

The Faith Communities of:



Ballymount, Crookstown, Kilmead & Moone

Parish Bulletin - 1st Sunday in Lent - February 25th/26th 2023

MASS INTENTIONS SATURDAY & SUNDAY

CROOKSTOWN 7PM - Larry Whelan (1st A) Eileen Ghent, James Leigh (A), Paddy Doran - late of Inchaquire (A), Jim Doran - late of Inchaquire, Pat Walsh (5th A), Eddie Wright - Lipstown (A), Frank Delaney (A) Mary Dunne O'Connell (A). Recently Deceased: Mary Kelly

BALLYMOUNT 8.30AM - Mary & Willie Doyle - Blackrath. **Rec. Dec:** Mary Kelly

KILMEAD 10.30AM - Rose Ita O'Brien (A) Margaret Keegan (A), Mary Ellen Kavanagh - Rathconnell (A), Johnny & Teresa Kelly - Youngstown (A) **Rec. Dec.** Brigid Doyle

MOONE 12 noon - Rose Doyle (A) & John Doyle - White Castle Lawns, Athy Dick Watts (A), James Young (8th A) Michael Kenny - Ballinacarrig (A) and his wife Breda

CROOKSTOWN: Wed & Fri 9.30am - Donor's Intentions.

MOONE TUESDAY 10AM - Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

JOURNEYING IN FAITH & HOPE is our parish programme for the Season of Lent. Full details in the brochure at the doors of the Church - please take one.

OPERATION 'SOUL' TRANSFORMATION.
Monday: Try drinking only water today.

Tuesday:



Consider going to the Holy Hour in Crookstown Church this evening, which begins at 7pm.

Wednesday:

Pay it forward - As an Act of Random

Kindness, if you are buying tea/coffee, consider paying for the next person's coffee. This isn't restricted to tea/coffee

Thursday:

Spend a few moments reading the Gospel for next Sunday's Mass. The readings are available on our website.

Friday:

Pray the Stations of the Cross.

Saturday:

Make a special effort not to complain or give out about anyone today.

Sunday: Stay in your seat after Mass for five minutes giving thanks to GOD.

LENTEN PRAYER EVENINGS: We are delighted that the Lenten Prayer evenings have returned. Each Wednesday evening at 7:30pm you will have the opportunity to pray, to relax and to reflect.

- **March 1st - Moone**
- **March 8th - Crookstown**
- **March 15th - Castledermot**
- **March 22nd - Kilmead**
- **March 29th - Athy refreshments served afterwards**

GUIDED MEDITATION: Join us every Wednesday after 9:30am Mass and the

Rosary in the Church of Ss Mary & Laurence in Crookstown for a guided meditation on the next Sunday's Gospel. This is a very gentle way to enter into the Gospel and encounter Jesus. Everyone is welcome and no experience of Christian Meditation is needed, just come as you are. This will also be live streamed. For further information contact Conor on 086-7905654.

HOLY HOUR DURING LENT

Every Friday during Lent there will be a Holy Hour in Ss Mary & Laurence Church in Crookstown at 7pm with the opportunity for individual confession.





**Scoil Ide Naofa
Kilmead Fun Run
March 12th 2023**

**TRACTORS, VINTAGE
CARS, TRUCKS,
MOTORBIKES, NEW
CARS - IF IT DRIVES -
IT IS WELCOME**

Registration in St Laurence's GAA : 11.30am onwards
 Depart at 1pm sharp
 €20 per vehicle
 Refreshments available on the day
 Raffle
 All proceeds to Kilmead National School

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER


The Annual World Day of Prayer will take place on Friday, March 3rd. This year it will be hosted locally by the Church of Ireland in Timolin. Prayer service at 7:30pm, followed by refreshments. The theme is: "I have heard about your faith." Everyone is welcome!



Archdiocese of Dublin

**TURKEY & SYRIA
EARTHQUAKE
COLLECTION**

Archbishop Farrell has given approval for a diocesan collection to be taken up in support of the people affected by the devastating earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. It will take place on the weekend of the First Sunday of Lent, February 25/26



TODAY

The funds raised will be channelled through Trócaire, who are working with partners in the affected areas. This will replace the SHARE collection



The Annual Lenten Trócaire campaign is a major source of funding. Please consider taking a Trócaire box home with you, they are available at the doors of the Church. Your small change can make a difference to the life of someone in Somalia. ***“BE THE CHANGE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN THE WORLD.”***



Study looking for adults (70 + years) to take part in our Protein and Online Exercise classes for 12 weeks by PhD student Catherine

Fallon from the University College Dublin. All appointments and classes will be done from your own home. For more information, please contact Catherine on: 086-7240910 or Catherine.fallon@ucdconnect.ie.

PLEASE NOTE the parish office has no further details about this study and **ALL** enquiries should be directed to Catherine Fallon.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION will be celebrated in St Ita's Church in Kilmead on Friday March 3rd for the boys and girls of Scoil Íde Naofa. Please keep them all your prayers.

Welcome

To the girls and boys and their families who are preparing for Reconciliation and Holy Communion. Please keep them all in your prayers as Reconciliation/Confession will be celebrated for the first time very soon.

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY

Fr Vasyi Kornitsky is Chaplain to the Ukrainian community and curate in Donnycarney Parish. He can be contacted at 086-2359561 or ugccie@gmail.com. Ukrainian Mass (Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostom, Byzantine rite) is held every Sunday at 1pm in Our Lady of Consolation Church, Donnycarney.

If you are aware of any Ukrainian people please make them aware of this.

Also please continue to pray for the Ukrainian people and for peace as the war goes on into the second year.

MASS TIMES IN NARRAGHMORE & MOONE
ST JOSEPH'S BALLYMOUNT:
Sunday 8:30am

SS MARY & LAWRENCE CROOKSTOWN:
Saturday 7pm (Vigil)
Wednesday & Friday: 9.30am

CATECHETICAL CORNER - "ANYONE FOR A SUPERNATURAL KICK IN THE PANTS?"

I have had a strange thought this week, that Lent in some ways resembles Halloween, I know, mad isn't it? Except when you think that in our Celtic heritage Halloween, or Samhain, was understood to be a thin place or time when the world of the gods and the world of people were very close and the veil separating both was very thin. I think that Lent is such a time. A time when GOD is very close to us. Lent is often said to be a graced time, a time when we can easily avail of the grace of GOD, but what is grace?

Without getting too technical about it there are two types of Grace. One is called Sanctifying or Habitual Grace and that is the grace that remains in the Soul and makes it Holy (*set apart for GOD*). The other is Actual Grace and this has been described by one author as: *"a supernatural kick in the pants. It gets the will and intellect moving so we can seek out and keep sanctifying grace."*

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) speaks of it like this: *"Sanctifying grace is an habitual gift, a stable and supernatural disposition that perfects the soul itself to enable it to live with God, to act by his love. Habitual grace, the permanent disposition to live and act in keeping with God's call, is distinguished from actual graces which refer to God's interventions, whether at the beginning of conversion or in the course of the work of sanctification."* (CCC 2000)

During Lent, we are called, and are actually trying, to turn back to GOD. Lent is about refocusing our attention where it should be, on GOD. Our giving up things, or taking things on, are all about reminding ourselves to keep our focus on GOD. So every time we manage to deny ourselves a biscuit, or chocolate or whatever it is that we have given up we should think of the reason why, GOD. But this very action of trying to turn back to GOD is itself, grace. *"Grace is first and foremost the gift of the Spirit...But grace also includes the gifts that the Spirit grants us to associate us with his work, to enable us to collaborate in the salvation of others and in the growth of the Body of Christ, the Church..."* (CCC 2003) In other words, GOD wants us to cooperate with HIM but GOD knows our weaknesses so HE provides us with the 'grace' to do just that. The liturgy of the Mass puts it like this: *"You have no need of our praise, yet our desire to thank you is itself your gift. Our prayer of thanksgiving adds nothing to your greatness, but makes us grow in holiness"* (Preface of Weekdays IV). So everything, even our desire to pray and praise GOD is gift/grace from GOD.

Lent is a time of actual grace. Grace that is freely offered by GOD and made available to us, but it requires our cooperation. In some it is like being given a present, all nicely wrapped up but we refuse to open it up. To avail of this grace, which supports the habitual grace all we have to do is, as the prophet Joel said in the Liturgy of Ash Wednesday: *"Come back to ME with all your heart."* Hopefully Lent will give us that *"supernatural kick in the pants"* that we may need to get our priorities straight, to put GOD first so that when we arrive at the celebration of our Lord's passion, death & resurrection, Easter, we can, with joy in our hearts, sing Alleluia! Happy Lent!

ST ITA'S KILMEAD:

Sunday 10.30am

Mass is celebrated most weekdays at 10am
but is subject to change or cancellation
without notice.

MOST BLESSED TRINITY MOONE:

Sunday 12noon. Holy Day: 11am

THE PARISH TEAM:

FR LIAM RIGNEY PP - 087-2607377;

Email: liam.rigney@dublindiocese.ie

FR TIM HANNON CC - 059-863 0704

FR FRANCIS MCCARTHY CC -

087-6978143

CONOR MCCANN - Parish Pastoral Worker

- Narraghmore & Moone

086-7905654. Email:

conor.mccann@dublindiocese.ie

NATASHA GEOGHEGAN - Parish Pastoral

Worker - Athy & Barrowhouse

087-6730300. Email:

natasha.curran@dublindiocese.ie

PARISH SECRETARIES

BER MURPHY & TRISH HOLLIGAN -

Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri 10am - 4pm.

Ss. Mary & Laurence Church, Crookstown,
TEL: 059 8623154. Email:

stlaurenceschurch@gmail.com

A PRAYER BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION

O Lord, my God, I am not worthy that You should come into my soul,
but I am glad that You have come to me because in Your loving kindness you desire to dwell in me. You ask me to open the door of my soul, which You alone have created, so that You may enter into it with Your loving kindness and dispel the darkness of my mind.

I believe that You will do this for You did not turn away Mary Magdalene when she approached You in tears. Neither did You withhold forgiveness from the tax collector who repented of his sins or from the good thief who asked to be received into Your kingdom.

Indeed, you numbered as Your friends all who came to You with repentant hearts.

O God, You alone are blessed always,
now, and forever. Amen
St John Chrysostom