

The Sunday Newsletter

Knockninny

ST NINNIDH'S CHURCH DERRYLIN & ST MARY'S CHURCH TEEMORE
14th February 2021 The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
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The churches are closed for Public Worship until Saturday 5th March. (This reopening date is subject to review in late February.)

During this time, the only Mass on webcam will be the 11.15am Mass from St Ninnidh's Church on Sunday 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th February .

The Mass intentions for each Sunday will include those anniversary Masses booked for that weekend and anniversary Masses booked for the weekdays of the following week.

Attendances at weddings and funerals continue is limited to a total of 25.
The celebration of Baptism is also permitted, under strict conditions.
To book a baptism please contact Fr Alwill at 028 6774 8315.

Churches remain open for private prayer.

We remember the following whose anniversaries were due to be celebrated :

Mass Intentions for Sunday 14th Feb:

Edward McManus & Family (Corraclare North)
John, Lena and Thomas Cathcart (Cornanoe)
Olive McDermott (Dublin) 1st Anniversary
Hugh & Anna McCaffrey and daughter Nicola & Family (Gortaree)

Mass Intentions for Sunday 21st Feb:

John Martin (Coragh) (1st Anniversary)
Peter, Margaret & Packie McAloon (Coragh)
Mary McGurn & Elizabeth McGurn (Coragh)
Jim McCaffrey (Main St, Derrylin)
Sonny Gilleece & Family (Tiraroe)

Ash Wednesday:

Ash Wednesday marks the start of the season of Lent, a season of penance, a season of prayer and a season of charity towards those in need.

The traditional sign of Ash Wednesday is the wearing of ashes on our foreheads. For many people, the wearing of the ashes represents an important expression of their faith and an expression of their desire to be one with Christ in his passion and resurrection.

This year we are unable to celebrate Ash Wednesday Masses in the traditional way. So, we propose the following arrangement...

Parishioners may join with us in our celebration of
Ash Wednesday Mass via the web cam streaming services, either at 10am in Derrylin or at 7pm in Teemore.

Small bags of blessed ashes will be left in Derrylin and Teemore churches after 2pm on Sunday. Parishioners are invited to call to their local church between then and 5pm on Tuesday to collect a bag of these ashes. Please, take only one bag of ashes per family/household.

On Ash Wednesday we will have two Masses in the parish, one in Derrylin at 10am and a second in Teemore at 7.00pm. Both Masses will be streamed on their respective web cam services. Parishioners joining in from home are asked to have holy water to hand for that Mass.

During the Mass, when the priest blesses the ashes during the Mass, parishioners will be asked to sprinkle holy water on their ashes. When instructed by the priests, they may then mark their foreheads with the ashes.

Trócaire's Lenten campaign for 2021 tells the stories of two families in South Sudan whose lives have been impacted by conflict. Awut and Ajak are shining examples of resilience, friendship and solidarity. This Lent we hear not only about the enormous challenges they have faced, but also about how they support each other through these challenges.

UK Aid Match This year, the Lent campaign is part of UK Aid Match, meaning public donations* given between 17 February 2021 and 16 May 2021 will be doubled by the UK government, up to £2m. Furthermore, if a donor signs up for a monthly gift, or increases their monthly gift, before the 16th of May 2021, up to three of their instalments will be matched! We will be able to support thousands of people in South Sudan to grow enough food to feed their families. Don't forget that donations will only be matched up until the 16th May. This past year has brought many challenges to parishes and communities around Ireland, and the impact of Covid-19 continues to be felt by many. We are continually humbled by and grateful for the generosity shown by you and your parishioners. Now more than ever, families like Awut and Ajak's need our compassion and our support as they continue to carry their immense burdens with dignity.

Masses on Parish web cams. and can be accessed on www.mcmedia.tv and church services. CB Radio is also on air.

Derrylin O'Connell's

LOTTO: Due to the new restrictions, our lotto is suspended until further notice. **Jackpot stands at £4650.**

The club adjourned AGM will take place on Sunday 14th February at 4pm via Microsoft Teams.

If anyone would like to link in and attend the AGM, please send an email to: secretary.derrylinconnells.fermanagh@gaa.ie before Friday 12th February.

If you need any assistance setting up Microsoft Teams, please let us know.

Community Assistance - The health and well-being of our community is so important to us and in these difficult times we want to be able to support and offer assistance to the elderly and most vulnerable individuals/families in Derrylin. If you or anyone you know requires assistance with collecting prescriptions, groceries or any essential needs you can contact one of our club coordinators below who will arrange as necessary.

Eimhear Reilly – 07584902208; Leanne Prior – 07742593106; Joe Reilly - 07598835869

***** You do not have to be a club member to avail of assistance *****

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 00353818 222 024.

Parish Office Due to the current restrictions related to COVID-19, our Parish Office is closed for walk-in and face-to-face bookings/enquiries until further notice. You can still contact us on Facebook AND ☎ 02867748315 📧 derrylin@kilmorediocese.ie We thank you for your continued support.

Society of St Vincent de Paul St Ninnidh's Conference can be contacted for support at any time on 07873240493

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Day of Prayer for Temperance

Do something this Lent. Many people choose to abstain from alcohol during Lent. Take this opportunity to help someone you love with an alcohol or drug problem by offering your sacrifice as a prayer for their freedom and well-being. Take the short pledge and make a difference to someone's life.

'I promise, in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and with the help of the Blessed Virgin Mary, to abstain from alcoholic drink until Easter Sunday.'



Lenten Litany

Heavenly Father, this Lent we ask your grace –

To fast from judging others and feast on what makes them special, *Lord help us*

To fast from unkind words and feast on kindness, *Lord help us*

To fast from jealousy and feast on offering compliments *Lord help us*

To fast from getting angry and feast on being patient, *Lord help us*

To fast from worry and feast on trusting God, *Lord help us*

To fast from complaining and feast on gratitude, *Lord help us*

To fast from nastiness and feast on friendliness, *Lord help us*

To fast from greed and feast on giving, *Lord help us*

To fast from selfishness and feast on helping others, *Lord help us*

To fast from discouragement and feast on hope. *Lord help us*

Reflection 'Stretched out his hand...'

Jesus, in today's Gospel, cures a leper by the healing touch of his hand. A leper was completely outcasted from society due to the huge stigma surrounding the disease, which was highly contagious but was also seen as a punishment from God in Jesus' time. Jesus is moved with pity for this man and reaches out to him. Jesus sends the man to the priests, as a testimony to them. Jesus' 'pity' also conveys anger at the leper's situation. It is the religious hierarchy of Jesus' time who have alienated this man. What they are incapable of doing (healing him), Jesus has done by 'stretching out his hand' in love.

'There is a need for paths of peace to heal open wounds. There is also a need for peacemakers, men and women prepared to work boldly and creatively to initiate processes of healing and renewed encounter.' (Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti, 225)

***A Pastoral Letter for Lent 2021 - Walking together in hope.
From Bishop Martin Hayes
Bishop of Kilmore***

The facts as they are now.

We are enduring a longer lockdown at home; working or not working, home-schooling or alone, in hospital or nursing home. It is difficult hearing news of the high level of positive cases of Covid-19 and sadly of more deaths – our sympathies are with the grieving families. The roll-out of the vaccines is welcome and offers hope.

In the midst of suffering due to the pandemic, it is important that we take account of the recent reports of the Mother and Baby Homes and listen from the heart to the pain endured by mothers and their children. As Church, we ask forgiveness and resolve to always act in accord with the compassion of Jesus Christ. We must begin again in a spirit of repentance trusting in the merciful love of the Good Lord.

What is important now?

As a People of God, we are called to reach out to others. We can be visible to each other in taking our necessary physical exercise outdoors on our streets and our roads to offer encouragement to each other in these difficult times. With less possibilities of meeting with extended family and friends, going for a walk may be just the opportunity for some much-needed social interaction by way of a nod, a smile, a greeting, or a brief chat at a safe distance. Our healthcare and frontline personnel have become our sources of inspiration in this regard. Also, a phone call to those who cannot be outdoors makes all the difference. Covid-19 is teaching us an appreciation of each other and of the usefulness of online communication technology.

It is encouraging that an increasing number of parishes have had webcam and radio links installed as parishioners value keeping in touch with their own faith community. Also, there is greater contact between the older more vulnerable generation, thanks to the technological 'know-how' of our younger generation. While we cannot be present to each other as we would like and we do feel isolated, yet online platforms are ways of keeping in contact with each other as well as with our faith being celebrated at home.

What can we be doing now?

We are about to begin our Lenten journey of accompanying Jesus on His forty days of isolation in the desert wilderness. In this current lockdown, we find ourselves isolated from normal social interaction and in the midst again of a kind of wilderness experience. Covid-19 is becoming our teacher. We are being called again to take time to consider and to contemplate what is most important in life. During Lent we are invited to journey with Jesus to feel His suffering which He endured on our behalf. On that spiritual journey we can come to a realisation of how Jesus is with us in our struggling with this ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

As we are living through exceptional times, we will celebrate Lent differently this year. We will begin on Ash Wednesday, 17th February with specially prepared prayers and rituals for use at home which have a focus upon actions for Lent. These resources for use at home or guided by parishes, where it is possible, will be available online via diocesan/parish websites or for collection in churches beforehand and in your local newspapers -.

This year, our Trocaire Lenten Campaign invites us to walk with two women, Awat and Ajak, brought together by the horror of war in South Sudan and whose families are now sharing their lives with love and kindness. Your practical support for the Trocaire campaign of social justice is much needed and appreciated. Every effort will be made by parishes to ensure the availability of the Trocaire boxes for collection in a safe way.

Finally, I invite you to gather around the Gospels of the Sundays of Lent amid living with Covid-19 to break open the Word of God and to share your insights with each other. In staying on the Lenten journey, we can come to Holy Week with a deeper appreciation of the story of Jesus and experience the joy and hope of new life, of the Resurrection which we will celebrate at Easter. In being nourished at the level of the spiritual we are sustained and made resilient in our reaching out to others.

Yours in Christ.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin Hayes', written in a cursive style.

+ Martin Hayes
Bishop of Kilmore.