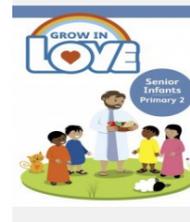




Abbeyfeale Parish News

26th Jan 2020 www.abbeyfealeparish.ie



Intentions for this weekend

- 6.30pm** Lily O’Keeffe, St Ita’s Rd., Anniv
Betty McCarthy, Knockbrack Anniv
Leah Harnett 12th Anniv.
Maurice O’Connor Knocknasna Anniv.
- 9.15am** Denis McEnery Anniv.
John Moore, Shanbally
- 12noon** Patrick & Hannah Broderick, Dromtrasna Collins
Mike Barry, Months Mind
Noreen O’Rourke, Months Mind
Mike O’Connor, Dromtrasna

- Mon 7pm** Noreen O’Rourke Month Mind
- Tues 10am** Special intention
- Wed 10am** Daniel Sheehy Anniv.
- Thurs 10am** Pro Populo
- Friday 10am** Rico Kelly
- Sat 11am** Aoife Collins Anniv.

Intentions for next weekend

- 6.30pm** Anna Mai Lane ,Killarney Road 1st Anniv.
Paddy & Nancy Fitzgerald Meenahela Anniv.
Bernadette O’Connor Knocknasna Anniv
- 9.15am** David Ward, Ballaugh Anniv.
- 12noon** Garret Stack & Hannah & Michael & John Stack
Eileen & Johnny Lane, New Street
Ita Murphy Lewis & Dick Murphy, Knocknasna.

Perpetual Help Novena on Friday’s @ 10am

St Anthony’s Novena each Monday evening @ 7pm Mass
Baptismal team meeting in Abbeyfeale on Tuesday 11th Feb in the Sacristy at 8pm. Parents are encouraged to attend.

Saturday 1st February, Feast Day of St Brigid:

St Brigid is renowned for her hospitality, almsgiving and care of the sick. She was born in the year 454. Her father had planned for her to be married, but Brigid insisting in dedicating her life to God. She spent her formative years under the direction of St Mel in Ardagh, Co. Longford. With the assistance of Bishop Conleth she established a monastery in Kildare. She died in 524 and her cult is widespread not only throughout Ireland but in several European countries.

St Brigid’s Cross, in legend was used by Brigid to explain the Christian Faith and remains to this day a popular sign of God’s protection. St Brigid is also associated with the coming of Spring. Spring the season of hope and new life. Brigid who was so immersed in nature would want us to respect and appreciate the gift of God’s creation. We are slowly awakening to the importance of caring for the environment that we are so blessed to live in.

Celebrate the Word of God

Pope Francis is inviting Catholics across the world to deepen their appreciation, love and faithful witness to God and his Word. That’s why, as established by a papal decree - the third Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 26 this year, is to be observed as a special day devoted to “*the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God*”. Celebrating the *Word of God* is an opportunity to renew our commitment and understand the inexhaustible richness that comes from God’s constant dialogue with his people.

The Word of God at Mass

First Reading at Mass: Is usually from the oldest part of the Bible called the Old Testament. In the Easter Season the first reading comes from the New Testament. The stories that we hear during the first reading are the same stories that Jesus would have heard when he was a child. Some of the stories from the Old Testament are thousands of years old. They remind us of how long people have been listening to God’s word. They also tell us how much God loves us. Even though the stories are very old, they still have an important message for us today.

The Psalms: The psalms are different from the other readings from the Bible. They were written as poems or songs. There are 150 psalms altogether. Sometimes the psalm is sung. Between each verse there is a response which we are all invited to say. The psalm allows us to reflect on the reading that we have just heard.

Second Reading: This reading always comes from the part of the Bible called the New Testament. The reading is taken from the books that are found directly after the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Our Response to the Readings: At the end of each of the readings the Minister of the Word finishes by saying, 'The Word of the Lord' and we all respond with the words, 'Thanks be to God.' This is our way of saying thank you to God for these stories which help us to grow together as members of God’s family.

Catholic Schools Week 2020. Sunday 26 January – Sunday 1 February

During the coming week each school in the parish will mark *Catholic Schools Week* with special ceremonies and celebrations. *Catholic Schools Week* is an opportunity for the parish community to acknowledge and celebrate the wonderful work done in our schools in nurturing the faith of our children and it gives us an opportunity to reflect on the contribution our schools make to the common good of our society.

Catholic Schools Week 2020 will be celebrated on the theme ‘Catholic Schools: Living in Harmony with God’s Creation’. Commenting on this year’s theme Father Paul Connell, Secretary of the Bishops’ Council for Education, said, “The theme for Catholic Schools Week this year encourages us to see that we all have a responsibility to care for the earth, not just for our own future, but for the future of every one of God’s creatures. In 2015, Pope Francis’ wrote his encyclical *Laudato Si’*, which was the basis of Catholic Schools Week in 2017. This year, we re-echo the messages of that encyclical.

“In *Laudato Si’* Pope Francis has very clearly delivered the message to people all over the world about the need for all of us to care for our common home. Pope Francis challenges us to look at our lifestyles. He asks for justice and equality, as it is clear that climate change is creating a huge amount of suffering and impacting the poorest of the poor in our world; the very people who did least to cause this situation.

The hope of Catholic Schools Week 2020 is that we realise how powerful each and every one of us is and that even the smallest changes can have the biggest impact.”

User friendly resources for schools, parish and families are available to download from <https://www.catholicbishops.ie/2020/01/02/catholic-schools-living-in-harmony-with-gods-creation/>

Sunday 2nd of Feb., Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas Day):

Candles will be blessed at the 9.15am Mass. This year we are already oversupplied with large long candles, so we are asking parishioners not to give this type of candles to the Church. However, if parishioners wish to make a donation for other sized candles your donations towards the purchase of these candle will be gratefully received. Parishioners are welcome to bring candles to be blessed that will be used at home throughout the year.

Monday 3rd of February, The Feast of St Blaise:

St Blaise, bishop and martyr, has been venerated as the patron of those who suffer from diseases of the throat. Blessing of Throats will take place on Monday evening after the 7pm Mass.

NIGHT AT THE OSKARS:

Fundraising events are being organised daily and the following is by no means a comprehensive list of all those that are planned.

Sunday, January 26 a Flower Arranging Demonstration organised for Tea and Tales.

A Darts Tournament in Jack O’Rourke’s.

Friday, January 31st there will be bag packing in Twohig’s Super Valu.

SONG CONTEST AT THE PLOUGHMAN Friday, February 28 at the Ploughman in the Square

RAMBLING HOUSE IN AID OF THE OSKARS: Rambling House for Friday, January 31 at the Day Care Centre. From 8.30pm Singers, musicians, storytellers will be welcome.

Your support will be greatly appreciated

LOVE KNOTS AT FR. CASEY’S: The latest offering from the Abbeyfeale Drama Group is a comedy by Jimmy Keary. It will be staged on Tuesday, February 4, Thursday 6, Saturday 8, Sunday 9, Tuesday 11, Thursday 13, Saturday 15 and Sunday February 16 at Fr. Casey’s Clubhouse. Doors open 7.15pm, Show 8pm sharp.

The Athea Drama Group have also chosen a play on the Luv theme which is also by Jimmy Keary. They will be going on stage with ‘Looking for Love’ on February 6,8,9,13, 15,16 in the Community Centre, Athea.

ABBEYFEALE AND SOURNDING AREA CARDIAC FIRST RESPONDERS

An open meeting will take place on February 13th in St. Ita,s Hall Abbeyfeale at 8pm sharp the purpose of the meeting is to set up a Local Cardiac Responder Group in association with the National Ambulance Service.

Mark Callanan Community Engagement Officer from the NAS will be guest speaker and will outline what is needed to set up the Group.

If you would like further information please contact 0860757680

HAVEN: If you have a problem with alcohol or drugs you are welcome to join a confidential group called Haven who meet on Thursday nights from 7 – 8.30pm in the parish office. For further information contact 087 7662865/087 4270374.

Abbeyfeale Parents and Toddlers group : 11am – 12.30pm every Tuesdays (only) **St Ita’s Hall.** Contact Mary on 087 9382883.

COMMUNITY SUBSTANCE MISUSE TEAM: A free and confidential service for under 18’s and their families impacted by substance misuse is provided on the first Wednesday of the month in **St. Ita’s Hall** from 2.30pm – 5pm. Contact Kristeen Laing 086 4141854.

West Limerick Resources SICAP programme in association with SuperValu and Abbeyfeale Community Council is looking to explore the option of Abbeyfeale becoming an **Autism Friendly Town and Community.**

To understand and hear about what is involved in this, we are having a public meeting on **Wednesday 5th February 2020, in St Ita’s Daycare Centre @ 7:30pm.**

A member of ‘AsIAM, Ireland’s national Autism charity and advocacy organisation will be in attendance on the night. If you would like to attend, then please contact

Dearbhla @ West Limerick Resources on **087 6750869** or email dconlon@wlr.ie to register your interest and book a seat.

Thomas Fitzgerald of Fitzgerald Physiotherapy Clinic, Main Street, Abbeyfeale here. I have just opened a new physiotherapy clinic in town. I have had a woman from town who suffers from severe COPD (breathing problems) get in touch with me to see whether I would consider running a Pulmonary Rehabilitation Class within the clinic. Basically this is an exercise type class for people with lung conditions. It involves a lot of education around breathing control. It would be a great social outlet too. I have previous experience of running such a class during my time working in Respiratory Physiotherapy in the NHS.

The reason I am getting in touch is to see whether there would be enough scope numbers wise to run such a class? The woman in question suggested putting this in the Church Newsletter as a lot of the more elderly who suffer with these conditions wouldn’t have facebook etc.. I would be very keen to explore provision of this service to the people of Abbeyfeale and the surrounding areas.

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