

Parish of Botha

Parish Priest: Fr. Cathal Deery

Tel: 028 68641207

Email: frcathaldeery@clogherparishes.ie

Parish Office:

Tel: 028 68641889

Email: botha@clogherparishes.ie

Parish webcam: churchmedia.tv

website: <http://bothaparish.com>

Third Sunday of Lent

Today we are greatly helped by the wonderful Gospel of the Woman at the Well. On the third attempt, Jesus finally gets through to her but after that there is no stopping her. She represents us: what do I thirst for? What is the most important thing in my life? Where do I now find God? By relentless challenge and resolute honesty, we too can be led to that encounter with Jesus, which changes everything, "giving life a new horizon and a decisive direction". May we come to believe because we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.

Masses for the Week

Sacred Heart Boho:

Sunday 8th March 10am Mass **Months Memory:** Mary Johnston, Muckenagh **Anniversary:** Eamon, Liam, Edie and Edmund Corrigan, Aghamore – John Curran and Deceased of the Curran Family, Reyfad

St Patrick's Derrygonnelly:

Sunday 8th March 11:30am Mass **Anniversary:** Anna Gallagher, Derryvarymore – Tommy and Lucy Flanagan, Drumadillar – Francis and Mary Ellen Dolan, Sandhill – Eugene Dolan, Australia

Tuesday 10th March Eucharistic Adoration 10am – 7pm

Tuesday 10th March 7pm Mass and Novena to St Peregrine

Wednesday 11th March 10am Mass

Thursday 12th March 10am Mass

Sunday 15th March 11:30am Mass **Anniversary:** Rita and Eamon Maguire, Main Street

Immaculate Conception Monea:

Sunday 15th March 10am Mass **Anniversary:** John and Ann Higgins, Castletown

Recently Deceased: as a parish community we extend sympathy to the family, relative and friends of Teresa Jones, Corr, Kathleen Duffy, Drumgormley and Vera Breen, Trillick. May they rest in peace.

Lenten Prayer

For Guidance: 'Heavenly Father, look upon me and hear my prayer during this holy Season of Lent. By Your Spirit help me to know what is right and to be eager in doing Your will... Teach me to find new life through penance. Keep me from sin, and help me live by Your commandment of love. Amen.'

For Strength & Repentance: 'O God, our loving Father in heaven, we confess that we have sinned against you... For these, and all our sins, forgive us, we pray: through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.'

Eucharistic Adoration: will not take place on Tuesday 17th March in St. Patrick's. Adoration will resume from 10am to 7pm on Tuesday 24th March.

Envelope Collection: week ending 1st March Weekly Offerings £2750.00 and €39.70. Thank you for your generous support.

THIS WEEK'S BULLETIN IS SPONSORED ANONYMOUSLY.

Enniskillen Vocations Society of St Joseph Branch: Monthly Meeting will be held in St Michael's Parish Centre on Monday **9th March** at 7.00 pm. New members of all ages are welcome to attend.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: 3rd - 8th July - booking now open. Pilgrims and Assisted pilgrims should contact John Hueston at 028677 24329 or booking forms can be downloaded at website - www.lourdes2clogher.com. Pilgrim fare - €1,100 per person (excludes €40 coach transfer to/from airport). Assisted pilgrim fare €1,100 (Includes travel insurance & coach transfer to/from airport).

Clogher don Óige: invite young people (15-17) to join them on pilgrimage to Taizé this summer. **8th -17th August**, €670, limited places available. Further information at www.clogherdonoise.org/taize2026

I Hear Spring Breathing

**I hear Spring breathing softly,
her quiet respiration
rising and falling
through the heavy snowbanks
gurgling in the sunshine.**

**I hear the slow, steady intake
of mid-February air
stirring the awakening crocus.**

**I hear the sigh
of the oak tree's terminal buds,
warm wind stretching them out
beneath the turquoise sky.**

**I hear my own lungs
inhaling and exhaling
with renewed hope,
ready for the coming
of green and the shedding
of all that is greyed
with winter's feigned death.**



Reflections

If we look again at this week's Gospel of Jesus's encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well (*John 4:5-42*), we can find aspects of love. Let us begin by imagining that we are also at Jacob's well with Jesus as he asks the Samaritan woman for a drink of water. We are shocked.

The Gospel says Jews used nothing in common with Samaritans (*John 4:10*). But in reaching out across cultural and gender barriers, Jesus is showing a magnanimous love that does not insist on its own way. Jesus went further in this outpouring of love, offering her 'living water,' precisely because he knew about her past. And the woman, undoubtedly at first shocked and irritated that Jesus, a Jew, had occupied her space, changed too in the dramatic encounter. She left behind her water jar (*John 4:28*) as she returned to her village to share how her encounter with Jesus changed her heart. It was a small gesture on her part, a sign that her heart, once irritated, was now filled with love.

As this week unfolds, you might spend a few minutes each day reflecting on Jesus' outpouring of love, his living water, and how it is available to you, right now. Think of the Samaritan woman, her life radically changed by encountering the Messiah, and her water jar, a small gesture of her love. What small gesture of love can you offer this week, to a person who irritates you? *Roger Sullivan*



TheWay.ie: is a new digital platform set up by the Irish Bishops Conference dedicated to sharing the "Good News" and the witness of the Catholic Church in Ireland. It is intended to help people discover the faith, live the faith, and pass on the faith. It is for both seekers and followers. Use QR Code to access the site.

Stroke Warriors: coffee morning on **Tuesday 24th March** at 11am in St. Macartin's Cathedral Hall. All proceeds in aid of Stroke Warriors. Everyone welcome!

"Give something, however small, to the one in need. For it is not small to one who has nothing. Neither is it small to God, if we have given what we could." -St. Gregory Nazianzen