

Parish of Botha

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Facebook : Botha Parish

Parish Office Hours:

Monday 6:30pm – 9:30pm

Wednesday 1:30pm – 9:30pm

Thursday 6.30pm – 9:30pm

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Lent reminds us that God loved us so much that he was generous with his mercy. If we have faith in that mercy we will not be lost. But we have to bring that message to all. The Christian has to preach to the world the saving work of Jesus Christ..

Masses for the week, St Patrick's Derrygonnelly

Sun 21 Mar	11:30am	Mass People of the Parish
Tue 23 Mar	7:00pm	Mass and Novena to St Peregrine
Wed 24 Mar	10:00am	Mass
Thu 25 Mar	10:00am	Mass
Thu 27 Mar	7:00pm	Mass Prayer and Reflection
Sun 28 Mar	11:30am	Mass Anniversary: John and Annie Burns, Aghakeeran; James and Brigid Carroll, Lisdoonan; Una Buchanan (Burns), Belfast; William and Mary Carroll, Leitrim.



St. Macartan: Wednesday 24th March is the feast of Macartan, patron of our diocese and Clogher's first bishop. MacCarthainn translates as Son of the Rowan, a tree associated in ancient lore with healing and health. The earliest source of information about Macartan's life associates him with St. Patrick, whose disciple and close friend he became. Macartan was present when Patrick first preached in Clogher, and travelled with him on his missionary journeys. He is described as the champion and strongman of Patrick. Legend would say that, in Patrick's later life, Macartan carried him on his shoulders as he continued to bring the Faith to various parts of the country. Patrick asked Macartan to erect a monastery in Clogher, Co. Tyrone and it was here that he was consecrated by Patrick as bishop, who gave him a staff, a holy cross and a copy of the Gospels enshrined in a casket. This great relic, known as The Domhnach Airgid, is kept today in the National Museum of Ireland in Dublin.

Macartan spent the remainder of his life in the Clogher area as bishop and abbot of the monastery. Our present diocese emerged in the twelfth century at the Synod of Rathbreasil in 1111AD. The present boundaries go from Bundoran on the west coast through West Tyrone, Fermanagh and Monaghan, extending into a small part of Co. Louth. Fifteen of the eighty five churches in the diocese are dedicated to St. Patrick, while there are just four named for St. Macartan, including our cathedral in Monaghan. As we mark the feast of our patron, we pray that the faith of those gone before us will live on in the lives of each person in our diocese and that God may bless and inspire Bishop Larry as he shepherds us as successor of Macartan.

Preparing for Easter: as we look towards Holy Week and Easter you are invited to join, via, the webcam – <https://churchservices.tv/derrygonnelly> an hour of prayer and reflection on Thursday 25th March at 7pm in St Patrick's church.



The Annunciation of the Lord: - 25th March 'Giving her consent to God's word, Mary becomes the mother of Jesus. Espousing the divine will for salvation wholeheartedly, without a single sin to restrain her, she gave herself entirely to the person and the work of her Son; she did so in order to serve the mystery of redemption with him and dependent on him, by God's grace'.

Coronavirus: while our churches have been closed to public worship since early January, it is hoped they will be reopened prior to Easter subject to Covid restrictions and mandatory health and safety guidelines. Public worship will resume in the parish of Botha on Holy Thursday at 7pm to celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper. The obligation to attend Sunday Mass continues to be suspended and numbers permitted in our churches remains subject to current capacity under these restrictions. If you are elderly, clinically vulnerable or are displaying any symptoms of Covid 19 you are asked not to attend liturgies. Further details will follow next week.

A Diocesan Way of The Cross Online: led by Bishop Larry Duffy and people from communities of faith across the 7 Pastoral Areas of the Diocese of Clogher on **Friday 26 March at 7.30pm** on www.clogherdiocese.ie and on the Diocese of Clogher Facebook page.

Online Talks For Lent: – Awaken Our Baptismal Calling in Parish Ministry. The next of our online talks will be held on www.clogherdiocese.ie and on the Diocese of Clogher Facebook page on **Wednesday 24 March at 7.30pm** when a variety of speakers from across our diocese will talk about their actual experience of and the possibilities for parish ministry. No booking necessary. Many thanks to all who took part in last Wednesday's talk by Fr Gareth Byrne.

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Fundraiser Raffle - £10 Per Ticket – Prize 100 gallons Home Heating Oil. Contact: Charlene Maguire on 079 3483146 /charlenemaguire1@hotmail.com Live draw on Thursday 25th March.

Derrygonnelly Harps GFC: Jackpot £6400, £20 Pat McGinley, Derrygonnelly, Sean O'Rourke, Belleek, Mary McManus Keown, Garrison. . We thank everyone who sponsors and supports our lotto, and to those who supported our Monday fundraisers over recent weeks. The club is currently taking part in an LGFA 'Level the Playing Field' promotion. To win a set of Jerseys 300 over £25 receipt codes from Lidl have to be submitted to the 'Serious Support' link on the company's website.