

Parish of Botha

Parish Priest: Fr. Cathal Deery Tel: 028 68641207

Email: frcathaldeery@clogherparishes.ie

Parish Office:

Tel: 028 68641889

Email: botha@clogherparishes.ie

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

Parish webcam: churchmedia.tv

website: <http://bothaparish.com>

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

When Jesus presses the question, who do you say I am?, we feel him speaking to us. Naturally, we think of our faith now in the light of our own journey of life and pilgrimage of faith. How did I start out? What was my image of Jesus then and how did I relate to him? Has there been a major turning point for me and can I name one or two? How have I deepened my familiarity with Jesus and who he is for me now? If I were to choose an image or a metaphor what would come to mind? If I were to explain to someone what my faith in Jesus is, what words would I use?

Masses for the Week

Sacred Heart Boho:

Sunday 23rd August 10am Mass **Anniversary:** Phil Corrigan, Aghaherrish – John Gilroy, Aghamore – Susan and Jim McAfee and Deceased of the McAfee Family, Aghahoran – Charlie McManus and Deceased of the McManus Family, Farnaconnell

St Patrick's Derrygonnelly:

Sunday 23rd August 11:30am Mass **Anniversary:** Kevin Sheerin and Deceased of the Sheerin Family, Donegall - Gavin and Phil Meehan and Deceased of the Meehan Family, Main Street

Tuesday 25th August Eucharistic Adoration 10am – 7pm

Sunday 30th August 11:30am Mass **Anniversary:** Danny and Madeline McGarry, Tonagh – Packie and Mary McTeggart, Derryvary – Thomas Murphy, Drumanane

Immaculate Conception Monea:

Sunday 30th August 10am Mass People of the Parish

Daily Mass: As Father Cathal is currently on retreat there will be no daily masses this week.

Prayer to St Monica

Feast Day 27th August

Great St. Monica,
patroness of fathers and mothers,
please take our children, especially those
who have turned from the ways of God
and His Church, under your protection.
Help them always remain faithful to
their baptismal vows.

Give them strength to walk always in
the ways of the Lord, despite the
temptations and false values they find in
the world today.

Grant that they may share with you in
the joys of eternal life in God. Amen.

Prayer to St Augustine

Feast Day 28th August

Glorious Saint Augustine,
patron of the restless heart
and seeker of truth,
I turn to you with confidence.
Obtain for me from God
the wisdom to know His will,
the courage to follow it,
and the grace to bring my restless heart
to rest in Him.

Hear my prayer and intercede for my
present distress. Amen

one of the greatest theologians and philosophers of the early
Church: his writings – especially **Confessions** and **The City
of God** – are filled with deep spiritual insights.

Envelope Collection: Week ending 16th August – Weekly offerings £1525.00 and €21.30. Thank you for your generous support.

The Season of Creation: "All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements and talents." (Laudato Si', 14)

Laudato Si' Ireland Network Meeting: Tuesday August 25th at 7pm online: If you would like to join this meeting to hear more about the Season of Creation 2026, you are very welcome. Please contact Roisin.Pye@Trocaire.org for the link to join.

Faith in Bloom Conference ~ Saturday, 29 August, Knock Shrine is hosting a day conference celebrating its inspiring Return to Nature project. Over the past year, the Shrine has worked closely with Mayo County Council Biodiversity Officer Sheila Murphy to transform areas of its grounds through pollinator-friendly habitats, native orchards, bird and bat boxes, reduced mowing, and the development of a Biodiversity Action Plan. The conference will share practical lessons from Knock's experience and offer inspiration for other parishes wishing to put care for creation into action. Further information: <https://www.knockshrine.ie/church-return-to-nature-conference-saturday-august-29th-2026/>

Thought for Today

What we believe about God matters. More than anything else in this world. And there is no more important time to wrestle with this than right now. In the midst of all that we are going through in our world today, we confess once again our faith and trust in Jesus, believing, with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, that he is the Savior of our world, the son of the living God. Who promises to calm our every storm, who offers us a peace that surpasses understanding, who is eager to hear our every prayer, and who assures us that he will be with us always, even to the end of the age.

mypastoralponderings.com

Clogher don Óige: are excited to invite you to their upcoming special young adult series event — **The Chosen**, a groundbreaking drama about the life of Jesus Christ, told through the eyes of those who knew Him. Join us for evenings of reflection, discussion, and community as we journey together through this inspiring portrayal of Jesus' revolutionary life and teachings. On Thursdays, **3rd September 2026 – 29th October 2026** from 7:30pm – 9:30pm in St. Joseph's Pastoral Centre, Monaghan. More info at info@clogherdonoige.org.

Poor Clares Galway: Half-Day Retreat for women 18-40 with women's spirituality speaker Louise Mc Guinness. An opportunity to encounter God's love and deepen your life of prayer and communion with God. The event will take place from **2pm to 6pm** on **Sunday 6th September**. For more information and to register: <https://cherisheddaughters.eventbrite.ie>

Derrygonnelly Harps GFC: Jackpot £4300. £20 Sheena Dolan, Boho, online player, Siobhan Maguire and Michael Corrigan, Derrygonnelly. Draw in Old Pals tonight. Thanks to all Lotto supporters, promoters and supervisors. Condolence to the McConnell Family on the passing of Seamus McGovern, Enniskillen.

Points to Ponder

On many occasions, Jesus asks his disciples not to tell anyone that he is the Son of God, the Messiah. Why might that be? The only reason I can imagine is that he's saying every one of us has to come to that knowledge for ourselves.

We can't let someone else do our spiritual homework for us, but many of us do. We Catholics let the pope, bishops, and priests give us all the answers and then we just parrot them back. Has there been any experience of it ourselves?

Often, the answer is 'usually not.' Many Christians believe what we're supposed to believe. But here Jesus says, 'Who do you say that I am?' What have you experienced? What have you personally discovered? What knowledge do you have?

This passage is most often used to preach the primacy of the papacy since Jesus tells Peter, 'You are the rock upon which I will build my church.'

That's true, but a couple chapters later Jesus says the identical thing to the whole community: 'Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven. What you loose on earth, will be loosed in heaven' (Matthew 18:18).

Jesus is not only talking about the pope; he's talking about the people of God, all of us. Peter as the symbolic leader has to do it first, but then we all participate in passing on the message.

*Centre for action and contemplation
cac.org*

'You have made us for Yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You.'

St Augustine