

Parish of Botha

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

International Day of Prayer & Awareness against Human Trafficking

We can easily see how Jesus should be the light of the world. Even though the words are familiar, we are perhaps unaccustomed to reflecting on ourselves as the light of the world and the salt of the earth. This is an act of profound trust in us by God. Jesus has faith in us to be bearers of his Good News in our time. How are we to be that? Not first by our words or even by our deeds. We are the light and salt on account of who we are as disciples. As the gospel text puts it, a city built on a hilltop cannot be hidden. We cannot help being seen as his disciples, for that is who we are.

Masses for the Week

Sacred Heart Boho:

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

St Patrick's Derrygonnelly:

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

Tuesday 10th February Eucharistic Adoration 10am – 7pm

Tuesday 10th February **St Scholastica** 7pm Mass and Novena to St Peregrine

Wednesday 11th February **Our Lady of Lourdes** 10am Mass *World Day of the Sick*

Thursday 12th February 10am Mass

Sunday 15th February 11:30am Mass **Anniversary:** Bridie and John Kelly, Drumbeggan – Veronica Hoy, Knockmore Park – Deceased of the Hoy Family, Cosbystown

Immaculate Conception Monea:

Sunday 15th February 10am Mass **Anniversary:** Gerry and Noreen Maguire, Tullycreevy – Deceased of the Duffy Family, Enniskillen – Mary Conway, Enniskillen – Mark Gillies, Legland

Praying for your Dead: 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.

Prayer to Our Lady of Lourdes



*Ever Immaculate Virgin Mother of Mercy,
Health of the sick, refuge of sinners, comforter of the afflicted,
you know my wants, my troubles, my sufferings; look with mercy on me.
By appearing in the Grotto of Lourdes, you were pleased to make it a privileged sanctuary,
whence you dispense your favours; and already many sufferers have obtained the cure for their
infirmities, both spiritual and corporal.
I come, therefore, with complete confidence to implore your maternal intercession.
Obtain, O loving Mother, the grant of my requests.
Through gratitude for your favours,
I will endeavour to imitate your virtues, that I may one day share your glory. Amen.*

A Discernment Retreat for Diocesan Priesthood: will take place in Drumalis Retreat House, Larne, from 6th - 8th March 2026. For more information or to book a place, email Fr Raymond: fraymond@clogherparishes.ie

"They left everything at once and followed him" (Luke 5:11)

Temperance Pledge: in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, the children are encouraged to take the pledge. It is a promise not to take alcohol until they are at least eighteen years of age and to stay off illicit drugs for life. The pressure on our young people to dabble and to experiment at a young age is a constant threat to their health, safety and well-being. All of us as adults – parents, teachers, clergy, family and community has a role to play in encouraging them to maintain the pledge which they take at this point in their life. The children normally take the pledge on Temperance Sunday- the Sunday before Ash Wednesday – however as both of our schools are on midterm break next week, they are invited to take it on **Sunday 22nd February** at either of the masses in the Sacred Heart or St Patrick's.

Trocaire Lenten Campaign: Deadly storms and droughts. Entire harvests lost. Livelihoods and education opportunities, gone. One in every two children under the age of five, malnourished. Right now in Guatemala, hardworking families like Ilma and Julio's are being pushed further into poverty by the relentless effects of climate change. Please give generously for Ilma and Julio's family, and future, this Lent. Trocaire boxes available at the back of all churches this weekend. Please bring one home and support this year's appeal.

Prayer for an end to Human Trafficking

"O God, when we hear of children and adults deceived and taken to unknown places for purposes of sexual exploitation, forced labour, and organ 'harvesting', our hearts are saddened and our spirits angry that their dignity and rights are ignored through threats, lies, and force.

We cry out against the evil practice of this modern slavery, and pray with St. Bakhita for it to end.

Give us wisdom and courage to reach out and stand with those whose bodies, hearts and spirits have been so wounded, so that together we may make real your promises to fill these sisters and brothers with a love that is tender and good.

Send the exploiters away empty-handed to be converted from this wickedness, and help us all to claim the freedom that is your gift to your children. Amen"

Envelope Collection: week ending **1st February** Weekly Offerings £2425.00 and €49. Thank you for your generous support.

Derrygonnelly Harps GFC: Jackpot £3900. £20 Geraldine Curley, Boho, Bernard Tummon, Newtownbutler, Killian Keogh, Boho. Draw in The Linnett Inn tonight. Thanks to everyone who supports and promotes the Lotto.

Eileen Watters Memorial walk: a total of £3219.25 and €46.47 was raised and passed on to Cancer Connect NI Devenish Dragons. Thanks to all who supported this event.

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

Reflections

Christian witness is meant to edify others and not to serve as path to self-promotion. Christians are called to provide simple, habitual witness to Jesus; 'everyday holiness.' Christian witness can mean giving one's life in martyrdom, after Jesus' example. But another path is to point to Christ in our everyday actions, when we wake, work, and go to bed.

It seems like such a small thing, but miracles are done through small things.

Christian witness must be grounded in humility, which means being simple salt and light for others. Salt for others; light for others: Because salt does not give flavour to itself but serves others. Light does not illuminate itself but serves others. Supermarkets sell salt in small quantities, not by the ton. And salt does not promote itself because it doesn't serve itself. It exists to serve others, by conserving things and giving flavour. This is simple witness.

Daily Christian witness means being light for others, 'to help them in their darkest hour. 'The Lord says: 'You are salt; you are light. 'But do so in order that others see and glorify God. You will not even receive any merit. When we eat, we don't compliment the salt. No, we say the pasta or meat is good. When we go to sleep at night, we don't say the light is good. We ignore the light, but we live illuminated by light. This impels Christians to be anonymous witnesses.

Do not act like the Pharisee who thanks the Lord for his holiness. We are not the authors of our own merits. Everyday holiness means being salt and light for others. *Pope Francis*