

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 13 Dec.	9:30am	Mass Anniversary: Deceased of Derrygonnelly Harps and Boho St Fabers GFC
		Anniversary: Anthony Carr, Sillees Grove; Mary Jane McCabe, Knockmore Park; Vincent Haren, Drumbeggan/ London
Tue 15 Dec.	7:00pm	Novena Mass to St. Peregrine
Wed 16 Dec.	10:00am	Mass
Thu 17 Dec.	10:00am	Mass
Sun 20 Dec.	9:30am	Mass Anniversary: Deceased of the Gallagher Family, Drumbeggar and the McCaffrey Family, Killyhommon
	11:30am	Anniversary: Mary and Tom Fee, Knockmore Park; Ciaran Fee, Dublin; Henry Dundas, Derryvarymore and deceased of the McConnell Family, Derryvarymore

Lighting of the Second Candle



Lord God, may we, your people,
 who look forward to the feast of Christmas
 experience the joy of salvation
 and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving.
 We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Coronavirus restrictions: following the easing of the restrictions imposed two weeks ago, it is possible for people to once again attend mass in person. As you are aware, numbers permitted at each mass are based on the capacity of the church with the two-metre distance in place. Perhaps you can attend mass occasionally on Sundays or during the week, being mindful of the pressure on space.

For the celebration of Christmas, mass will be offered in each church in the parish, and once again, numbers have to be greatly restricted. There will be a facility for people to receive the broadcast of mass through their car radio, by being parked in the church carparks. I encourage people to avail of this service, rather than watching mass from home over Christmas, so that you will be able to receive Holy Communion at the mass.

Please co-operate with the ushers on duty so that Christmas celebrations can take place in the spirit that we are accustomed to.

Year of St. Joseph: on Tuesday last, 8th December, the 150th anniversary of the proclamation of St. Joseph as Patron of the Church, Pope Francis proclaimed a Year of St. Joseph, to conclude on 8th December 2021. St. Joseph is the quiet man of the Good News; yet he's the protector of Mary and Jesus. In this special year, we invoke his intercession as our protection and guide. The Holy Father has offered two prayers to St. Joseph, which will appear in the bulletin, occasionally over this year. Perhaps you could include one of them as part of your personal or family prayer in the coming year.

Pope Francis' Prayers to Saint Joseph

**Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil.
Amen.**

**Glorious Patriarch Saint Joseph,
whose power makes the impossible possible,
come to my aid in these times of anguish and
difficulty.
Take under your protection the serious
and troubling situations that I commend to you,
that they may have a happy outcome.
My beloved father, all my trust is in you.
Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain,
and since you can do everything
with Jesus and Mary,
show me that your goodness
is as great as your power.
Amen.**



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 and at 5pm on Christmas Eve as he lights a candle on the Advent Wreath and gives a short reflection on the Gospel reading. Advent Prayer Resources are available on www.clogherdiocese.ie and are shared through Facebook pages.

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.**

Derrygonnelly Harps GFC: Congratulations to the Fermanagh Ladies on winning the All Ireland title. We are especially proud of the contribution made by Eimear, Sarah-Jane and Brenda, plus Dermott as one of the coaches. Overall, a brilliant achievement, really enjoyable, well done!!

Jackpot £5000, £20 Shane Kelly, Belleek, Boots, Derrygonnelly, The Dundas children, online players. Please note that our bumper Christmas draw takes place this weekend. Six £50 prizes and two £50 promoters' prizes. Can all promoters initial their envelopes please.

The club has had to reschedule its **AGM to Thursday December 17th** at 7.30pm. The club's annual mass in memory of deceased members of Derrygonnelly Harps and Boho St Fabers GFC will take place at 9.30am this Sunday December 13th

Youth 2000 Christmas E-Retreat will take place from the 18th - 20th of Dec registration is now free on www.youth2000.ie

NI Blood Transfusion Service: next blood donation

sessions will be held in St Macartin's Cathedral Hall, Enniskillen Thurs 17th and Fri 18th December 1.30pm – 4pm and 5.15pm – 7.30pm. **Now by appointment only, call 08085 534 653 to book.** Your donation could help save a life



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.