

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE CATHEDRAL THIS WEEK**

<b>Mon. 11am</b>	Margaret King	<b>8pm</b>	John Morris
<b>Tues. 11am</b>	Maisie Fahy	<b>8pm</b>	Caroline Kelly (nee Flaherty)
<b>Wed. 11am</b>	Martin & Margaret Kealy	<b>8pm</b>	Gerard Doyle
<b>Thurs. 11am</b>	People of the Parish	<b>8pm</b>	Josephine Nolan
<b>Fri. 11am</b>	Annie Power	<b>8pm</b>	James Flaherty MM
<b>Sat. 11am</b>	Amir & Omid Talebzadeh	<b>8pm</b>	Martin Flynn
<b>Sun. 10am</b>	Betty & Joe McGuinn	<b>12 noon</b>	Raftery Brothers

<p><b><u>Mass Servers</u></b></p> <p><b>Team F</b> Sat. 1<sup>st</sup> April 8pm  <b>Team D</b> Sun. 2<sup>nd</sup> April 10am  <b>Team E</b> Sun. 2<sup>nd</sup> April 12 noon</p>	<p><b><u>Ministers of the Eucharist:</u></b></p> <p><b>Sat. 1<sup>st</sup> April 8pm</b> J. Beatty, G. Dervan, C. Darcy  <b>Sun. 2<sup>nd</sup> April 10am</b> J. Fitzgerald  <b>Sun. 2<sup>nd</sup> April 12 noon</b> A. Gardiner, D. Fahy, M. Connolly</p>
<p><b><u>Ministers of the Word</u></b></p> <p><b>Sat. 1<sup>st</sup> April 8pm</b> Ted McDonnell  <b>Sun. 2<sup>nd</sup> April 12noon</b> Mark Connolly</p>	<p><b><i>Cathedral Collections:</i></b>  <b><i>Offertory: €950 Restoration: €455</i></b></p>
<p><b>Second Basket Collection</b> next weekend will be for World Meeting of Families</p>	

**R.I.P** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Sheila Doyle, Blackrock, Dublin, (mother of Terry Doyle, Lackafinna, Loughrea).

**Baptism** We welcome into God’s family Aurora Tierney-Davoren, St. Laurence’s Fields, Loughrea.

**Stations of the Cross** during Lent will take place in the Cathedral on Wednesdays and Fridays after 8pm Mass.

**Remember to use your Trocaire Boxes** are available at the back of the Cathedral and will also be distributed through the schools. With the support of people in Ireland, Trocaire will deliver humanitarian aid to up to one million people in crisis.

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE CARMELITE ABBEY THIS WEEK**

<b>Mon. 8am</b>	Michael Forde	<b>10am</b>	Malachy Quinn
<b>Tues. 8am</b>	Barbara, Tony and Oliver Connaughton	<b>10am</b>	Thomas, Mai & Frank Fahy.
<b>Wed. 8am</b>	Nonie Kenny - Intention	<b>10am</b>	Nora & Patrick Coleman
<b>Thurs. 8am</b>	Christina Burke	<b>10am</b>	Gertrude Goldrick
<b>Fri. 8am</b>	Bridie & Joe Farrell	<b>10am</b>	Kenny family deceased
<b>Sat. 8am</b>	Private Intention	<b>10am</b>	Ann Concannon
<b>Sun. 9am</b>	Andy & Catherine Flynn	<b>11am</b>	Anne Broderick & Sr. Philippa
		<b>6pm</b>	Mary, Robert & Robert Jnr Floyd

<p><b>Society of St Vincent de Paul:</b>  <b>086 0551134</b></p>	<p><b>Bethany Bereavement Group:</b>  <b>087 2109396</b></p>
<p><b><u>World Meeting of Families Ireland. For more info., <a href="http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie">www.worldmeeting2018.ie</a></u></b></p>	



**LOUGHREA CATHEDRAL & CARMELITE ABBEY**

**The Presbytery 091 – 841212 The Abbey 091 – 841209**

**Website – [loughreacathedral.ie](http://loughreacathedral.ie) [clonfertdiocese.ie](http://clonfertdiocese.ie)**

**The Fourth Sunday of Lent 26<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

**Newsletter online: [loughreacathedral.ie](http://loughreacathedral.ie) [clonfertdiocese.ie](http://clonfertdiocese.ie)**

**“...whoever honours a mother is like someone amassing a fortune.” *Ecclesiasticus 3:4*** This Mother’s Day we pray for mothers around the world who agonise over their children’s futures in the harshest environments. We think of Miriam, who appears on this Lent’s Trócaire Box, as she wonders if she will manage to get her little daughter Maria to safety when the next storm hits northern Honduras and floods their home. *Read Miriam and Maria’s story at [www.trocaire.org/lent](http://www.trocaire.org/lent)*

**SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS John 9:1-41**

1. A long story like the one we have today provides many different points of entry for prayer. Read the story and stay with what resonates with you. Some possible points of entry are:

- a. The blind man was healed. Can you recall occasions when some blindness of yours was taken away and you could see in a new way? What was that experience like for you?
- b. The Pharisees claimed to be the ones who could see, who knew where God was to be found, when in fact they were blind. It was the man born blind who showed himself open to see the hand of God at work in what happened. There can be some of each in us. What has helped you to be open to seeing the hand of God at work in your life? Who have been the Jesus people who have led you to this point?
- c. There are many characters in the story: Jesus, the blind beggar, the disciples, the neighbours, the blind man’s parents, and the Pharisees. Put yourself in the position of each one and see what you learn from identifying with them.

John Byrne OSA (Intercom Magazine)

**THE DEEP END: We are not blind, surely?**

What a convoluted Gospel we have today. The healing of the blind man unleashes a chain of chaos and confusion. His neighbours are dumbfounded, the Pharisees are suspicious and at war with one another, and the Jews are cynical, even calling in the man’s parents as witnesses. The character of Jesus, and of the blind man, are called into question as everyone tries to figure out what has happened. Jesus and the man who has been healed are both accused of being sinners. The interrogators even ridicule the man, asking, ‘Are you trying to teach us, and you a sinner through and through? But things are simple for the man who has experienced Jesus’ healing. He knows what he has witnessed, and is ready and willing to attest to it. ‘If this man were not from God,’ he says, ‘he couldn’t do a thing.’ He understands that his encounter with Jesus was extraordinary. Jesus finally clears up the confusion, turning everything on its head, as is often his way. It is the man who had been blind who sees who Jesus is: ‘Lord, I believe.’ The Pharisees who think they see things clearly are the ones who are really blind to the truth. ‘We are not blind, surely?’ is the question facing all of us as we advance through Lent. Are we open to the Good News and the healing power of Jesus? Triona Doherty (Intercom Magazine)

**First Confessions** for the boys and girls of St Brendan's and St Ita's Primary Schools will take place in the Cathedral on Wed. 29<sup>th</sup> March at 6.45pm

**World Meeting of Families** Pope Francis has personally chosen Dublin to be the host diocese from 21<sup>st</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> August 2018. Planning for this great national and international celebration of faith is well underway. Hosting this important event requires an enormous amount of planning and funding. In this regard a second national collection will be held next weekend, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Apr. Your support for this collection would be greatly appreciated.

**The Irish Augustinians Vocation Weekend** Fri. 31<sup>st</sup> Mar.-Sun. 2<sup>nd</sup> April, in their Drogheda Community. For details, contact Fr. Colm O'Mahony 086-8845747/augustinianvocations@hotmail.com

**Pilgrimage to the Holy Land** organised by Fr. Benny McHale, from June 26<sup>th</sup>-July 6<sup>th</sup>. Contact Fr. Benny @ 844227, places are going fast.

**Pioneer Lenten Challenge!** Many people abstain from alcohol and take the Short-Term Pledge for the duration of Lent. Make your Lenten pledge @ [www.pioneerassociation.ie](http://www.pioneerassociation.ie) and join online or by contacting your local Pioneer centre representative.

**Catholic Grandparents Association** First Annual Retreat/Conference Wed. 26<sup>th</sup> & Thurs. 27<sup>th</sup> April, in the Dominican Retreat Centre, Tallaght Village, Dublin 24. Further details from Connie @ 098-24877

**ACCORD** the Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family: Are you interested in becoming a Facilitator? Would you like to share your positive married experience with engaged couples preparing for their married life together? Training will be provided. Closing date for application forms is April 20<sup>th</sup>. Call:090 9643573 or <http://www.accord.ie> for further details.

**Abbey Junior Choir** Sun. at 11am Mass. New members welcome. For details, contact Shane: 087-2704941.

**Atlantic Hearing Services** hold a hearing clinic in Brogan's Pharmacy, by appointment. Free of charge. Home visits available. Ph: 087-9622244.

**Caring for Our Common Home** seminar, Sat. April 1<sup>st</sup>, 10.30-4.30pm at An Gairdin, [www.angairdin.ie](http://www.angairdin.ie) Book @0872845443/angairdin1@gmail.com

**Hurling Club Lotto** Winning numbers: 1, 17, 25, 31. 3 match 3 winners. Next week's jackpot €11,300.

**The Galway Bay FM Radiothon**, broadcasting live from Taibhdhearc na Gaillimhe will be held on Fri./Sat. 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> April. A Fund-Raising event will be held in Supervalu, Loughrea on the above dates, with all proceeds going to the Galway Hospice and Cancer Care West. If you have an hour to spare and wish to help, contact TJ @ 087-6998373 for details.

**Loughrea Parish Council CLG** Community Employment Scheme have a vacancy for General Operative. Applicants must meet the eligibility criteria for Community Employment Schemes. Please submit CV to Parish Office, Barrack St., Loughrea. Closing date for applications is Wed. 5<sup>th</sup> Apr. 2017.

**Bridge Game** Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 11am in the Loughrea Hotel & Spa. All are welcome.

**Loughrea Community Pre-School** now taking enrolments for September 2017. Contact 087-7660687 for further details.

**Yoga Classes** Loughrea Youth Theatre Monday and Thursday nights. For more details, contact Julia @ 086-2608039.

**Hatha Yoga Classes** Wed. 7-8pm and Sat. 11-12pm at Loughrea Boxing Club, Piggott Street. €40 for five classes. Call Kate at 085-7504420.

**Easter Revision** for Junior and Leaving Certs at ELFA Loughrea. Apr. 10<sup>th</sup> – Apr. 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> – Apr. 22<sup>nd</sup> Study Hub: 9.30-11.30am and 12pm – 2pm. Cost €6 per day. Irish, Maths, German, Science & Geography teachers giving 1-1 and group session. Cost: €10 per teacher per session. Contact Breda @ 086-3792360. Booking essential.

**Loughrea Comhaltas** trad session in the Abbey every 1st and 3rd Sat. of the month, all musicians and abilities welcome, come along and bring a friend, next session 1<sup>st</sup> April. For more info., contact 0871337326.

### Temperance Hall Events

**Loughrea Rugby Club** Bingo every Friday night @ 8.30pm.

**Loughrea Activity Assoc.** Meeting Mon. 7pm. Bowling: Mondays 1.30-3.30pm, Tuesdays 11am-1pm.

**Squash Club** Tuesday at 8pm. Phone Leo at 087-2238829

**Get Fit, Lose Weight, Meet People** L'rea Athletic Club caters for all abilities, male & female adults. Meeting Tuesdays & Thursdays 7pm. For details, contact Joan:085-1457083, Joseph:087-8394698 or [loughreaathleticclub.com](http://loughreaathleticclub.com)

**Dance Aerobics** Suits all fitness levels, Tuesday @ 7.30pm. Drop in class, pay as you go. Tel: 087-9379563.

**Karate Classes** Members Mon. & Wed. 7-9.30pm. Tel: 087-6133297

**Vinyasa Yoga** (Flow Yoga) Continuation Wed. 6.00-7.30pm, Beginners 7.30-8.30pm. Contact Liz Kirby: 087 6314581 for booking.

**Whist** Every Thurs. at 8pm in the Supper Room. New members welcome.

**Irish Dancing Classes** Mon. & Fri. at 5pm. For school going children age 4 and upwards. Call Mary Fraughen Barrett @ 091-841438/087-9597560.

**Dancing for Children** Thurs. Junior dancers 6-7pm, Senior dancers 7-8pm. Adult set dancing 8.30pm-10.30pm. Call Bridie @ 087-6202451

**Sean Nos Dancing** every Mon. Call Bernie: 086-3731547.

**Over 60's 'Healthy Spine'** Wed. 11.15am. Chartered Physiotherapist tuition, men and women. €10 pay as you go class. Phone: 086-3329493

**Ultra-Flex School of Dance-** Classes Saturdays, 1.30-5.30pm.

For more details, contact Aoife: 085-7396602.

**Yoga Classes** For details, call Julia 086-2608039.

**Line Dancing Class** Wed. 8.30-9.30pm. Extra class 6.30-7.30pm. Tel: Sean Casey @ 087-9761692 for more details.