

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE CATHEDRAL THIS WEEK

Mon.	11am	John Flynn & decd. members of Flynn family	8pm	Agnes Moran
Tues.	11am	Martin Healy	8pm	Br. Kenneth Fitzgerald
Wed.	11am	Jacko, Nora & Shaun Kelly	8pm	Ita Ryan
Thurs.	11am	People of the Parish	8pm	Paddy & Aggie Duffy
Fri.	11am	Personal Intention	8pm	Nora O'Loughlin
Sat	11am	Sean Kelly	8pm	Frank Winters
Sun.	10am	Florence Mahon	12noon	Noel Colleran



LOUGHREA CATHEDRAL & CARMELITE ABBEY
The Presbytery 091 – 841212 The Abbey 091 – 841209
Website – loughreacathedral.ie clonfertdiocese.ie
Newsletter online: loughreacathedral.ie clonfertdiocese.ie
Sunday 1st March 2020
First Sunday of Lent

Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel

In today's gospel Jesus is enticed to gratify his own needs, or to perform some spectacular act in public. He rejects the temptation because he chooses commitment to his mission and dependence on his Father over any immediate gratification. We can all be tempted to go for some immediate satisfaction, but is that where happiness lies? Have you found that sometimes there is more contentment in saying 'no' for the sake of some long-term goal? What are the goals, aims and values that inspire you in this way?

One way of looking at this gospel is to say that Jesus went into the desert to face his demons. We all have demons we need to face – compulsions, fears, prejudices, anger and urges that lurk within. It is facing our demons that we find a way to live a fuller life. Can you recall a time when you grew through facing a 'demon' in this way?

John Byrne OSA

The Deep End – Embrace the Wilderness

We journey into the desert as we begin Lent 2020, and we are encouraged to embrace the richness of this time and the possibilities that lie within. The desert can be unappealing, we may feel a resistance to the challenge, but the potential is enormous. Going inward, praying fast, taking on, giving-all of these practices offer us opportunities for genuine spiritual growth. It is through this journey that we can deepen our relationship with the One who urges us on. We should not be afraid of the desert for, as the Gospel today tells us, it is the Spirit who leads us on this path.

Let us bring to mind this season the fact that our global community stands at a crossroads, confronted with a frightening environmental crisis, another type of wilderness. We watched in horror this past year as wildfires destroyed vast ecosystems in Amazon, Indonesia and Australia, killing an estimated one billion animals, destroyed homes and taking lives. Ecologists in Ireland also tell us that to look out at the Irish countryside today is to look and see what is no longer there. Another wilderness.

Lent is an opportunity to examine our lifestyles and to think about our relationship with God's creation. As Catholic faith communities, let us embrace the challenge to care for our common home in these weeks, making small changes. We can all do something: eliminate single-use plastics, fast from our cars, plant trees, bring a small group together to read Laudato Si, pray for our world leaders. Let this be a time of discerning our call to care more for this planet, our home.

'Truly much can be done' (Laudato Si 180)

Jane Mellett

<p><u>Ministers of The Eucharist</u></p> <p>Sat. 7th Mar. 8pm M. Doyle, M. Murphy</p> <p>Sun. 8th Mar. 10am M. Joyce</p> <p>Sun. 8th Mar. 12noon D. Shaughnessy, E. McKenna</p>	<p><u>Mass Servers</u></p> <p>Team C Sat. 7th Mar. 8pm</p> <p>Team A Sun. 8th Mar. 10am</p> <p>Team B Sun. 8th Mar. 12noon</p>
<p><u>Ministers of the Word</u></p> <p>Sat 7th Mar. 8pm Helen Geraghty</p> <p>Sun 8th Mar. 12noon Ted McDonnell</p>	<p><u>Cathedral Collections</u></p> <p>Offertory: €1130</p> <p>Restoration: €540</p>
<p>The Second Basket Collection this week is the Diocesan Lenten Collection. Along with 15% of the weekly Offertory Collection in each parish, this is for the many administrative needs of the diocese including: Child Safeguarding, G.D.P.R. (General Data Protection Regulations) and Charity Regulatory Authority. These new requirements are in addition to the many ordinary demands of a modern office. Please be generous in your response.</p>	

R.I.P Please pray for the repose of the soul of Eamon Long, Scariff, Clare, brother of Sr. Consilio, Convent of Mercy, Loughrea, Davie Dennehy, Kilmallock, Limerick, father of David Dennehy, Cois Furáin, Loughrea, Vincent Glynn, Lusmagh, Banagher, brother of Fr. Cronan, The Abbey, and Patrick Joseph Bugler, Baunoge, Loughrea who died recently.

Baptism: We welcome into God's family Harry William Loughrey, Woodford and Aisha Grace Jalia Blilet-Cawley, Carraig Geal, Loughrea.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE CARMELITE ABBEY THIS WEEK

Mon.	8am	Rita Burke	10am	Michael Keane & decd. family members
Tues.	8am	Michael Breheny	10am	Donnellan Drive residents – living & decd.
Wed.	8am	Private Intention	10am	Andrew & May Gardiner
Thurs.	8am	Sr. Philomena Kilcommons	10am	Joe Greally
Fri.	8am	Maureen Dillion	10am	Martin Cleary
Sat	8am	Patrick, Christina & Michael Kelly	10am	Aggie Moran
Sun.	9am	Paddy Keane, Tommy & May McDonagh and Sr. Gerard Burke	11am	Martin, Annie & Nancy Wade
			6pm	Michael, Mary & Paddy Ward

<p>Bethany Bereavement Group 087 9660309</p>	<p>Society St. Vincent de Paul 086 0551134</p>
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Please note the new Parish email address is:

cathedral@clonfertdiocese.ie

Newsletter Items:

loughreacathedralnewsletter@eircom.net

Clonfert Diocesan Pilgrimage to Hungary September 2020 Join Bishop Michael Duignan on the Clonfert Diocesan Pilgrimage to Hungary from 15th – 21st Sept. Visiting Győr and Budapest for the 52nd International Eucharistic Congress. Cost: €845.00 per person sharing (single supplement applies). For more information or to book, contact Isabelle 091 - 841560. Places are limited, immediate booking advised.

Live Streaming Cameras All our Masses are now live streamed. They can be viewed on the Cathedral website www.loughreacathedral.ie or www.churchservices.tv

Clonfert Diocese's Lenten Adult Faith Dev. Gathering takes place Sunday 8th March 2.30pm – 5pm. Guest Speaker: Bishop Michael Duignan. Topic: "God Talk Today – Raising the question of God within contemporary culture. More details at www.creideamh.ie/gathering. All welcome.

John Paul II Award Scheme, if there are any Transition, 5th/6th Year students interested in this scheme, please contact your local priest or Ms Marie Burke: 087 2048683 for details.

The Legion of Mary meets each Monday at 8.30pm in the Presbytery. New members most welcome. For further information, contact 091 870327.

Prayer for Vocations to the priesthood and religious life Friday 6th March 7pm – 8pm in the Abbey. All welcome.

Lenten Prayer with St. Teresa of Avila every Thursday 7pm – 8pm from 5th March in the Carmelite Abbey. All welcome. For further info. contact 091 841209

Silent Retreat, Esker Retreat Centre, Athenry, 13th – 19th April. Theme "If you but knew the gift of God..." , preached by Fr. Killian Byrne. Cost €380 full board. Contact Helen 00353 86 1678027/ hellywilliams@gmail.com, www.foyerofcharity.ie
A privileged time to come away from noise and distractions, and listen to the Spirit of God, - who is love. Silence, prayers, teaching & liturgy of the Church.

ACCORD Ballinasloe provide professional counselling service for individuals and couples who are experiencing difficulties in their marriage and relationships. Contact 090 9643573 for appointment or email ballinasloeaccord@eircom.net

Beginning Experience weekend for people who have lost a spouse through death, divorce or separation 3rd – 5th April 2020 at Redemptorist Centre Esker, Athenry. Contact Maureen 087 6646896 or Mary 087 9384446

The Buns 'n' Bikes Coffee Morning in aid of Cancer Care West, Sun. 1st Mar. 10.30am – 1pm in St. Brigid's Vocational School Sports Hall, Loughrea, H62 XF63. Charity auction at noon.

Manual Handling Training Course Friday 13th March from 6pm – 8pm and Saturday 14th March from 11am - 1pm at Loughrea Family Resource Centre. Cost €50 per person. Call Lorraine on 087 9350425, spaces are limited.

Looking for Host Families for a group of Spanish Students who will be visiting Loughrea from 29th June to 27th July. The students attend St. Raphael's Monday to Saturday from 10am to 5pm. For further info. please email:

maurawinters@givova.ie

Affordable Live-in Homecare provide live-in carers for the elderly in your area. If you are looking for a live-in carer for your relative. Please contact Eileen or Tom today on 087 9916791. Website: www.alhomecare.ie

Brian Lynch's Fundraising Concert featuring the talented students of Gort Community School and friends. Saturday 14th March at 7.30pm in Sullivan's Hotel, Gort, in aid of Gort Cancer Support Group. Tickets €15 Adult/€10 Child. All support greatly appreciated.

Special Loughrea Group Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 20th July 8 nights ex Dublin. Taking in Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Mount Tabor, Nazareth, Jericho, River Jordan, Dead Sea & Sea of Galilee. Contact James Treacy 086 0572216 or 01 8783111

Ladies Fashion & Makeup Evening Thursday 5th March 2020 in the Loughrea Golf Club at 8pm. Adm. €10 (includes wine & cheese reception). All welcome

Hurling Club Lotto: Winning numbers: 07, 15, 26, 30. Next week's Jackpot €7700.

Set Dancing Family Resource Centre, Thursday nights Adults 8.30pm–10.30pm and Friday evenings Children 5.30pm–8.30pm. Call Bridie on 087 6202451.

Yoga Classes on Mondays at 6.30pm and 8pm in the new Loughrea Youth Theatre, Unit 3 Bride Street.

Morning Yoga Classes on Mondays at 10am in the new Loughrea Youth Theatre, Unit 3 Bride Street. Contact Julia at 086 2608039.

Easy Seated Pilates Classes (Stiffness/Injured/Senior). Every Wednesday at 12pm in Loughrea Youth Theatre. Contact Malvina 083 4040137, booking essential.

Temperance Hall Events

Loughrea Bingo every Friday night at 8.30pm. Jackpot €10,000.

Loughrea Line Dancers commencing Monday 2nd March, Beginners 7pm – 8pm, Advanced 8.10pm – 9.10pm. €8 per class. Phone 087 2649845

Irish dancing for children age 4 and upwards 5pm Monday and Friday advanced class 6pm. Adult class Tuesday evenings 7.15pm. All classes in Temp Hall. For further info. contact Mary Fraughen Barrett T.C.R.G at 087 9597560. Class also in St Ita's School hall Wednesday at 3pm.

Loughrea Activity Assoc. Bowling Mon., 1.30pm-3.30pm, Tues., 11am-1pm.

Whist on Thursdays at 8pm. New members welcome.

Galway 2020 presents Livefeed Loughrea, a music event showcasing young musicians and performers from Loughrea. Sat. 29th Feb. at 1pm. Free Admission.

Karate Classes for Beginners Mondays & Wednesdays in Temperance Hall at 7.30–9 pm. For adults and juniors over 8yrs of age. Contact for info., 087 6133297. Black belt instructors.

Karate Classes for children, boys and girls 5, 6 and 7 yrs. old every Wednesday 7-8pm. Black belt instructor. Phone 087 6316793.

Yoga-Dance Fusion for improving posture and flexibility Tuesdays at 7pm for Beginners and Thursdays at 7.15pm for Intermediate. To book, call 087 3340217

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Loughrea - Ph: 091-870 030 / 087-142 7271