

# Parish of Botha

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**Bulletin sponsored anonymously.**

## 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Death and imprisonment for Christ are realities for many Christians even in these times. But we who live in more tolerant societies can be frightened by the erosion of faith and the de-christianising of values. To be a genuine Christian means standing apart at times. Christ calls us to take a stand, to be for him or else against. To live the Christian ideal in marriage and in business requires courage. Jesus says to all, "Be not afraid." And in the end he will stand up for those who are faithful.*

### Masses for the week

#### St Patrick's Derrygonnelly:

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June 11.30am Mass, **Anniversary:** Patrick, Kathleen and Annie McGurn, Drumanure; Patrick, Kathleen and Francie Magee, Killyhommon; Jim Magee, Farnaconnell.

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June **7pm** Mass and Novena to St Peregrine.

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June **The Nativity of John the Baptist** 10am Mass and Rosary.

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 10am Mass and Rosary.

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June 11.30am Mass, **Anniversary:** Mamie and Vincie Leonard, Lesky; Seamus Cassidy, Sandhill; Tom Greene, Derryvarymore; Anne, John James and Kathleen Maguire, Derryvarymore.

**Recently Deceased:** Your prayers are requested for the soul of Peter McBrien, Enniskillen. May he rest in peace.

**Feast of The Nativity of John the Baptist:** We rejoice at the coming of St John the Baptist, a man of self-denial, integrity of life and purpose, and an uncompromising prophetic voice. John means 'The Lord has shown favour'. This feast relates to the summer solstice, when the days begin to grow shorter, recalling John's words, 'He must increase but I must decrease'.

**Church reopening:** the Northern Ireland Executive has indicated that places of worship will be permitted to open for public prayer from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June, that date having already being announced by the Irish government for churches in the South. While this is a welcome development, as all places of prayer have been without a congregation since March 15<sup>th</sup>, it is merely the first step. There is no question that we can return to how it was before the lockdown. As diocese and parishes, we are working towards making our churches safe places, and this will inevitably involve major sacrifices and goodwill on the part of everyone. The churches of our parish will reopen for public liturgies only when it is deemed safe, and will mean very small congregations because of social distancing requirements. More details will be made available when it is possible.

### *An Act of Spiritual Communion*

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Blessed 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. Amen.*

**Mary's Meals:** provides one good meal to some of the world's poorest children every school day. Our work is named after Mary, the mother of Jesus, who brought up her own child in poverty. Mary's Meals consists of, respects, and reaches out to people of all faiths and of none. Our current fundraiser is; Present for my teacher campaign on [www.marysmeals.ie](http://www.marysmeals.ie) where parents and guardians can buy an online gift for their children's teachers in exchange for a donation towards the work of Mary's Meals Ireland. It's really two presents in one – a beautiful e-card that kids can safely send to their teacher by email and the promise of daily school meals for children in some of the world's poorest communities. Donations of any amount are gratefully accepted; it costs just €18.30 to feed a child for an entire school year and at least 93% of all donations are spent on charitable activities. It's a simple idea that works. In schools where children receive Mary's Meals, enrolment goes up, fewer children skip lessons or drop out of school, students find it easier to concentrate in class and exam results improve.



**LOURDES2CLOGHER Virtual Pilgrimage 2020, 3<sup>rd</sup> - 8th July:** At this time of the Coronavirus pandemic,

when we as a diocese cannot journey on pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady at Lourdes, we hope to bring something of the spirit of the pilgrimage to the diocese. "Lourdes2Clogher: A Virtual Pilgrimage" will take place over the dates that we had planned to be in Lourdes, from July 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>. The different Masses and devotions will be streamed via [www.lourdes2clogher.com](http://www.lourdes2clogher.com). You can leave a prayer petition to be included in the Masses. You can also video record a Hail Mary or Our Father or Glory be... for the recorded Torchlight Procession. See [www.lourdes2clogher.com](http://www.lourdes2clogher.com) for details.



**Lough Derg Virtual Pilgrimage:** People can do the Three Day Pilgrimage from afar on 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> June. To register go to <https://loughderg.live/june-3-day-pilgrimage-registration/> or contact the Lough Derg team on +353 (0)71 9861518. The pilgrimage will follow the traditional format, Pilgrims are required to begin their fast from midnight on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> and adhere to the regulation one Lough Derg type meal each day. From after the final Station on Monday morning soft drinks may be taken. Pilgrims are to remain barefoot from when they begin their first station on Saturday until they complete their final station on Monday morning.

**Derrygonnelly Harps GFC:** Jackpot £4300, £20 Francie Mellor, Ora, Meghan McCusker, Belleek, and online player Mark Kelly, Oxfordshire. Draw will be completed online this Sunday night. We have had great support through online subscribers on Klubfunder, and a significant number of people are leaving envelopes into our collection boxes. Thank you to everyone who promotes and supports the Lotto. Our grounds and buildings remain closed until June 29<sup>th</sup>, and we appreciate members' cooperation with this. To part in The 'Steps Challenge', download the MyLife app from the App or Google Play store, register your details, and get walking or running, record your steps on the app, and help the club win a €2500 O'Neill's voucher.

**Reek Sunday Pilgrimage 2020:** the National Pilgrimage to Croagh Patrick on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July has been cancelled. Archbishop Neary will celebrate the vigil Mass in Westport on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July at 6.30pm which will be offered for the intentions of all who intended to make the pilgrimage. Prayer intentions can be posted to Westport Parish, Co Mayo. Or email [reeksunday2020@gmail.com](mailto:reeksunday2020@gmail.com) This Mass will be live-streamed on the parish Facebook page 'St Marys Church Westport' which can be accessed on [www.westportparish.ie](http://www.westportparish.ie)