

# Woodford/Looscaun Parish Newsletter

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Newsletter available on [www.clonfertdiocese.ie](http://www.clonfertdiocese.ie), Eircode: H62 AK18  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Woodf4dLooscaun](http://www.facebook.com/Woodf4dLooscaun), **Woodford/Shragh Defibrillator 999 or 112\*\*\*.**

## Third Sunday of Lent March 15th 2020

### St John the Baptist Church, Woodford.

Mass Times: Mon. 9.30am & 7pm Tue. 11am Wed. 9.30am Thur. 8am Fri. 8pm  
Sat. 10am & 7pm Sun. 11am (Behind closed doors. You can listen on 105.0FM)  
Saturday March 14th 7pm Julia Hickey, & William her husband  
& deceased family members, Rockhill  
Sunday March 15th 11am Breda Jones, Douras (4th Anniv)  
Friday March 20th 8pm Joe Flanagan, Shragh (Anniv)  
Saturday March 21st 7pm Irene & Raymond Keary, Woodford.  
Sunday March 22nd 11am Kathleen & Michael Conway, Douras.

Altar Society: Team 4. Patricia Eames Celia Cox.

### St. Brendan's Church, Looscaun

Mass Times: Fri. 9.30am (Behind closed doors)

Altar Society Eileen Whyte Mary Jo Dermody

Please Note No **Public** Celebration of Mass at this time. However Mass will be still said without a congregation behind closed doors in St. John the Baptist Church, Woodford at all the usual times during the week with Mass in St. Brendan's Church, Looscaun on Friday morning at 9.30am. You are encouraged to join in the celebration of Holy Mass in your own homes. Mass will be broadcast on 105.0 MHz FM. between TippFM and Newstalk on your radio dial. I will endeavour to stream the Sunday Morning Mass on Facebook Live. Please like and follow the Parish Facebook page to see the link and to be alerted when the livestream is on [www.facebook.com/woodf4dlooscaun](http://www.facebook.com/woodf4dlooscaun)

### Please read the following from Bishop Michael Duignan. Bishop of Clonfert.

In order to comply with current Government advice and in the interest of the entire community especially those who are most vulnerable the public celebration of all Sunday **Masses and Weekday Masses** (including St Patrick's Day) in the Diocese of Clonfert will be cancelled until further notice. **During this time the obligation** to be physically present at **Mass on Sunday/Holy Day** is suspended for everybody. **Priests will continue to celebrate Mass privately** on weekdays and on Sundays. The faithful are encouraged to join spiritually in the celebration of these Masses in their own homes or by means of parish radio or web-cam or through television and radio broadcasts. For example you may wish to join Mass from the Cathedral, Loughrea on [www.clonfertdiocese.ie](http://www.clonfertdiocese.ie) or from Knock Shrine at [www.knockshrine.ie](http://www.knockshrine.ie). After the private celebration of Mass, each day churches throughout the Diocese of Clonfert will open for individual prayer until normal closing times. **Participation in Funeral Masses and Services/Wedding Masses and Services** and the Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism are to be limited to close family and friends

not exceeding 100 people. During the liturgy additional health and safety measures will be in place. Your co-operation for the good of all is gratefully appreciated. **The celebration of the Sacraments of Confirmation/First Confession and First Holy Communion** is postponed until further notice. **Confessions and the Sacrament of the Sick** will be celebrated as requested. However additional safety measures will apply. **As Christians we are called to generously play our part** and work for the common good by reaching out, as appropriate, to practically assist those who are impacted by this situation. **Please pray for** those affected by the virus and for our civil leaders that they may make wise decisions. Pray also for all our health professionals, our carers and clergy who are working with those affected and for our scientists who are trying to understand what is happening. **REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.**

**Tommy Larkins Healthy Club** is finalising plans to support people in our community who are worried and feeling vulnerable at this time. We have teams in place to do your shopping, collect prescriptions or give you a phone call to check in with you. We will be following strict HSE guidelines and ask that you understand that while we are happy to chat on the phone we will be limiting contact with you when dropping off shopping etc. This is to ensure that we all work together to keep our community healthy. Contact Angela on 086 8513031, Jamie Flanagan on 087 6711284 or Edel Daniel's on 087 9434905 **St. Joseph's N.S., Woodford** Enrolment forms for Sept 2020 are now available on school website [www.stjosephswoodford.com/forms](http://www.stjosephswoodford.com/forms) The form can be found at the end of the enrolment policy under forms on the Parent page of the website. If you wish to enrol your child please return completed application form before **Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Mar**

**ACCORD Ballinasloe** are committed to providing a professional counselling service for individuals and couples who are experiencing difficulties in their marriage and relationships. This confidential service is available and affordable. CONTACT 090 9643573 for appointment or E-mail [ballinasloeaccord@eircom.net](mailto:ballinasloeaccord@eircom.net)

**Tommy Larkins Lotto:** 2-8-29-30 Jackpot 9,100 euro.No winner. Match 3: Cancer Care West Draw this Sat. Mar. 14th in Elsie's, Woodford.

**St. Patrick's Day Parade in Portumna** has been cancelled on the advice of the Government to help to contain the COVID-19 virus.

**Enriching your Marriage** A Marriage Enrichment Weekend is for married couples of all ages. The next Weekend takes place at The International Hotel Cork on the 3rd to 5th April 2020 (Fri.730 pm to Sun 4 pm). For info. and to book please visit [www.marriageencounter.ie](http://www.marriageencounter.ie) or Ph: 087-216 2436.

**INTRODUCTION TO BEEKEEPING** - 6 week Course starts at Shragh Community Centre on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March (8pm - 9pm). Cost = €40. An enjoyable and exciting insight into basic beekeeping. For more information or to register contact Mary on 087 6152668.

**Portumna Contract Bridge Club Classes** Learn to Play Bridge. Classes commencing Mid-March in Portumna Further Details Pat Cox President 086 2471773 Kaye Duddy Secretary 090 9742444

**Holy Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.**

Sun. Mar. 15th SR6.47 am Set. 6.38pm Last Quarter on Mon Mar 16th at 9.34am

*Considering a career in post-primary teacher education? Then come along to the MIC Thurles Student Teacher Experience Day on Saturday, 28 March (10am-3pm). Get a taster lecture and tour of the campus and find out about the great subject combinations on offer that include Business Studies, Theology and Religious Studies, Accounting, Gaeilge and Mathematics. Register now at [www.micopenday.ie](http://www.micopenday.ie)*

***Beginning Experience weekend for people who have lost a spouse through death divorce or separation 3-5 April 2020 at***

***Redemptorist Centre Esker Athenry Co. Galway, Tel; Maureen***

***0876646896 or Mary 0879384446.***

**St Brendan's Education Centre, Abbey Street, Loughrea 091 841387.** Places still available for Level 5 Fashion Media and Make Up Module(Mondays 9.30 to 4) and Hairdressing Theory and Practice Wednesday (9.30 to 4) commencing on the 24 and 26th of February. Please ring 091 841387 or email [freda.murphy@gretb.ie](mailto:freda.murphy@gretb.ie). Free to Medical Card Holders, Early school Leavers and those on Social Welfare payments.

**For Newsletter:**

**Silent Retreat:**

**Theme:** "If you but knew the gift of God..."

**Preached by:** Fr. Kilian Byrne

**Venue:** Esker Retreat Centre, Athenry, Co. Galway

**Date:** April 13<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>

**Cost:** €380 full board

**Contact:** Helen : 00353 86 1678027/ [hellywilliams@gmail.com](mailto:hellywilliams@gmail.com)  
[www.foyerofcharity.ie](http://www.foyerofcharity.ie)

A privileged time to come away from noise and distractions, and listen to the Spirit of God, - Who is Love. Silence, prayer, teachings & liturgy of the Church.

***Irish Wheelchair Association will be holding their church gate collection on Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th February 2020.  
Your support would be gratefully appreciated.***

***The Spirituality of Recovery:*** A Unique day for Families Affected by Addiction With Mr Sean Harty. Spirituality is a personal search for meaning in life, for connection with all things and for the experience of a power beyond oneself. This day of reflection and support will allow us all to express and discuss the importance of spirituality and Addiction Recovery. Shared experiences and mutual respect for each other will allow this day to take us on a journey. February 15<sup>th</sup>, Galilee Spirituality Centre, 10.30-3.30. Numbers Limited: Booking: [info@galilee.ie](mailto:info@galilee.ie) 071-966-4101 .

***Active Hope Workshop with Kathryn McCabe*** How can we be active in the current climate crisis, and keep hope alive for ourselves and others? You are invited to an evening workshop which will explore our inner resources for resilience and connection to other people and our world. Through a series of activities drawing on Joanna Macy's Social Ecology, Kathryn will help us to explore our own responses to the state of the planet. March 4th, 6.30-9.30pm, Galilee Spirituality Centre. Cost €20. All Welcome. Booking: [info@galilee.ie](mailto:info@galilee.ie) 071-966-4101. Kathryn Mc Cabe MA is a social ecologist, professional facilitator and leadership development specialist. She is a published author in Social Ecology; Applying Ecological Thinking to Our Lives and Our Work. €20 or €25 per family. €10 unwaged. Light lunch included.

**Fundraising Christmas Bazaar in Loughrea Golf Club on Sunday 8th December at 12.00 Noon. Sale of items include jewellery, home made cakes, fire wood, etc. Refreshments & Santa.**

**Chiropody clinic will be attending Hayes pharmacy, Portumna on 9th, 10th, 16th & 20th Dec for general and diabetic footcare. Contact Emma on 0861901247 for an appointment.**

**Family Carers Ireland would like to thank all who contributed to their church gate collection on the weekend of November 10th. The amount raised in the parish was €42.41. The funds raised go towards supporting people who care full time for their loved ones at home. If you are a family carer and need support or advice and information please call our resource centre on 093 30060. Thank you.**

**Five First Saturday Devotions are being hosted in the Knock Old Parish Church next Saturday 7th December. Starts at 11.00am with Rosary, meditations, and concludes with Holy Mass at 12.00 noon. Confessions and Enrollment of the free brown scapulars. All done in the spirit of reparation for sins committed against our Lady's immaculate Heart and the salvation of souls. Everyone is welcome to attend to benefit from Our Lady's heavenly promises".**

**THANK YOU to all who supported The Christmas Fair 2019!**

**An amazing day was had by all and such an overwhelming support from so many. Thank you to those who played such beautiful music and congratulations to Maeve Cowen who won the best Christmas Jumper competition between the exhibitors, sponsored by BLAS. Thank you to Podumna Village in letting us borrow their decorations and a huge thank you to the children from Acorn to Oak, Fundamental and Busy Bodies in decorating our hall with such amazing art work. Have a Merry Christmas to you all. The Christmas Fair Team.**

The Pieta House Wren Run returns for 2019 on 26<sup>th</sup> Dec. Both Davitts Camogie & Tommy Larkins will again be joint beneficiaries with Pieta House and your support would be appreciated. Register online @ [www.pietahousewrenrun.ie](http://www.pietahousewrenrun.ie). The Pieta House Wren Run will hold a Registration Night in Tommy Larkins' Clubhouse from 6.30pm-8pm on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November. You can register for the event or purchase merchandise (bobble hats, jerseys & jackets) - Card payment accepted. All profits from our merchandise sales go solely to Pieta House. Register for the event NOW & be entered into all our Early Bird Draws along with our Monster Draw. Prizes include a consultation with Dermot Bannon, €200 Supervalu vouchers, hotel breaks plus loads more. For more info, visit [www.pietahousewrenrun.ie](http://www.pietahousewrenrun.ie) Registration will be available on the day. Our local beneficiaries are Davitts CC and Tommy Larkins GAA. Please support. All welcome to register on the night! Any queries, contact 087-9925624

**Couch to 5K and Men on the Move every Tuesday and Thursday evenings 7 to 8pm and 8 to 9pm respectively on the walking Track at Tommy Larkins Clubhouse for both ladies and gents. Both events are sponsored by HSE and are open to everyone in the community. You are invited to participate in whatever time slots suits you best. This is a great opportunity to get fitter and healthier so please come along and join in next week.**

**Advent Retreat at Esker Retreat Centre Nov 29<sup>th</sup> – Dec 1<sup>st</sup>. This is quite weekend apart, as we begin our journey towards the mystery that is Christmas. More details by calling 091-844549 or [www.redemptoristsesker.ie](http://www.redemptoristsesker.ie)**

A **25 Card Drive**, takes place in Tynagh Community Clubhouse on Friday December 6 @ 8.30 pm. Proceeds go to provide speech and therapy

for Parkinson's patients in Co. Galway.

**Adm. 10 Euros.**

**My Story-** A CD of songs from **John Joe Deely** will be launched at **Gallaghers in Ballyfa** on Thursday November 28 @ 9pm by **Michal Cummins of Mid West Radio**. Support appreciated.

Chiropractic clinic will be attending Hayes pharmacy, Portumna on 23rd, 25th, 26th Nov. 9th, 10th, 16th & 20th Dec for general and diabetic footcare. Contact Emma on 0861901247 for an appointment.

**Christmas Crafts & Home Baking sale and Raffle at Loughrea Family Resource Centre on Saturday November 30th from 10.30am -5.30pm.**

**Proceeds being donated to Loughrea Family Resource Centre Counseling Service, Tea & Coffee Served. All Welcome**

*Pieta House Misneach Candlelight Service - is a time to remember our loved ones not only those who have died by suicide.*

*Its is an occasion to create a space and time for people to honour and celebrate lives present and lives passed and to move into December and the Christmas Season with hope and celebration. The service is non-religious with lots of meaningful music, readings and poetry.*

**Pieta House MISNEACH - Nourishing Hope Candlelight Service**

**Sunday 24th November 2019**

**Time 3.30 p.m.**

**Augustinian Church. Middle Street Galway.**

**free men's health Information evening on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November @ 6.30pm in the The Maldron Hotel, Sandy Road, Galway. We will have stands from CROI, Irish Cancer Society, Citizens Information and speakers from Pieta House and a cardiologist and urologist from UHG. It is free to**

*attend but we would like people to register by phoning 091 893318 or 091 893489 or email [rachael.dalton@hse.ie](mailto:rachael.dalton@hse.ie).*

**FUN DANCE CLASSES** continue Thursday November 21st in Gallagher's Ballyfa. Class from 8 to 9 with Liam & Joan followed by dancing to Blue Midnight to 11. Learn to Jive, waltz, line dance & much more! Contact Joan 086 8278913. Admission €10, all levels welcome.

*SCCUL Sanctuary Therapeutic Open Day for individuals experiencing life challenges takes place Thurs Nov 28<sup>th</sup> 10am-3pm in Kilcornan Estate, Clarinbridge. Attendees welcome to bring a friend. Cost €25pp inc hot lunch. Places limited. Further info/booking: 087 3466220.*

You are invited to attend the AGM of East Galway & Midlands Cancer Support Centre. We are holding our annual meeting on Monday 25th November 2019 at 7.30pm in Le Chéile, Brackernagh, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway. H53 P8HO.

**Seeking the face of God: Galilee Spirituality Centre**

You are invited to the second evening in our November series which explores how we can discover God in personal faith, scripture, creation and community. All welcome. 7.30-9.00pm closing with tea. €5. Booking and enquiries [info@galilee.ie](mailto:info@galilee.ie) 071-966-4101.

Night 2: November 12<sup>th</sup> **Rev Molly Deatherage: *God of the Word.***  
Rev Molly will share with us the God she discovers in the scriptures.

Rev Molly Deatherage is the Presbyterian Minister of Ballina, Ballymote and Killala Presbyterian Churches.

*Five First Saturday Devotions are being hosted in the Knock Apparition Shrine next Saturday 2nd November. Starts at 11.00am with Rosary, meditations, and concludes with Holy Mass at 12.00 noon. Confessions and Enrollment of the free brown scapulars. Everyone is welcome to attend to benefit from Our Lady's heavenly promises"*

*Ballinakill Community Centre Events:*

*NEW Pilates 6 Week Course Tuesday 5 Nov. 8pm: Cost €40. Both men/women welcome. Bring your own mat/bottle of water. **Jiving with Gerry THIS Friday 25 October 8pm. Progressive 25 Card Game: Thursdays 8.30pm.** All are welcome. Tel: Maura 087 7942467, Mary 086 3203765 or Niall 087 3593796.*

**FRENCH GRINDS AVAILABLE  
VERY EXPERIENCED TEACHER  
EXCELLENT RESULTS  
ALL ASPECTS OF JUNIOR AND LEAVING CERTIFICATE COURSES COVERED  
'LE DOCUMENT' AND ORAL TOPICS TAILOR-MADE TO SUIT YOUR NEEDS'  
FACEBOOK (For reviews) French grinds for Exam Success@frenchsuccessgalway  
PLEASE CONTACT ANN: 087 6712487**

*In November We Remember Sunday 3rd Nov. A Poignant, Reflective Candle Ceremony & Community Remembrance Walk for all our dearly departed at 2:30 Gullanes Hotel, Ballinasloe. Registration: Adults €5 (proceeds to charity) Family event, all welcome. Refreshments after walk Details (087) 7746203  
**Seeking the face of God: Galilee Spirituality Centre***

*Our relationship with God is a journey of discovery. You are invited to four very special Tuesday evenings in November to explore how we can discover God in personal faith, scripture, creation and community. All welcome. 7.30-9.00pm closing with tea. €5. Booking and enquiries [info@galilee.ie](mailto:info@galilee.ie) 071-966-4101.*

*Night 1: November 5<sup>th</sup> **Bishop Kevin Doran: The God of My Life**  
Bishop Kevin will speak from a personal perspective on faith and the God he has met through his own life.*

**Door Security & Manual Handling Course at Portumna Further Education Centre GRETB (Old VEC), St. Brigid's Rd**

**Information Day on Wednesday 30th October at 10.30 a.m. Free for DSP. apply on line:  
[www.fetchcourses.ie](http://www.fetchcourses.ie)**

- **QQI Level 5 General Studies**

National Learning Network, Tus Nua is a FREE recovery-oriented programme that helps people to

develop a sense of self-esteem and confidence while introducing structure,

new skills, and opportunities to their lives. Training takes place in a

STRESS-FREE environment that closely adheres to the educational needs

of the participant. Training that can lead to a QQI level 4 Qualification.

For more information ring 091-781265

Email : [dave.scully@nl.n.ie](mailto:dave.scully@nl.n.ie)

## Portumna Computer Training

### Free Full time Training in a relaxed Environment

#### Benefits

- **Brush up on current skills**
- **Gain QQI (Formerly FETAC) recognised certification @ Levels 3, 4 & 5**
- **Use QQI Level 5 Award to progress to College/Further Education**
- **2 week Work Experience Placement**
- **Travel, Meal and Childcare Allowances paid to eligible participants**

#### Courses

- **QQI Level 3 Employability Skills**
- **QQI Level 4 Digital Media & IT with Tourism**

**For further details contact: Patricia or Lynne @**

**090-9759092**

**[portumnacomputertraining@gmail.com](mailto:portumnacomputertraining@gmail.com)**

**<https://www.facebook.com/portumnalti>**

**<https://portumnalti.wordpress>**

**A Day of Spiritual Healing**, open to everyone, occurs on November 9th, in Fields of Grace Retreat House in Loughrea. Contact Marguerite Brady on 0860356970 to book your place on is very special Spiritual Healing Day.

**Portumna Further Education, St. Brigid's Road (Old VEC)** Healthcare: Care Skills every Friday from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm Care of the Older Person every Friday from 12:00 pm to 3:00pm Horticulture: Monday and Thursdays 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Singing, Voice coaching Wednesday 4:00 pm Contact Michael 087 6258696/ 090 9741946 michael.cunniffe@gretb.ie

**Family Carers Ireland** is actively recruiting to build on its existing team of Home Care Workers in this area. Excellent remuneration rates and flexible working hours available. QQI Healthcare Award including Care Skills and Care of the Older Person desirable. For further information please telephone (091) 885030 or email [galway@familycarers.ie](mailto:galway@familycarers.ie)

**Macra na Feirme 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration** in the Clayton Hotel, Galway on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October. All past and present Clubs will be hosting their own table on the night. For further information, and details of your local contact, phone Ollie at 087 2437009 or Frank at 085 1266133 **The Big Gig, Cairde Seán Henry' music concert** will be taking place in the Clayton Hotel Galway on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October **in aid of Cancer Care West and Croi**. Tickets are €25 each and can be purchased from Cancer Care West on 091 545000 or through their website [www.cancercarewest.ie](http://www.cancercarewest.ie) The night will feature some of Ireland's top traditional musicians, including Frankie Gavin, Joanie Madden and Cherish the Ladies, Seán Keane and many more. Please support.

**Art Classes Drawing** for children (9 years up) on Wednesdays 6 - 7pm, starting on September 25th for 8 weeks. Arts & Crafts for children (5 years up): Saturdays 3 - 4pm and 5 - 6pm, starting on Oct 5th in Bramble Art Studio, Lorrha, for 8 weeks. Please contact Ute: 087-9151356. Early booking advisable as places are limited.

**2019 Shorelines Arts Festival – enjoy Sunday's highlights!** Recitation competition in An Caisleán from midday; Folk on a Boat on the Ku-Ee-Tu at 3pm Portumna Marina; Ensemble Revelare in a 6pm concert at Christ Church and to finish off, Fishamble's Pat Kinevane as he returns to the Town Hall Portumna with Before. [www.shorelinesartsfestival.com](http://www.shorelinesartsfestival.com)

*Sun. Sept. 22nd SR 7.15am Set. 7.30pm Last Quarter on Sun . Sept. 22nd at 3.40am  
Sun. Sept. 29th SR 7.28 am Set. 7.12pm New Moon on Sat. . Sept.28th at 7.26pm*

Study Hub Loughrea Leaving Cert **French Course** on **Verbs** and **Tenses** suitable for **both Higher & Ordinary** students **26th October** 2pm-5pm. Full course content on <http://www.studyhubloughrea.ie> or call Breda 086 3792360

. Everybody welcome to honour & thank Grandparents alive & dead for all they have done for us down through the ages. Chief Celebrant Bishop Kevin Doran, Bishop of Elphin - Combined Choirs of Knock Parish - Dana sings 'Our Lady of Knock'

Beginning Experience weekend 18-20 October for people who have lost a spouse through death divorce or separation Esker Retreat Centre Athenry further information Maureen 0876646896 or Josie 0879881143!!

Family Law Clinic