

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE CATHEDRAL THIS WEEK

Mon. 11am James O'Dowd	8pm Michael Slattery & Bridget Slattery (née Hutchinson)
Tues. 11am Michael Joyce	8pm Paddy McCormack
Wed. 11am Annie & Patrick Conway	8pm Kitty Daniels
Thurs. 11am People of the Parish	8pm John Fahy
Fri. 11am John & Mary Ellen Cunningham	8pm Rita (Fairy) Daly M.M.
Sat. 11am Michael & Bridie Fitzgerald	8pm Walter Morgan
Sun. 10am Nora Cooke	12noon Carmel & Gerard Holohan

These Masses will be offered up privately and are available on live stream at www.loughreacathedral.ie and www.churchservices.tv

R.I.P: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Patrick (Paidín) Tully, Bohercom, Loughrea, Tom Comer, St. Laurence's Fields, Loughrea, Patsy Fawl, Kilcolgan, Co. Galway, brother of Moira Hough, Donnellan Drive, and Sr. Angela (Chrissie) Dempsey, the Convent of Mercy, Loughrea who died recently.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE CARMELITE ABBEY THIS WEEK

Mon. 10am Patrick & Mary Lynch	Tues. 10am Nora Scully
Wed. 10am Mary & Thomas Coleman	Thurs. 10am Con & Teresa Hynes
Fri. 10am Larry & Sheila Doyle	Sat. 10am John & Mary McDonagh
Sun. 9am Kitty Daniels	Sun. 11am Tony Ryan
	6pm John, Mary Anne, Alfie & Lucy Callanan

Masses are offered up privately and 10am daily Masses and 9am Sunday Mass is broadcast on 106.9FM

Donations Sincere thanks to all who have continued to make financial contributions to the Parish. There is an online facility for contributions on

www.loughreacathedral.ie. It provides a secure payment option through PayPal. Another option is to make a payment through your bank using the details below.

ACCOUNT NAME: Cathedral Account, Bank of Ireland, Main St., Loughrea.
A/c no.: 76373954 – S/C 90-38-91. IBAN: IE36 BOFI 9038 9176 3739 54 - BIC: BOFIE2D

Bethany Bereavement Group
087 9660309

Society St. Vincent de Paul
086 0551134

NEWSLETTER SPONSOR

Dignity Funeral Care
Loughrea - Ph: 091-870 030 / 087-142 7271



LOUGHREA CATHEDRAL & CARMELITE ABBEY

The Presbytery 091 – 841212 The Abbey 091 – 841209

Website – loughreacathedral.ie clonfertdiocese.ie

Newsletter online: loughreacathedral.ie clonfertdiocese.ie

Email: cathedral@clonfertdiocese.ie

Sunday 10th January 2021 – The Baptism of the Lord

Diocese of Clonfert - Covid-19 Level 5 – Guidance for Parishes (effective from 24th December 2020)

1. Churches are permitted to remain open for private prayer with appropriate cleaning, sanitising and social distancing.
2. As and from midnight on 25th of December 2020, there is to be no public Celebration of Mass or other Religious Services. People are invited to join spiritually in Mass and other Religious Services from their homes by means of the parish radio, web-cam or through television and radio broadcasts.
3. As and from midnight on 25th December 2020 Outdoor/ Carpark Masses should not take place. This is in accordance with the norms for organised outdoor gatherings.
4. Funerals should be conducted in accordance with the safety guidance in "Nothing can Separate us from the Love of God" with a maximum of 10 mourners present from midnight on 25th December 2020.
5. The Sacrament of Marriage should be celebrated in accordance with the safety guidance in "Nothing can Separate us from the Love of God" with a maximum of 25 guests present and a maximum of 6 guests present from January 3rd 2021.
6. For the Sacrament of Baptism, Sacrament of the Sick and the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) please make contact with your local parish priest.
7. House visits should be by request only when there is an essential pastoral need and then with all the necessary health and safety procedures in place.
8. All gatherings for parish related activities are to be moved on-line.
9. Parish News Letters should continue to be published.
10. The celebration of First Confession/First Holy Communion and Confirmation should not take place.
11. An appropriate means for people to return their donation envelopes will be made available locally. Parishioners may also wish to donate to their parish using the online donation facility on the Clonfert Diocesan Website.
12. People may receive any clinically approved vaccine in good conscience. Please refer to the Irish Bishop's statement, which is fully consistent with statement from the Vatican see www.vatican.va

Pope's Intention for January

Intention for evangelisation – Human fraternity

May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

Televised Mass or Mass via Webcam

Weekday Mass: Broadcast by webcam every day from St Brendan's Cathedral Loughrea at 11am and 8pm and on RTÉ News at 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 or www.churchservices.tv/loughrea

Radio Maria Ireland – Listen via TV on Saorview – Channel 210

Parish Office

is **closed** due to Covid-19 Level 5 restrictions. Urgent calls 091-841212.
Notices and queries, please email: cathedral@clonfertdiocese.ie

Carmelite Abbey

Office is **closed** due to Covid-19 Level 5 restrictions.

Keeping Connected - Why not visit Clonfert Diocese Facebook Page or follow Clonfert Diocese on Twitter or visit www.loughreacathedral.ie for the latest information and updates.

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 may be available in your local church or they can 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.

Making a Spiritual Communion

When we cannot receive communion– there has been a long tradition in the church of what is called making a spiritual communion by ask Jesus to come spiritually into our lives.

My Jesus,

I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you. (*St Alphonsus de Liguori*)

Online Holy Hour for Refugees & Asylum Seekers, 8 to 9 pm, Monday 11th January. See www.creideamh.ie/refugee-prayer. All welcome to participate.

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19. Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am – 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

Cope Galway Our Domestic Abuse Service & Refuge remains open during the COVID-19 crisis. We are available to women who are experiencing domestic abuse. If you or someone you know needs our help, please call our 24-hour confidential helpline – 091 565985. We have COVID-19 prevention and social distancing measures in place to protect our clients and staff, ensuring all stay safe whilst accessing the service.

St. Brendan's Hurling Club, Loughrea will be holding their AGM online this Sunday 10th January at 6pm. All nominations for election of officers to be submitted via email by Saturday the 9th to the secretary at: secretary.loughrea.galway@gaa.ie

Applications for Director of Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service CLG

The Board of Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service CLG (Accord CLG) in conjunction with RSM Ireland is seeking applications for the role of a full time Director. For further information email mmccaffrey@rsmireland.ie.

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 and teach us something, as well as an opportunity for cleansing and 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 and 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 and 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 and sons of God, sisters and 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, and 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.'

J. Vernon McGee

Triona Doherty Intercom Magazine

Lens of the Gospel

1. John gives 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 or of 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?

John Byrne osa Intercom Magazine

HSE Coronavirus Guidelines

Do's: Wash your hands properly and often. Wear a face covering. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve when you cough and sneeze. Put tissue into a bin and wash hands. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces. Try to avoid close contact with people who are not well.

Do not: Touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean

For further details visit: www.hse.ie, www.clonfertdiocese.ie