

## *Parish of Killelooney & Creagh*

Ballinasloe Faith Community Area

Sunday, JANUARY 12<sup>th</sup> – The Baptism of the Lord.

Tel (090) 9643916 email: [stmichaelsballinasloe@clonfertdiocese.ie](mailto:stmichaelsballinasloe@clonfertdiocese.ie)

**RIP:** Maureen Brassil, Brackernagh

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK IN ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH: 10a.m.**

**Mon:** Dec mem Jenkins, Keane & Cullen Families, St. Ml's Square

**Tues:** Private Intention

**Wed:** Personal Intention

**Thur:** Bridie & Alex Scates.

**Fri:** Dympna Ryan, Beechlaw. Dec. members Coyne Fam., Brackernagh.

**Sat:** Eoin D'Arcy, Derrymullen. Bernard O Connor, St. Ml's Place. (M.M.)

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 19<sup>th</sup> : First Mass of; Sat 7p.m.**

Pat & dec mem Madden Family, Deerpark;

Paddy, Chrissie & dec mem Dervin Family, St. Michael's Place.

**9a.m.** John & Kathleen Killalea; Michael Hough, Parkmore.

**12noon:** Walter Warde, Duggan Avenue; Christy & Mary Lynch, St. Joseph's Place;

Davie Bannerton; Mick & Tess Lyons, Creggane; Sean & Mona Naughton, Mackney.

Kevin Halpin, Glentaun.

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH, CREAGH:**

**SAT: 12noon:** Cyril Dunne, Birchgrove (M.M.)

**SUNDAY: 10.30a.m.** Andrew Staunton, Creagh. Maureen Russell, Creagh Road.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Adoration:** Wed from 3-5p.m. Intercessory prayer for priests' vocations. Thur from 2-7p.m.

**Sacrament of Confession:** Saturdays 10.30-11.00am

**Celebrating Church Unity Week** Ecumenical Prayer Service in Cathedral Loughrea on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January at 6pm. All Welcome.

**Boxes of Church Envelopes for 2025 and Calendars** are available in the Presbytery. We are most grateful to people who collect and distribute them.

**Celebration of the Sacraments of First Confession, First Holy Communion, Confirmation 2025** We remember in our prayers those who are beginning to prepare for the celebration of the important Sacraments of First Confession, First Holy Communion and Confirmation this year. We also remember their families, sponsors, teachers and our entire parish community who will journey with them.

**Catholic Schools Week 2025** will be celebrated from Sunday, 19 January, to Saturday, 25 January, with the theme of Catholic Schools: Alive in Christ. We pray for and support our local Catholic schools so that, together with us, the parish community, they will be alive with the joy and hope that is Christ. Jesus Christ calls us together as a living faith community so that our schools, parish and families may support and animate one another. [www.catholiceducation.ie](http://www.catholiceducation.ie)

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

**Enrolments.** Scoil Uí Cheithearnaigh, Creagh N.S., Newtown N.S. and Scoil an Chroí Naofa are now taking enrolments for Junior Infants September 2025. Closing date 14<sup>th</sup> February. For further details please call Scoil Uí Cheithearnaigh, (090 9644347), Creagh N.S., (090 9642634), Newtown N.S., (090 9643043), Scoil an Chroí Naofa, (090 9644975).

**Citizens Information Centre Outreach in Ballinasloe Social Services**

Tuam Citizens Information Service will be doing an outreach at Ballinasloe Family & Community Resource Centre, Ballinasloe Social Services, Social Services Centre, Brackernagh, Ballinasloe, H53 KC98 on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> of January. This service provides information on Social Welfare, Housing, Health, Employment Rights, Immigration, Education and many other issues. This is by appointment only, to make an appointment call Tuam CIC on 0818 07 7740 (Tues,Wed,Thurs).

**Gamblers Anonymous** – Want to stop Gambling Helpline 086 349 4450 Weekly Meetings Tuesday GELS Room, Main Street Ballinasloe H53 RC95 @ 8pm.

**Keeping Connected**

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

**Thought for the day** The great scenes in the Bible, precisely because of their greatness and indeed uniqueness, can be difficult to access personally. For the Baptism of Jesus, there are at least two potential approaches. Firstly, we could go back in our minds to a life-changing turning point in our own lives, so that we can speak of before and after. Secondly, we could also turn to our own experience when we felt deeply the affirmation of our identity and worth as “the beloved” of someone. In the case of Jesus, these are combined: his identity and life are one, something we would like to be able say about ourselves too.

**Prayer** Abba, Father, let us hear again today your words of affirmation to Jesus and in Jesus to us all. As your beloved sons and daughters, draw us more closely into your own life of love. Amen.

**POINTERS FOR PRAYER 1.** The people were searching and John pointed them in the direction of Jesus. On your life's journey who have been the John the Baptist people for you, people who have pointed you in the right direction? **2.** The Baptism of Jesus was a very special moment for him that affirmed him in his identity as Son of God and in his mission. Recall the experiences that affirmed you – either in your sense of who you are, or in relation to the direction you were taking in life **3.** The Baptism of Jesus marks a transition point in his life, and the start of his public ministry. Recall the transition points in your own life. Where did you see the grace of God at work in those times?

**Jubilee Year of Hope – Pilgrims of Hope 2025**

Loving Father, we come before you in this Jubilee Year.

Our hearts are full of longing. Now is the time to lay the past to rest.

Today is the day for a new beginning. Breathe on us Spirit of God.

Inspire us. Strengthen us. Help us to follow ever more closely

the example of Jesus, your Son Help us to love you with all our heart.

Help us to care for one another In a world upset by war and discord, we beg for the gift of lasting peace.

With Mother Mary by our side may we journey together as pilgrims of hope on the road of life.

We ask this of you, O loving Father, through Christ Our Lord. Amen