

Parish of Botha

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Hours: Monday and Thursday 6.30pm – 9.30pm Wednesday 1.30pm – 9.30pm

Parish webcam: churchmedia.tv

website: <http://bothaparish.com>

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Do not be afraid" is one of those expressions which goes straight to the heart. Who has not sometimes been afraid? The command not to fear combines two things; firstly, it is a recognition that sometimes we are afraid; secondly, it proclaims that in the community of faith, with Jesus, God-with-us, our companion on the way, we ought really to be free from deep fear, because "all shall be well." Let us hear again the words, "Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid."

Masses for the Week

Sacred Heart Boho:

Sunday 9th August 10am Mass **Anniversary:** Peter Gallagher, Leskey – Francie and Teresa Gallagher, Killyveagh

St Patrick's Derrygonnelly:

Sunday 9th August 11:30am Mass **Anniversary:** Frank, Cassie and Martin Gallagher, Fairview Park – Deceased of the Gallagher Family, Monawilkin - Sean McGovern, Doagh – Sonny and Bernie McGovern, Tonagh

Tuesday 11th August Eucharistic Adoration 10am – 7pm

Wednesday 12th August 10am Mass

Thursday 13th August 10am Mass

Saturday 15th August **The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary** 10am Mass

Sunday 16th August 11:30am Mass **Anniversary:** Brigid and Bennie Love, Loughan – Roseanne and John Love, Derryvary – Paddy Flanagan, and Deceased of the Flanagan Family, Main Street – Mary and Hugh Flanagan, Dresternan – Billy Jones and Deceased of the Jones Family, Doagh

Immaculate Conception Monea:

Sunday 16th August 10am Mass **Anniversary:** Charlie Woods, Castletown – Kevin, Lily and Geraldine Cassidy, Killyveagh

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

Baptisms: We welcome to the Christian world through the waters of Baptism Lorcan Colm Duffy-Flanagan and Séan Patrick McGurn. May they grow in faith.

Prayer to our Lady of the Assumption - Feast Day 15th August

O Blessed Virgin Mary,
assumed body and soul into heavenly glory,
we honour you as our loving Mother and Queen.
Through your powerful intercession,
obtain for us the grace to live in faith, hope and charity each day.
Help us to follow your example of humility, purity,
and complete trust in God's holy will.
Strengthen us in times of trial, protect our families,
and lead us always closer to your Son, Jesus Christ.
May we one day share in the joy of heaven, where you reign with Christ forever. Amen.



Parish Webcam: The parish is aware of problems with the broadband in the church and is currently working with the provider. Consequently services are unable to be streamed at the moment. Apologies for the disruption

Bishop Liam S MacDaid (RIP): Third Anniversary Mass will be held on **Friday, 14th August** at 7pm, St. Macartan's Cathedral, Monaghan.

Parish office: will be closed on **Thursday 13th August** and **Monday 17th of August**.

Envelope Collection: Week ending **2nd August** – Weekly offerings £2510.00 and €12.50. Thank you for your generous support.

Botha Development Fund: Thank you to all who supported the recent 5k run/walk fundraiser, which raised **£1580.00**

Thought for Today

When fear becomes our main focus, we start sinking; when Jesus is our main focus, we can walk on water. Peter's walk on water was short lived because he took his eyes off Jesus. He noticed the surging waters and became afraid. Peter learned an important lesson that day that we should not ignore. When we let fear rule, we sink. Life is full of storms, big storms and little storms. Unless you consistently abide in Him and keep your eyes on Jesus, you will sink. Keep your eyes on Him. Sometimes Jesus is going to ask you to take a risk and trust him by being the first to step out of the boat.

Jerome Stockert

Lough Derg: One Day Retreats – Guided Days of Prayer and Reflection - places available **August** 18th, 22nd, 23rd, 29th and 31st. **September** 5th, 6th, 9th, 12th, 15th, 19th and 20th **Includes Special Themed Retreats: 23rd August - St Peregrine 5th September – Pioneer Pilgrimage - 6th September – St Carlos Acutis - 9th & 12th September – Vocations Monstrance - 19th September – Divine Mercy Pilgrimage** Admission €50. Group discounts available. www.loughderg.org Tel. **0719861518** email. info@loughderg.org. Advance Booking Essential.

Catholic Mothers Ireland: will hold its Annual National Mass on **Sunday, 6 September** at Termonbacca Retreat Centre, Derry City. The day will begin with Mass at 2.00pm, celebrated by Bishop Donal McKeown, followed by refreshments, children's activities, and a talk for parents. This promises to be a lovely day for the whole family. For more information and booking details, please email info@catholicmothers.ie. All are welcome

Marriage Encounter Ireland: invites married couples to a residential weekend from **Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th October** at the "Focolare Centre" "Curryhills", Prosperous, Co. Kildare. Step away from daily distractions to deepen your communication, renew your love, and rediscover the joy of your marriage. www.marriageencounter.ie

Derrygonnelly Harps GFC: Jackpot £4100. £20 Niamh Collins, Killyhommon P.S, Brian McManus, Derrylin, online players, Colin Kirkpatrick, Derrygonnelly. Draw in Doogies tonight. Thanks to all Lotto supporters, promoters and supervisors. Condolence to the McGoldrick Family on the passing of Mrs Kathleen McGoldrick, Dromore.

Points to Ponder

We admire the mother or father who really fights for their child. They won't take no for an answer if their child is being bullied or treated unjustly in any way, they will fight for the best medical treatment for their sick child. The woman in the gospel is like that.

She has a sick child and really wants healing. Who would not want the same? She almost forces Jesus into curing her little daughter. Her persistence is an effect of her faith, and because of her faith Jesus cures her child.

'Dogs' was a name for the Gentiles – and in this story the woman plays on its meaning to get Jesus to feed the dogs and, in this way, care for her.

Maybe this is a 'change moment' for Jesus when he realises through this poor woman that he is sent not only to his own lost ones, but that his mission is for the whole world.

This is not the first biblical figure to argue with the Lord: Genesis and Exodus tell of times when Abraham and Moses gave out to God. This woman is different from the scribes who often tried to trap Jesus with arguments.

She is begging for her daughter. There is something teasing and humorous about Jesus' first reply to her. He enjoyed that Semitic style of thrust and counter.

His first response is what we often experience in prayer: no give. But a mother seeking health for her child is not easily deterred, and Jesus rewards her persistence – I imagine him smiling as he blesses her. sacredspace.com • The Irish Jesuits