

PARISH OF BALLINAKILL/DERRYBRIEN

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Saturday / Sunday 9 / 10 January 2021 'Baptism of The Lord'

Masses - Ballinakill:

Sat. 9 Jan.: 8pm (A) Gina & Ned Donohue & Deceased Family Members.

Sun. 10 Jan.: 10am (A) Lil Shiel.

Mon. 11 Jan.: 9.30am.

Tues. 12 Dec.: 9.30am

Wed. 13 Jan.: 8pm.

Thurs. 14 Jan.: 9.30am.

Fri. 15 Jan.: 8pm (A) Kitty & Michael Lyons.

Sat. 16 Jan.: 8pm (A) Jack & Madeleine Monahan.

Sun. 17 Jan.: 10am (A) Jimmy Sheil & Baby Conor Duane.

Lotto No's: 7, 9, 14, 23. Jackpot: €12,400. No Jackpot

Winner: Next Draw: 10/1 in The Clubhouse. Win/Share €150:

Maria Murphy, Woodford Youth Club, Darragh Kelly, Margaret Power. Tickets; Klubfunder Lotto Site /Klubfunder app. Draw/ results; FacebookSun. @7pm. www.klubfunder.com/Clubs_Larkins_GAA_Club_lotto

Irish Hospice Foundation Bereavement Support For Adults:

In Partnership with the HSE for those grieving in these exceptional times/in need of comfort/connection/support. People are calling about COVID-related deaths/deaths from other causes. Freephone 1800 80 70 77, Monday to Friday, 10am - 1pm.

Online Holy Hour For Refugees/Asylum Seekers Mon. 11 Jan.:

8 - 9pm. www.creideamh.ie/refugee-prayer All welcome to participate.

Ireland Lights Up: As Fit4Life Is Cancelled This Year:

Due to current Covid restrictions we are instead inviting you to participate in a virtual walk with the Club all done safely either on the track at the Clubhouse and within 5kms of your home or on a safe walk of your choice. The plan is that our Healthy Club Community participants walk a cumulative 4,000 km (around Ireland). To take part you will need to download MyLife App selecting Tommy Larkins as your club to walk with. See Social Media (Fb & Insta) for further details or contact Angela on 086 8513031. If the club is successful in achieving 4k kms we are in with a chance to win some excellent prizes for the Club. No entry fee for participants but you must be over 18 years with start date Wednesday 13 Jan running until Wed. 3rd March.

Televised Mass or Mass via Webcam: Weekday Mass:

Broadcast by webcam every day from St. Brendan's Cathedral Loughrea at 11am & 8pm and on RTE news now 10.30am

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

New Year's Eve Countdown Programme:

This New Year's Eve was a difficult one for many. Normal gatherings of family/friends were not possible and celebrations were confined to those we live with or we were simply on our own. When settling down to watch the *New Year's Eve Countdown Programme* on our national broadcaster RTE, people of faith, did not expect to have their religious beliefs deliberately ridiculed and at the same time have the crime of rape disturbingly trivialised. Regrettably, this is what happened in the *Waterford Whispers Sketch* segment of the programme. To register a complaint with the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland, please go to: <https://www.bai.ie/en/viewers-listeners/complaints/> and to RTÉ Complaints office by e-mail to complaints@rte.ie

Cope Galway Domestic Abuse 24-hr Confidential Helpline For Older:

People who need to stay home to protect themselves / homeless families / individuals / including those in emergency accommodation. Women / children experiencing domestic abuse. We need your help to continue supporting vulnerable people in our community most affected by Covid-19. 091 565985

COVID-19 Support Line For Older People ALONE Manage National:

Support line / additional supports for older people who have concerns / facing difficulties due to Covid-19. Open 7 days a week from 8am - 8pm. Tel: 0818 2220 24.

St. Brendan's Ed. Centre, Loughrea Tel: 091 841387:

QQI Level 5 Safety/Health Wed. 13 Jan. 9.30-1pm. QQI Level 5 Nutrition Thur. 14 Jan. 1.30-4pm. QQI Level 5 Care Skills 9.30-1pm; 18 Jan. Care Support 1.30-4.30pm. QQI Level 5 Communications Wed. 13 Jan. 6.30-9.30 pm. QQI Level 5 Spreadsheets Fri. 15 Jan. 9.30-1pm. QQI Level 5 Infection Prevention Control Thur. 25 Feb. 9.30-1pm. QQI Level 4 Culinary Skills & Level 5 Hospitality Operations in Feb. days/date/times not decided. freda.murphy@gretb.ie or john.melville@gretb.ie Tel: 087 9332033

Seeing Your Life Through The Lens of The Gospel – John Gives:

1. An example of humility as a person confident in his own role but not seeking to claim to be more than he is. He acknowledges that Jesus is greater. There is a freedom in being able to acknowledge the gifts of others without losing a sense of one's own giftedness. Recall times when you were able to do this. 2. The baptism of Jesus was an extraordinary religious experience for him. Something happened that was a major step forward for Jesus in coming to know that he was the beloved Son of God. We all have events in our lives that are milestones along the road of discovering who we are. What have been these milestones for you? 3. 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.' Bring to mind experiences in which you knew you were the beloved (of God/another person) and that the one who loved you was well pleased. Remember these experiences with gratitude, knowing that the only proper response to love received is thankfulness. Perhaps you have also given that experience to another. 4. It is easy to lament the growing secularization in the world today, but the Spirit of God who spoke loudly to the world in the Christ-event is active today. How can we be open to the new things the Spirit is saying to the church today?

The Deep End – Come To The Water – Today We Celebrate The:

Baptism of Jesus, the moment when God reveals who Jesus is. Our readings are rich with water imagery. Water is a powerful symbol throughout the Scriptures, from the story of creation and the crossing of the Red Sea, to the wedding feast at Cana and Jesus' encounter with the woman at the well. It is a symbol of life and newness, an opportunity for God to reach out to us, be present with us/teach us something, as well as an opportunity for cleansing/a fresh start. Our gospel today tells of Jesus being baptised by John in the river Jordan. This immersion in water marks the beginning of Jesus' ministry. By approaching John for baptism/along with all the others, Jesus is identifying with the people/allowing himself to be counted among sinners. It is a sign that he submitting to God's will. At this crucial moment, as soon as he emerges from the Jordan, Jesus sees the heavens open/the voice of God confirming him as 'Beloved Son'. It is a moment of divine approval, confirming Jesus' identity and launching him on his new mission. The baptism of Jesus is a reminder of our own identity and mission. We are beloved daughters/sons of God/sisters/brothers of Jesus, members of God's family. In today's first reading we are invited: 'Come to the water all you who are thirsty'. We are called to the water/to that moment when we recognise who Jesus is, who we are/our mission to live as children of God. 'In order to live a life of holiness, we must first receive new life from God — we must be born from above.'