

Parish of Botha

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Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Day of Prayer for Temperance

Human beings have been given the freedom to obey God's laws or not. Christ calls us to choose love as the fulfilling of the law. His followers do not measure out the minimum legal requirements but choose the fulness of life. 'You have heard that it was said....but I say to you.'

Masses for the Week

Immaculate Conception Monea:

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

Wednesday 18th February **Ash Wednesday** 10am Service with Liturgy of the Word and Distribution of Ashes.

St Patrick's Derrygonnelly:

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

Tuesday 17th February Eucharistic Adoration 10am – 7pm

Tuesday 17th February 7pm Mass and Novena to St Peregrine

Wednesday 18th February **Ash Wednesday** 7pm Mass

Thursday 19th February 10am Mass

Sunday 22nd February 11:30am Mass **Anniversary:** Paddy McLoughlin, Braade – Packie and Lena McKeaney, Rosnarick Close

Sacred Heart Boho:

Sunday 22nd February 10am Mass People of the Parish

Recently Deceased: as a parish community we extend sympathy to the family, relative and friends of Mary Johnston, Muckenagh. May she rest in peace.

Ash Wednesday: A Lay-led liturgy with the distribution of ashes will take place in the Immaculate Conception, Monea at 10am.

Lenten Prayer

O Christ, Son of God,
for our sake you fasted forty days and allowed yourself to be tempted.
Protect us so that we may not be led astray by any temptation.
Since man does not live by bread alone,
nourish our souls with the heavenly food of your Word;
through your mercy, O our God,
you are blessed, and live and govern all things, now and
forever. Amen.



Stations of the Cross: will be prayed during Lent on Wednesdays after 10am mass in St. Patrick's and in the Sacred Heart Church on Thursday evenings at 7pm, beginning Thursday 19th February. You are encouraged to take this opportunity to come together as we commemorate that final journey of Jesus on Good Friday.

Envelope Collection: week ending **8th February** Weekly Offerings £1955.00 and €19.70. Thank you for your generous support.

A Discernment Retreat for Diocesan Priesthood: "They left everything at once and followed him" (Luke 5:11)

Retreat takes place in Drumalis Retreat House, Larne, from **6th - 8th March**. For more information or to book a place, email Fr Raymond: rraymondodonnelly@clogherparishes.ie

Temperance Pledge: in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, the children are encouraged to take the pledge on **Sunday 22nd February** at either of the masses in the Sacred Heart or St Patrick's.

Trocaire Lenten Campaign: Please give generously to alleviate the suffering caused to families in Guatemala, due to the relentless effects of climate change. One in every two children under the age of five are malnourished. Trocaire boxes are available at the back of all churches. Please bring one home and support this year's appeal.

Immaculate Conception: please come along to help with hedge cutting and general tidy up of our cemetery on **Saturday 21st February** at 10 am. Please bring your own tools.

Derrygonnelly Harps GFC: Jackpot £4000. £20 Holly Foy, Derrygonnelly, Gabriel Keown, Garrison, The Derrygonnelly Hillbillies, Knockmore. Draw in Doogies tonight. Thanks to everyone who supports and promotes the Lotto.

Pioneer Association: Parishioners who wish to take a short-term pledge for Lent are invited to visit www.pioneers.ie or to speak to a Pioneer in the parish. "Off the drink for Lent" is a reminder that "the bonds of friendship and affection do not unravel with death" ... or with addiction or sickness.

'Bringing' SWAH to Stormont" - Monday 23rd February at 10:30AM. If you would like to be part of this vital day in our campaign please contact, leaving your name and a contact mobile number, by either method: Save our Acute Services Facebook page by DM or by email: carmelimageesoas@gmail.com. Buses will bring those who require transport or make your own way and meet us at the Stormont gates at 10:30AM. Please spread the word and encourage any friends and family living near Belfast to also join us on the day.

Reflections

All four gospels record that Jesus was baptised by John the Baptist in the River Jordan, making it one of the most historically certain events in the life of Jesus. John preached a baptism for the forgiveness of sins as he gathered a community to await the coming Messiah. In the fullness of time Jesus, the Sinless One, went down into the waters of the Jordan in solidarity with sinful men and women, 'to fulfil all righteousness' (Matt 3:15) and was baptised by John.

The Synoptic Gospels describe the descent of the Holy Spirit and the voice of the Father that declared 'You are my beloved son in whom I am well pleased.' Emerging from the waters of the baptismal font, every Christian hears again that voice that was once heard on the banks of the Jordan. From this comes the reassurance that one has become a child of adoption (cf. Gal 4:4-7) and a brother or sister of Christ. Baptism is not a rite of passage into a privileged club. It is the sacrament by which believers, bathed in living water, enter the Spirit-filled community that seeks to manifest the reign of God the Father as Jesus did.

Forms of Friday Penance

The following are suggested as ways of fulfilling Friday penance:

- **Abstaining from meat or some other food;**
- **Abstaining from alcoholic drink or smoking;**
- **Making a special effort at involvement in family prayer;**
- **Making a special effort to participate in Mass on Fridays;**
- **Visiting the Blessed Sacrament;**
- **Making the Stations of the Cross;**
- **Fasting from all food for a longer period than usual and perhaps giving what is saved to the needy;**
- **Helping the poor, sick, old, or lonely.**

From the statement on Friday Penance issued by the Bishop's Conference, 2011

Time for Dementia: is now at the University of Ulster and the Alzheimer's Society are actively looking for families to take part. Time for Dementia is an innovative award-winning training programme, designed to educate undergraduate healthcare students to improve their knowledge, attitude, and empathy towards people with dementia and their carers. The student nurses will be paired up with a family affected by dementia and will arrange to visit them at home. Three times a year. This is a unique learning opportunity for the students but also a great chance for a family affected by dementia to share their experiences of living with the condition and help nurses of tomorrow learn about Dementia to improve the future of healthcare for people with dementia. For more information, ring 07860331648 or anouska.noble@alzheimers.org.uk