

Parish of Botha

Parish Priest: Fr. Cathal Deery T: 028 6864 1207

The Graan: 028 6632 2272

Webcam: <http://churchservices.tv/derrygonnelly>

E: office@bothaparish.com

W: <http://www.parishofbotha.com>

Facebook : Botha Parish

Baptisms: on the 1st Saturday of each month, currently restricted to two babies at once.

Funerals and Weddings:

Only 25 people permitted to attend. Families may have a funeral or wedding in whichever parish church they choose, being mindful of the webcam facility in Derrygonnelly.

Parish Office Hours:

Monday 6:30pm – 9:30pm

Wednesday 1:30pm – 9:30pm

Thursday 6.30pm – 9:30pm

First Sunday of Advent

As Christmas approaches, we can ask ourselves: how can we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Saviour? The proclamation of John the Baptist points to the preparation that really counts: conversation of heart and life. The deeper of metanoia is a change of vision, a radically new outlook, in the light of the Gospel. God is our compassionate Father, our Abba, who desires nothing less than our hearts, our whole selves. We are accepted and loved by him, while we are still sinners (Rmn 5:8). Receiving his forgiving-love means a revolution in values, beliefs and direction in life.

Masses for the week

Sun 6 Dec.	11:30am	Mass Months Memory: Tommy Gallagher , Dernafulgher. Anniversary: Molly Cassidy , Fairview Park; Josie Flood , Main Street. Charlie Jones , Corr; Tommy Jones , Corr; Roseanne McGrath and deceased of the McGrath Family , Coolarkin
Tue 8 Dec.	7:00pm	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Novena Mass to St. Peregrine Anniversary: Patrick and May McGovern, Tullycalter.
Wed 9 Dec.	10:00am	Mass
Thu 10 Dec.	10:00am	Mass
Sun 13 Dec.	9:30am	Mass Anniversary: Deceased of Derrygonnelly Harps and Boho St Fabers GFC
	11:30am	Anniversary: Anthony Carr , Sillees Grove; Mary Jane McCabe , Knockmore Park; Vincent Haren , Drumbeggan/ London.

Lighting of the Second Candle



Father, all powerful Lord of Light,
 May our Advent be a time of preparation.
 Help us reflect on the power of light
 to dispel darkness in our world and in our lives.
 Touch our hearts with the warmth of your love.
 May the increasing light of these candles
 brighten our minds and hearts to be
 steadfast in faith, joyful in hope and untiring in love,
 so that we are ready again to receive in true peace,
 Jesus, the Light of the World, our Lord and Saviour.
Amen.

Coronavirus restrictions: the current restrictions are due to be lifted on Friday 11th December. It is hoped that from that date limited numbers will be permitted to once again attend masses and other liturgies in our churches. This is great news as we go through the season of Advent, and in the run up to Christmas. You are asked to continue to observe the regulations on social distancing, proper hand hygiene and the wearing of face coverings. While attendance at Mass is restricted, you are encouraged to attend at Christmas where facilities will be in place for you to hear masses from your car in the carparks. While we often bemoan the commercialisation of Christmas, it is still a time when many people come to Mass and receive Holy Communion. I certainly don't want Covid 19 to impede you from being present, if even outside the church buildings. More details will follow in the coming weeks.

Supporting your parish: sincere thanks to those who continue to financially support the parish. It is much appreciated and never taken for granted. I encourage those who have not contributed during these months of the pandemic to consider doing so, as every little bit helps in the maintenance and upkeep of the parish. Please put any contributions through the letterbox of the parochial house Derrygonnelly. **Do not leave any parish envelopes or other contributions in the churches.**

Advent Prayer Resources: available on www.clogherdiocese.ie and via the Diocese of Clogher Facebook page and other social media platforms from this weekend. They include prayers for family and school, links to the Advent Calendar with prayers, reflections and music for each day.

Advent Reflection with Bishop Larry: You can join Bishop Larry on www.clogherdiocese.ie or on the Diocese of Clogher Facebook page at 5pm on each Saturday of Advent as he lights a candle on the Advent Wreath and gives a short reflection on that Sunday's Gospel reading.

Lough Derg shop online: Lough Derg is now offering Festive Season Cards and Gifts... This is the first time we have launched gifts from Lough Derg for the festive season.

- Limited edition Lough Derg Christmas Candle
- Christmas card pack – 3 winter images from Station Island – 2 of each design.
- Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards – Fr La will offer a triduum of Masses beginning on Christmas Day for everyone who is enrolled.
- A unique Christmas decoration featuring the Basilica – complete with ribbon.

The usual range of Lough Derg candles and other gifts are also available from www.loughderg.live/shop



Mary's Meals – Double the Love: At Mary's Meals we are inspired by the courageous 'yes' of Mary. Her total trust in God in the face of numerous challenges gave the world the most precious gift of all – Jesus. Throughout this year of many challenges Mary's Meals have continued to say yes, with the help of our generous supporters, to feeding 1.6 million children their daily meal in a place of education in 19 developing countries even when obstacles arose. Our Double the Love Campaign runs until 31st January 2021, any donations made will be matched by the UK government, up to £2 million. Each little act of love will be doubled in order to provide 43,000 children in Bong County Liberia with hope for a better future. You can get involved by setting a place at our Big Family Christmas dinner table <https://bigfamilychristmas.marysmeals.org.uk/big-family-christmas-table>. Information about the campaign, our Christmas Gift cards and other ways to support can be found at www.marysmeals.org.uk/doublethelove.

The Annual Graan Draw: takes place on Tuesday 8th December. If you would like to buy a book of tickets Telephone 028 (048 ROI) 66322272, or by post: The Graan Monastery, 73 Derrygonnelly Road, Enniskillen, BT74 5PB, email thegraan@btinternet.com or visit our website thegraan.com tickets cost £1 /€1 or a book of 6 for £5/€5. First prize of £5000.



Trócaire: Trócaire delivers life-saving support to thousands of families across the developing world. This Christmas, Trócaire has launched a special appeal to support families who have lost all their income due to Covid-19. Please visit trocaire.org or call **0800 912 1200** to make a donation or buy a special Christmas gift. There are 17 Trócaire gifts to choose from, such as chicks, water or solar lamps. Thank you.

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.