



**Co Parish Priests of the Pastoral Area**

**Fr Denis Mullane 087/2621911**  
**Fr Tony Mullins 087/2600414**  
**Fr Dan Lane (Retired) 087/2533030.**

**Mass intentions for this weekend**

**Sat 8pm** Bessie Meehan, Kilmorna Anniv.  
**Sun 10am** Kathleen Gleeson, Kilconlea Lower Anniv.  
 Tom & Patrick McCarthy, Caherhayes  
**12noon** Mary O'Connor, Bridge Street 21st Anniv.  
 Austin Daly, Grove Road Anniv.  
 Paddy Flynn, Main Street 1st Anniv.  
 Dick O'Mahony, New Street Anniv.

**Intentions for the week**

**Mon 7pm** Paddy Flynn, Main Street 1st Anniv.  
**Tues 10am** Pro-Populo  
**Wed 10am** Special Intention  
**Thurs 10am** Gerry O'Connor Anniv.  
**Fri 10am**

**Intentions for next weekend**

**6.30pm** Bridie & Joe Fitzgerald, Clash and deceased family members  
 Patrick Lane Grogeen and deceased family members  
 Ita Corbett 1st Anniv.  
**10am** Kathleen Kelly, Letterkenny Anniv.  
 Josie Doherty, Tournafulla  
 Will Joe & Mary Collins and their sons Billy & Tom  
 Michael O'Hanlon, Collins Park Anniv.  
 Fr Peadar De Burca  
**12noon** Anthony Coleman Month Mind  
 John Broderick, Ballaugh 1st Anniv.  
 Mon 25th Richard Tobin and deceased members of the Tobin & Keogh families.

**Easter Dues**

The Easter Dues for the support of the clergy will be collected at all Masses this weekend. Your support is greatly appreciated.

**Trocaire: Boxes** – May be placed in the baskets at the doors of the church during Mass times or handed into the Sacristy.

**Easter Water- tradition**

Easter water blessed at the Easter Vigil is available today. We are providing small bottles of Easter Water for people to take home.

**'Easter Sunday Day of Great Joy'**

'This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad.' The resurrection is the crowning truth of our Christian faith. The greatest message the world has ever heard is: 'He is not here, for he has risen as he said' (Mt 28:6). Belief in the resurrection of Jesus is at the heart of our faith handed down by the apostles. The resurrection of Jesus was a real historic event. It is also a deep mystery of faith. Indeed, if Christ had not been raised from the dead, then, St Paul says, everything is in vain (Cor15:14). But Christ has been raised from the dead! We are a resurrection people! Alleluia is our song! This is the very reason for the Easter holiday. Let us celebrate with great joy this Resurrection Day with family, friends and community. We welcome all who are visiting the parish for this Easter weekend. We hope you are having an enjoyable stay amongst us. Fr Tony, Fr Dan and the parish pastoral council wish all our parishioners the joy of God's love and happiness on this Easter Day.

**Thank You.**

Sincere thanks to all who assisted in the preparation and celebration of our Holy Week Ceremonies. We thank our Parish Clerks, Cantors and Musicians, Senior Choir, Readers of the Word, Ministers of the Eucharist, Members of the Lost Souls Music group, Church Stewards, all who prepare and clean the church and keep it sanitized. All who look after the car park and church grounds. Thanks to all who ensure that all our ceremonies go out over the church webcam and our thanks and appreciation to all who help communicate the various announcements through Facebook and social media. Thanks to all our parishioners for joining us in the church for this special week. Fr Dan and I are grateful for the encouragement and support we receive from so many parishioners. Sincere thanks for your continued financial support. We wish you and your families our warmest wishes for a joyful and blessed Easter.

Fr Tony Mullins

**An Easter Prayer**

God, give us eyes to see  
 the beauty of the Spring,  
 And to behold Your majesty  
 in every living thing –  
 And may we see in lacy leaves  
 and every budding flower  
 The Hand that rules the universe  
 with gentleness and power –  
 And may this Easter grandeur  
 that Spring lavishly imparts  
 Awaken faded flowers of faith  
 lying dormant in our hearts,  
 And give us ears to hear, dear God,  
 the Springtime song of birds  
 With messages more meaningful  
 than man's often empty words  
 Telling harried human beings  
 who are lost in dark despair –  
 'Be like us and do not worry  
 for God has you in His care.  
 –Helen Steiner Rice

**Mercy Sunday**

The Divine Mercy Novena began on Good Friday and ends next Sunday (Divine Mercy Sunday) 24th of April. Leaflets with Novena Prayers are available at the entrance to the church.



*Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.*

**Farwell to Fr Duggan**

Fr Brendan Duggan leaves the parish of Athea today. We wish Fr Brendan all the best for the future. Fr Tony and Fr Denis Mullane will be taking over responsibility for the parish of Athea from this weekend onwards. The local Pastoral Area includes the parishes of Abbeyfeale, Athea, Tournafulla, Mountcollins and Templeglantine. Fr Denis and Fr Tony are assisted in the overall running of the five churches in the pastoral area by the Pastoral Area Council. The Pastoral Area Council is comprised of representative of the five churches in the area along with the priests of the area. There are 16 Pastoral Areas in the diocese. In the very near future there will be just two priests serving in each pastoral area in the diocese. As Fr Duggan returns to his religious congregation, a number of readjustments will be made in all the parishes in the area to enable Fr Tony and Fr Denis provide all the necessary pastoral services to parishioners in all five parishes. Some of the changes taking place in the parish of Abbeyfeale from this weekend onwards include new arrangements for funerals and baptisms.

**Funerals**

After consultation with the Pastoral Area Council, and the parish councils in each of the five parishes, it was agreed, that due to the number of Sunday Masses celebrated in the five churches in the area, it will no longer be possible to have funeral Masses on a Sunday. This has been the case in the diocese of Kerry for some years. We are also asking families who are bereaved, where possible, to continue with the practice of bringing the remains of the deceased to the church on the morning of the funeral Mass, rather than the night before. Over the coming weeks we will see a greater involvement of lay people in the leading of the prayers at funerals, such as the prayers for the deceased in funeral homes, in the family home of the deceased and at the burial ceremony. New arrangements for times of baptisms will be announced next weekend. We thank parishioners for their understanding and support in these new arrangements.

**Mission Appeal**

Over the years parishioners will be aware of an annual visit by a Missionary Religious Order to the parish to make an appeal for support for their missionary work. This year the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary are speaking in all Churches throughout the diocese of Limerick. Next weekend members of the congregation will speak at all Masses in the parish and in all churches in the pastoral area to appeal for both spiritual and financial support for their work. Sr Nuala will accept donations for the missions as you leave Mass next Sunday. We ask you to be as generous as you can afford.