

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE CATHEDRAL THIS WEEK

Mon. 11am Nono & Phonsie Curley	8pm Bishop Tom Ryan
Tues. 11am James Headd	8pm John & Mary Ann Burke
Wed. 11am Decd. members of the Cahalan and Hanlon family	8pm Brendan Coy
Thurs. 11am People of the Parish	8pm Personal Intention
Fri. 11am Maura Benson	8pm George Mannion
Sat. 11am Personal Intention	8pm Mary & Michael Moloney
Sun. 10am Kathleen Cummins	12 noon Paddy Fitzpatrick

<p><u>Ministers of the Word</u> Sat. 26th Aug. 8pm Frances Blake Sun. 27th Aug. 12noon Ann Flynn</p>	<p><u>Ministers of the Eucharist:</u> Sat. 26th Aug. 8pm D. Fahy, P. O’Sullivan, D. Quinn Sun. 27th Aug. 10am M. O’Brien Sun. 27th Aug. 12noon M. Murphy, A. McTigue, M. Chambers</p>
<p><u>Mass Servers</u> Team D Sat. 26th Aug. 8pm Team E Sun. 27th Aug. 10am Team F Sun. 27th August 12noon</p>	
<p>Cathedral Collection: Offertory: €935 Restoration: €390</p>	

Wedding Congratulations to Chris O’Connor and Karen Sweeney who were married in the Cathedral last week.

R.I.P. Please pray for the repose of the soul of Pauline Feeney (Nee Kearns), Fahy Gardens, Loughrea, who died recently.

Mass bookings in the Cathedral for 2018 will be taken from 10.00am on Friday, 1st September 2017

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE CARMELITE ABBEY THIS WEEK

Please note 8am Mass Intentions are now in Mount Carmel

Mon. 8am Michael Ryan & family decd.	10am Carr family
Tues. 8am Maura Benson	10am Anne, Michael, Martin and Maria Nyland
Wed. 8am Frank & Annie Golding	10am Vera Broderick
Thurs. 8am Donor’s Intention	10am Celine Higgins
Fri. 8am Michael Flynn	10am Bridie McKeever & Anna Coyle
Sat. 8am Bernard Connolly	10am Tom & Sally Callanan
Sun. 9am Jimmie & Evelyn Shalvey	11am Michael & Maureen Tierney 6pm The Kenny family

<p>Society of St. Vincent de Paul 086 - 0551134</p>	<p>Bethany Bereavement Group 087-2109396</p>
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LOUGHREA CATHEDRAL & CARMELITE ABBEY
The Presbytery 091-841212 The Abbey 091-841209
Website – loughreacathedral.ie clonfertdiocese.ie
Newsletter online: loughreacathedral.ie clonfertdiocese.ie

The Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, 20th August 2017

Seeing Your Life Through The Lens Of The Gospels Matthew 15:21-28

1. Having met with rejection from the Pharisees Jesus goes to Gentile territory and encounters faith in an unexpected place, in the Canaanite woman. His mission had previously been to his own people. This adds a new dimension to his mission. Have you had occasions when a chance encounter set your life off in a new direction?
2. The initial reaction of Jesus to the woman was one of rejection but her persistence won a response from him. When have you found that persistence was needed to gain what you sought? What did that experience teach you?
3. In our days, welcoming the stranger is a challenge. We are more comfortable with our own. What difference has it made when you were able to offer a friendly welcoming face to a stranger?
4. Who are the ‘Canaanite women’ who call out for attention today – people in Church or State whose needs are not being attended to?
John Byrne OSA (Intercom Magazine)

MUSINGS: Crumbs From TheTable

She was a lady like many – the woman of the Gospel today. She would fight for her child. So she took on Jesus, the best known religious figure around. Like someone taking on the Taoiseach over a medical card for a chronically ill child, and not letting him off the hook.

Jesus was testing her. He saw faith, but he wanted everyone else to see it. So he told her she didn’t fit into the local religious sphere because she was foreigner, an asylum seeker or a refugee. Or a lone mother who had a bad name. She knew she fitted into the heart of Jesus simply because she was the mother of a sick child. Jesus cured her child and praised her faith.

She is another of the unnamed ones of the Gospel. Like the woman of Samaria, the rich young man, the thief on Calvary – she is herself, and she is all of us. She is everyone, man and woman, of faith.

Faith in a surprising God who in Jesus his Son never says no to goodness. Faith that keeps us energetic and alive, not tired, in soul as well as body.

Lord, I believe, strengthen my faith.
Donal Neary SJ (Intercom Magazine)

Fear knocked on the door, faith answered. There was no one there.
Dr Martin Luther King Jnr (Intercom Magazine)

World Meeting of Families Ireland. For more info., www.worldmeeting2018.ie

THE DEEP END: Unexpected Encounters

We might wonder why Jesus is so rude and dismissive to the woman in today's Gospel who comes and asks for his help. Does he really call the woman 'a dog'?! Many explanations have been given for Jesus' words with some suggesting that it was an attempt at a first century joke, that he was just 'teasing' (he didn't really mean it!) or that it was an opportunity to test the woman's faith. The disciples also clearly want her sent away. What happens just before this incident is important. Jesus has just left Gennesaret where the Pharisees have continued to be extremely hostile towards him. Jesus' mission to 'the lost sheep of the House of Israel' is not going so well. So, Jesus 'leaves that place' and goes somewhere that is unfamiliar. What happens in this unfamiliar place is certainly life giving for the woman and for Jesus also. It might be considered a place of new beginnings as Jesus' mission is opened up to those who would have been considered 'unworthy', such as a woman who is also a foreigner. The food rejected by the religious leaders of the time is ending up in unexpected places. It is here that the kingdom grows. You have to admire the woman's persistence. She is a reminder of people we encounter who have great faith and make a deep impression on us. We might ask ourselves today: when have experiences of rejection in our own lives led to new possibilities? Jane Mellet (Intercom Magazine)

World Meeting of Families: Mr. Martin Kennedy, National Coordinator, will hold an open information meeting for those in our diocese who wish to be actively involved in the event. It will be held in Gullane's Hotel, B'sloe, on Sept. 13th @ 8pm. He will outline how we can prepare for this historic event and sustain its legacy at parish and at national level. Bishop Kirby will open the meeting. People who wish to volunteer nationally can do so online: www.worldmeeting2018.ie/volunteering.

World Meeting of Families 2018 in Knock: The launch of the one-year programme of preparation for WMOF 2018, will take place at Knock Shrine, Mon. 21st Aug. 2017 on the Anniversary of the Apparition of Our Lady in Knock. This day of celebration will include liturgical moments, the celebration of the Eucharist, workshops, as well as faith and fun activities for all the family. The WMOF2018 Icon of the Holy Family will be unveiled and anointed at Mass in the Basilica at 3pm and then begin its journey around the dioceses of Ireland. We look forward to welcoming families from every diocese across the country for this special celebration. More info: www.worldmeeting2018.ie

National Traditional Pilgrimage to Knock on Sat. 2nd Sept., commencing with a High Mass / Missa Cantata at 2pm, followed by Stations of the Cross and Traditional Benediction. All events in the old church.

Knock Counselling Centre: Autumn Winter Programme of Workshops commencing in Sept. Booking is essential. For details, call 094-9375032 or email counsellingteam@knockshrine.ie

Grandparents National Annual Pilgrimage on Sept. 10th, Knock Shrine @ 2.30pm. Everybody welcome to honour & thank grandparents alive & dead for all they have done for us down through the ages. Chief Celebrant Archbishop Eamon Martin, Ballina School Choir, Dana sings 'Our Lady of Knock'.

Carmelite/Teresian Friars Pilgrimages to Lourdes, 30th Aug.-6th Sept. 2017. For more details, contact Ann @ 087-2919078.

Cancer Care West and Galway University Hospital are organising a series of free Prostate cancer information and support sessions. The next support session is scheduled for 21st Sept. 7- 9pm. If men and their partners would like to attend, they can book a place by contacting Rachael Dalton, Clinical nurse specialist, on 091893318 or Cancer care west on 091540040.

Parish Heart Screening Offer: Pulsewave Ireland Heart & Artery screening in Loughrea Hotel & Spa, Wed. 23rd Aug. 11am-8pm. As Heart Disease is still the biggest killer in Ireland we try to make it affordable for everyone to be screened. Normal cost of screening is €50 per person, Parish offer €30. To make an appointment, call 087-7151623, spaces are limited. The Screening is medically approved and each person will receive a detailed printout.

The "LoveBoth Project" is committed to building a more welcoming society for expectant mothers and their unborn babies. Our primary goal is protecting Ireland's 8th Amendment, which safeguards the lives of both mother and baby in pregnancy. For more info. or to help us in any way (financially or through volunteering), visit www.loveboth.ie or write to info@loveboth.ie.

Galway County Council are currently updating the Register of Electors. Anyone who has just turned 18 or will by 15th Feb. 2018 or anyone currently not on the Register can ring Lorraine Cooney @ 087-9350425 to be included. Anyone just moved into or out of the area can also have their details amended.

Heritage Week: A talk for children on the "Birds of Loughrea" will be given by Catherine Seale in the Library, Tues., 22nd Aug. at 11am. Entry is free and all are welcome. Entry forms for the Bird competition are available at the Library.

Loughrea Medieval Festival 25th-27th August. Free commemorative weekend the whole family will enjoy. There will be events at the Loughrea Library and Temperance Hall, a Heritage Walk and Talk of Old Loughrea, and Mass with the Carmelite Community. For events in full, view loughreamedievalfestival.com, follow facebook.com/loughreamedievalfestival, or email loughreamedievalfestival@gmail.com

Loughrea Family & Community Resource Centre, Creative Writing Course starts Mon. 18th Sept. 7.30-9.30pm. Limited places, call 871149 to register.

Loughrea Rugby Club Pre Season Rugby Training for U17's , U18's & Seniors. Tues. & Thurs. 7.30pm-9pm. Great coaching. Strength & Conditioning.

Loughrea Tennis Club are running adult coaching classes at the club for Beginners/ intermediate, 7-8pm, with Tennis Ireland Level 1 Coach.

Cost: Members €5, Non Members €6. To register, call Billy @ [086-8216027](tel:086-8216027)

Family Fun Olympics at St. Thomas' GAA grounds, Sun. 20th Aug. at 1pm.

All welcome. Free BBQ with entry. Fun events for all the family.

Hurling Club Lotto Winning numbers: 3, 13, 17, 31. One match 3 winner. Next week's jackpot is €13,400.

Temperance Hall Events

Loughrea Rugby Club Bingo every Friday night @ 8pm. Jackpot €10,000 plus huge cash prizes. Comp tea, coffee. A great night out for all the family.

Line Dancing Classes will resume on Wed, Sept. 6th @ 7pm and 8pm. All are welcome. Tel: Sean Casey @ 087-9761692