

# Parish of St. Mary's

## Mostrim



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Seventh Sunday – 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2020

This Weekend February 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup>

7.00p.m Philip Sullivan.

11.00a.m Kay Quinn (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv.)

*The Manor - Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb – No Intention.*

*Weekday Masses: The Manor at 11.00 a.m.*

*Wed 26<sup>th</sup> Feb - People of the Parish*

*Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Feb – John & Annie Bracken.*

Next Weekend: February 29<sup>th</sup>/March 1<sup>st</sup>

7.00p.m John Kenny, Devine Crescent.

11.00a.m 1. Bridie Kelly, Lisnageeragh, and deceased members of O'Toole & Kelly families.  
2. Patrick (Paddy) Casey (Month's Mind).

*The Manor – Sun 1<sup>st</sup> March – No Intention.*

**Offertory Collection:** Sun Feb 16<sup>th</sup> - €1,205 - sincere thanks.

**ASH WEDNESDAY** - Wed next, Feb 26<sup>th</sup> is Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of Lent. Masses will be at 11.00 a.m. in Our Lady's Manor and 7.00 p.m. in St. Mary's Church.

The word 'Lent' comes from an old English word 'lencten', meaning to lengthen or to grow longer. These days, each day there are two minutes more light in the morning and in the evening. So 'Lent' really means springtime. This tells us precisely what is supposed to happen in this springtime of the faith: new shoots, spring growth, signs of life and joy. So whatever I undertake this lent, may it lead to a new springtime of faith for me and my community.

*Grant, O Lord, that we may begin with holy fasting*

*This campaign of Christian service,*

*So that, as we take up battle against spiritual evils,*

*We may be armed with weapons of self-restraint.*

*We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.*

**Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse -**

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February is a Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse. A Candle of Atonement will be lit in St Mel's Cathedral, Longford, at 10.00am Mass on Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Feb.

**ARDAGH & CLONMACNOIS PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2020 - departure from Knock - 29 May - 03 June**

- 5 nights - Fully Inclusive Price €749. Contact Joe Walsh Tours (01)2410811. Pilgrimage Director: Msgr. Bernard Noonan Tel: (090)6481180. Director Special Section for Sick/Assisted Pilgrims: Fr. Michael Scanlon: (090)6457122.

**Silent Retreat: Theme: "If you but knew the gift of God..."**

Preached by: Fr. Kilian Byrne, Venue: Esker Retreat Centre, Athenry, Co. Galway. Date: April 13<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>. Cost: €380 full board. Contact: Helen: 00353 86 1678027/hellywilliams@gmail.com; www.foyerofcharity.ie A privileged time to come away from noise and distractions, and listen to the Spirit of God, - Who is Love. Silence, prayer, teachings & liturgy of the Church.

## UNITED IN PRAYER IN THE COMMON PURPOSE OF CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE

The liturgical season of Lent helps us prepare for the great feast of Easter, and for the forty days of Lent, we commit ourselves in a special way to prayer, almsgiving, denial of self and ego, and acts of penance. It is, essentially, an act of prayer extended for forty consecutive days that takes us on a spiritual journey that, hopefully, will bring us closer to God. The number 'forty' is mentioned well over a hundred times in the Bible as it held special spiritual relevance in both the Old and the New Testaments with regard to periods of preparation, testing or probation. Think of the forty days and nights Moses spent on Mount Sinai before God gave him the Ten Commandments and, in the New Testament, the forty days that Jesus spent in the desert before He began His public ministry.

Aside from the fast and abstinence days of Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, anything we give up or taken on to do during Lent may be considered self-disciplinary in nature and are often more effective if we see them through every day of Lent, including Sundays and the Irish 'free pass' of St Patrick's Day! Our sacrifices for Lent are not Church or law-governed, but a matter of individual conscience.

As part of its apostolate, the Pioneer Association has a Short-Term Pledge section for adults over the age of eighteen years. This enables a person who does not wish to make a life commitment to total abstinence to take a pledge for a limited period of time. Many people who have problems with alcohol over-consumption have used this pledge to help them, while others want to do something uplifting or challenging for themselves or for others for a particular season of the year, i.e., for Lent, for the month of the Holy Souls in November or for Advent, in preparation for Christmas. Many of these 'Short-Term Pledgers' have gone on to become longer-term and frequent members. Many have used it to buttress their resolution to stay 'dry' for a particular month for their own personal reasons.

If you feel that you can and would like to take the pledge for the six weeks of Lent, please go online at [www.pioneerassociation.ie](http://www.pioneerassociation.ie) and follow the links to join. A small fee applies if you wish to have the Pioneer emblem and the registration card.

**IRISH BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE** - Mobile unit's visit at Longford Arms Hotel on Tues 25<sup>th</sup>, Wed 26<sup>th</sup> & Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> February. See website [www.giveblood.ie](http://www.giveblood.ie)

**NEW Fun Food & Health Project Coming This March To**

**The Attic House** - Foróige will be running a fun and interactive 6 week programme for young people aged 13+ years and will start on the 3rd Mar at 4.30pm-6.30pm. Cost is €30. Limited spaces. To register: Contact Cyril Reilly on 0860144832 or email [Cyril.reilly@foroige.ie](mailto:Cyril.reilly@foroige.ie) for more information

**Glen After School and Scoil Bhríde Glen Annual Card Drive** on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> @8.30 pm in Scoil Bhríde Glen. €300 in prizes Tickets €5.00

*"Lent comes providentially to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy". - Pope Francis*

**READERS OF THE WORD OF GOD - MARCH**

Saturday 7.00p.m.: Sinead Farrell, Monica Coyle.

Sunday 11.00 a.m.: Yvonne Tuite, Kate Crossan.

**MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST - MARCH**

Saturday 7.00p.m: Angela Dockery, Diane Spillane, Margaret Kelly.

Sunday 11.00 a.m: Ita O'Farrell, Niamh Cassidy, Lauryn McKeon.

*Please arrange a substitute if you cannot be present.*

- Fr Tom Healy -