursday 22nd January 10am Mass

Sunday 25th January 11:30am Mass **Months Memory:** Jack Wadsworth, Fairview Park -

Anniversary: Kevin McGovern, Doagh

Sacred Heart Boho:

Sunday 25th January 10am Mass **Anniversary:** Gerald and Shane Gallagher, Tobradan - Francie

and Susan McHugh, Tobradan – Joseph Leonard, Belleek – Joe and Una Leonard, Leighan –

Charlie McGowan, Faugher

Recently Deceased: as a parish community we extend our sympathy to the family, friends and relatives of Robbie Corrigan, Boston. May he rest in peace.

Week of prayer for Christian Unity: takes place from 18th – 25th January. The theme this year is **“One Body, One Spirit”**, based on Ephesians 4:4. It reminds us that the call to unity is a call to work for peace for all people everywhere.

Prayer for Unity

Lord Jesus Christ, show us how to be patient with one another in humility and gentleness.

May the light you shine on our path lead us towards unity and help us heal the wounds of division and indifference that often break communities apart. Amen.

Catholic Schools Week 2026 – “Normal Lives, Called to Holiness”

Catholic Schools runs from 18th to 24th January with the theme, **“Normal Lives, Called to Holiness”**. Inspired by Pope Francis' reflection on **Blessed Carlo Acutis**, the 2026 theme invites pupils, teachers, families, and parishes to explore the call to holiness as something both universal and accessible. Holiness is not for a few, but for all; not reserved for professionals or mystics, but for every student, teacher, parent, (and grandparent!), aunt or uncle living each day in friendship with Jesus Christ.

St. Patrick's PS: will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week and invite you to attend Mass on **Thursday 22nd January** at 10am in St. Patrick's Church (provided there is no funeral) to celebrate our Grandparents/Special Adult(s) in our lives. Everyone welcome!

St. Macartan's Cathedral: The RTE Flagship programme **Nationwide** featured St. Macartan's Cathedral during 2025. It coincided with Heritage Week. The wonderful craftspeople who have been working on our beautiful Cathedral were featured and it gave us an in-depth insight into the talent, craft and expertise that is helping restore our Mother Church of the Diocese. View at www.clogherdiocese.ie/ourcathedralourlegacy.

Envelope Collection: week ending **11th January** Weekly Offerings £1515.00 and €30. Thank you for your generous support.

Poor Clares Galway: - **Half-Day Retreat for women 18-35** with Beth Davis of *Blessed is She Ministries* on **Sunday 1st February 2pm to 6pm**. Visit <https://cherisheddaughters.eventbrite.ie> for more information and to register. An opportunity to encounter God's love and deepen your life of prayer and communion with God.

Church Music Workshop: on **Saturday 31st January** in Mount Lourdes Grammar School, Enniskillen. The workshop is open to choir directors, members and musicians. Booking is required, details on the poster on notice board at back of the Church. Closing date for booking is Monday, 26th January.

Parish Contributions:

Over the coming weeks we will be updating the list of parish envelope holders in preparation for new boxes of envelopes being distributed in March. Contributions through the envelopes are our main source of income and we are extremely grateful to those who support the parish financially on a regular basis. If you are new to the parish or have become a wage earner in the last year you are encouraged to contribute towards the running costs of your parish by taking a box of envelopes or setting up a standing order to the parish. If you are a taxpayer you might consider gift aiding your contributions. Please contact the parish office on 028 68641889 or email botha@clogherparishes.ie for details.

Marriage Enrichment Weekend: Catholic Marriage Encounter in Ireland will hold a Marriage Enrichment Weekend from **20th to 22nd March** in St Mary's, Knock, Co Mayo. A Weekend like no other. Visit www.marriageencounter.ie for further details

Easy on the Kneasy: returns **Wednesday 21st January** at 11am to 11.45am in Derrygonnelly Harps Clubrooms with Jackie Cassidy. New faces welcome, is suitable for all abilities. Refreshments after each class. £3 per class. Contact 07779647905 for further info or just show up on the day.

Derrygonnelly Harps GFC: Jackpot £3600. £20 Colin Kirkpatrick, Derrygonnelly, Declan Cassidy, Harps, Pat Meehan, Monea. Draw in Doogies tonight. Thanks to everyone who supports and promotes the Lotto. Celebration Dinner Dance takes place on **Saturday 24th January** in the Killyhevlin Hotel, commencing 6pm. Tickets cost £40 and are available from committee members. Youth Presentation on **Friday 30th January** in the clubrooms. We are delighted to have Conor McManus, from Clontibret and Monaghan, to make the presentations on the night.

Reflections

John also declared, *'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him'*. John's words in today's Gospel form a declaration of trust. His words are led from the Spirit: he allowed the Spirit to guide him and this led to greater trust in Jesus.

Whilst we may not be approached by Jesus and be asked to baptise him in the local river, there are many prompts, many signs, through which we can begin to listen the Holy Spirit. First and foremost are the Sacraments and Scripture. By our own baptism we have been signed by the Holy Spirit, just as Jesus was at the Jordan. And, through the Eucharist, we meet Jesus in a special and intimate way. In Scripture we are reminded of Jesus's ministry, his birth, work, crucifixion and death, and his resurrection from the dead, and we are invited to live in synergy with this life, to emulate Christ through the gifts of the Spirit.

This invitation is no less outlandish, no less surprising, than what John experienced. But faith **is** an unexpected journey of surprise and, through it, we become the fullest people that we were designed to be.

At the heart of our journey is the Spirit, and his constant invitation to our hearts. We know where to begin. But are we open, as was John, to listening to him in our lives? Are we open to spending the time in prayer *epriests.com*

Thought for Today: John 'Saw Jesus Coming Toward Him.' – Jesus is always coming toward us, too. Why? Because he loves us. He never imposes himself. He doesn't burst through the door and force us to accept him or even acknowledge him. But he does remain close, hoping we will catch a glimpse of his love and, in that instant, recognise that he is everything our hearts long for. What will happen if we open the door of our life, of our heart, to Christ? He will call us to abandon the tight confines of our egotism, greed, lust, envy, and selfishness. He will open undreamed-of horizons and give a rich, new dimension to our poor, fleeting days on this earth.