

The Parish of Leitrim/Ballydugan/Kilmeen

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(The parish newsletter is available On-line @ www.clonferdiocese.ie)

The Seventh Week of Ordinary Time:

Saturday 22nd February 6.30. St. Andrew Church:

Monica Hardiman (26th Anniversary)

Sunday 23rd February 11am. St. Jarlath Church:

Sean, Hannah and John Skelly.

Monday 24th February. St Andrew Church: 7.50am. Private Intention.

Tuesday 25th February. St Andrew Church: 8.00am. Private Intention.

Ash Wednesday. St Andrew Church: 8.00am.

Blessing and distribution of Ash - Private Intention.

Thursday 27th February. St Andrew Church: 8.00am. Private Intention.

Friday 28th February. No Mass

Saturday 29th February 6.30. St. Andrew Church:

Eamon Hyland and Celia Hyland

Sunday 1st March 11am. St. Jarlath Church:

Sylvester and Christina Clarke and the deceased members of the Clarke and Donnellan families.

Readers: Saturday 29th February: Maria Kennedy.

Sunday 1st March: Kathleen Forde.

Eucharistic Ministers: Saturday 29th February: Tom Crosse.

Sunday 1st March: Patricia Treacy.

Collections: The second collection and envelope next weekend (29th/1st) is the Lenten Collection Please give as generously as you can. Thank you.

Sunday 23rd March is a Day of Prayer for Temperance.

Please pray for parishioners who are ill at this time.

Pope's Intention for March: Catholics in China - We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

Eucharistic Ministers needed for both churches. If you wish to participate in this ministry please contact me at the above number or email address as soon as possible.

Beginning Experience: 3rd-5th April. Esker. For more information contact Maureen at 087-6646896 or Mary at 087-9384446.

Kilnadeema-Leitrim Community Games are holding a fundraising table quiz in The Hill bar, Kylebrack on Saturday 29th February at 8,30pm. Tickets €10 are available from Joanne Tiernan 087-9575395 or Kevin Boyle 087-6237533 or on the night. All welcome! All support gratefully appreciated.

Guidance on Flu: See www.hpsc.ie.

Reflection: The rosary is the book of the blind, where souls see and there, enact the greatest drama of love the world has ever known; it is the book of the simple, which initiates them into mysteries and knowledge more satisfying than the education of other men; it is the book of the aged, whose eyes close upon the shadow of this world, and open on the substance of the next. The power of the rosary is beyond description. - Archbishop Fulton Sheen

Readings this weekend: Christ's call becomes most challenging - to be perfect as God is perfect. To be perfect as God means to be full of compassion, slow to anger, rich in mercy.

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent. It is a Day of Fast and Abstinence. In the readings for this day there is great consciousness of our sinfulness, as we pray 'Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned'. There is also a sense that the time to repent and turn back is now. The Gospel tells us how to approach that renewal of our lives. It puts before us the remedy in prayer, fasting and almsgiving. These three strands of Lenten observance are as ancient as Christianity itself. There is no substitute for them. 'Fasting is the soul of prayer, mercy is the life blood of fasting. If we have not all three together, we have nothing,' says St Peter Chrysologus.

Some Forms of 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 the stations of the Cross, fasting from all food for a longer period of time than usual and giving what is saved to the needy and helping the poor, sick, old or lonely.

Seven Springs Cycling Club presents The Buns 'n' Bikes Coffee Morning in aid of Cancer Care West. Sunday March 1st in St. Brigid's College Sports Hall at 10.30am. - 1pm. Charity auction at noon. All welcome to support.

Galilee Spirituality Centre: Active Hope Workshop with Kathryn McCabe on keeping hope alive drawing on Joanna Macy's Social Ecology. March 4th, 6.30 - 9.30pm. €20. Contact: info@galilee.ie or phone 071-9664101.

Mary Immaculate College: Department of Theology and Religious Studies are offering PhD assistantship in Catholic Education scholarship grants. Stipend and fee of c. €18, 000 per annum for 3 years and a fee waiver for one further year of study. Contact Professor Fr. Eamon Conway at 061-204353 for more information or email eamon.conway@mic.ul.ie or see www.mic.ie. Also, M.Ed at MIC in RE: Closing date 31st May 2020. See www.mic.ie.

Unemployed? Want to learn computer skills? Call Kevin at 091-773557 or 086-0432801. Work done under the National Learning Network Ltd.

Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages April - October 2020: 7-night stay and Airport Shuttle service from Dubrovnik or Split for €266 per person sharing. Call for further information and to book dates at 01-4434510 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com. Website: www.med-irishcentre.com. Contact 090-9643573 or email: Ballinasloe@eircom.net.

St. Brendan's Education Centre, Loughrea: Level 5 Fashion Media and Make Up Modules. 9.30am -4pm. Hairdressing Theory and Practice, 9.30am -4pm. Starting 24th and 26th February. Contact 091-841387 or email freda.murphy@gretb.ie.

Manual Handling Training Courses Friday 28th February from 6-8 and Saturday 29th February from 11-1 at Portumna Retirement Village. Also Friday 13th March 2020 from 6-8 and Saturday 14th March 2020 from 11-1 at the Loughrea Family Resource Centre. Cost €50/person. Please call Lorraine now on 0879350425 for further details. Spaces are limited.

A thought: The further a society drifts from the truth, the more it will hate those that speak it. - George Orwell.