

Woodford/Looscaun Parish Newsletter

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

Fourth Sunday of Lent March 22nd 2020

St John the Baptist Church, Woodford.

Mass Times: Mon. 9.30am * Tue. 7.30pm*^ Wed. 9.30am* Thur. 8am* & 6pm*^
Fri. 8pm*^ Sat. 10am* & 7pm*^ Sun. 11am*^

(Behind closed doors. * beside the Mass Time indicates the Mass will be available on 105.0FM locally, ^ beside Mass Time indicates the Mass will be available on Facebook Live on the Woodford/Looscaun Facebook Page. www.facebook.com/woodf4dlooscaun

Saturday March 21st	7pm *^ Irene & Raymond Keary, Woodford.
Sunday March 22nd	11am*^ Kathleen & Michael Conway, Douras.
Thursday March 26th	6pm*^ Maureen O'Rourke, Ballinasloe (2nd Anniv)
Friday March 27th	8pm*^ Johnny & Kathy Garvey, Thurneny.
Saturday March 28th	7pm*^ Joe Torpey, Derrygoolin Denis Lynch, Loughatorick (2nd Anniv)
Sunday March 29th	11am*^ Margaret & John Slattery, Looscaun Michael & Rose Shiel, & their son, Michael Jnr. & deceased family members, Clonmoylan.

Altar Society: Team 5. Maura Cooney Jacki Hickey

St. Brendan's Church, Looscaun

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

Altar Society Betty Whelan Maura Tully

RIP: Peter Flaherty, Derryoover. Anne(Nancy) McManus(nee Mahon) Dublin & formerly Woodford, sister of Celia Noonan, Woodford.

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 Vigil & Morning Mass on Facebook Live as well as Masses that have a noted intention on the Newsletter. 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 On a personal note, I am available to contact anytime on 090-9749100 or 087-2997956 if you need any pastoral help or assistance. You can contact me also by email kieranj.orourke@gmail.com or by Facebook Messenger. Over the coming days and weeks updates will be issued in line with any new developments. I will post them on the Church Doors, notice boards and on the Woodford/Looscaun Facebook Page www.facebook.com/woodf4dlooscaun I will keep you in my prayers at this time. Please keep me in yours and together with God's Help we will get through this difficult time.

Our Churches are Open –Call to Say a Prayer Remember that during these days Churches throughout the Diocese of Clonfert will be open except during Mass times. Why not call to say a private prayer, light a candle or pick up the Parish Newsletter or other spiritual material that may be available. **Please obey the social distancing rule** – keep at least two meters apart and don't congregate in close groups! If lighting a candle do so safely. Please pray for protection, pray for all

those who are sick, pray for our medical staff who are working so hard, pray for our priests, pray for our civil leaders and pray for our scientists who are working to try & understand what is happening.

Diocese of Clonfert Prayers at Home when Gathering for Mass is not Possible In these extraordinary times when we cannot gather for Mass, prayers are available for use at home. Copies are available in both Woodford & Looscaun Churches as well as the Sunday missalette and Newsletter **Copies of Prayers at Home when Gathering for Mass is not Possible** can also be downloaded from the Clonfert Diocese Website – www.clonfertdiocese.ie. While they can be prayed at any time, a good time to do so would be at the time Mass is normally celebrated in your local parish. **If, as a faith community, we cannot be together physically let us join together spiritually!**

Parishes Reaching Out Our Bishop Michael Duignan has urged all parish communities in the Diocese of Clonfert to organise themselves to reach out, as appropriate, to those in our community who are or who will be in need because of the current situation. It might mean mobilising groups of people to make appropriate contact with those who are living alone or isolated, offering to do some shopping, get medicines or run other errands or simply telephoning people to assure them that someone is there and cares.

Televised Mass or Mass via Webcam Weekday Mass is available via Webcam at www.loughreacathedral.ie every day at 11.00am and 8.00pm and Mass is broadcast every day on RTE news now at 10.30am. Please note Radio Maria broadcasting on Ch. 210 on Saorview has Mass at 10am every day and Rosary at 9pm.

Sunday Mass Mass is available every Saturday evening at 8pm and Sunday at 10am and 12 noon from Loughrea Cathedral via webcam at www.loughreacathedral.ie **Galway Bay FM** on 97.4FM will broadcast Mass, celebrated, at 11.30am. www.galwaybayfm.ie **Shannonside** on 104.1FM will broadcast Mass at 10.00am. www.shannonside.ie **Clare FM 96.4** will broadcast Mass at 9am. www.clare.fm

Keeping Connected Why not visit Clonfert Diocese Facebook Page or follow Clonfert Diocese on Twitter.

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 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 27th Mar**

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People ALONE has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm, by calling 0818 222 024. Hours may be extended to meet the demand.

Tommy Larkins Lotto: 16-17-25-26 Jackpot 9,200 euro.No winner. Match 3: Gerry D'Arcy Draw is suspended until further notice.

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

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. 22nd SR6.30 am Set. 6.51pm New Moon r on Tue. Mar. 24th at 9.28am

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

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. 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 13th – 19th

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, 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 15th, Galilee Spirituality Centre, 10.30-3.30. Numbers Limited: Booking: 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 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 26th 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 . The Pieta House Wren Run will hold a Registration Night in Tommy Larkins' Clubhouse from 6.30pm-8pm on Thursday 14th 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 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 29th – Dec 1st. 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

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.

Chiropody 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 20th 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.

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 28th 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 071-966-4101.

Night 2: November 12th **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.*

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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 071-966-4101.

Night 1: November 5th **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**

- **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

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

<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

Macra na Feirme 75th Anniversary Celebration in the Clayton Hotel, Galway on Saturday 5th 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 6th 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 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

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