

Parish Bulletin - Passion (Palm) Sunday - April 1st/2nd 2023

MASS INTENTIONS SATURDAY & SUNDAY

CROOKSTOWN 7PM - Patrick (Pat) Behan (4th A), Agnes Chambers (M.M.), Martina McDonnell (née Lavin) (A), May Finnegan -Ballybarney (A), Kathleen Fennin -Ballybarney (A), Bridget Farrell (3rd A) Joe, John and Jim Cullen (A), Anthony Lawler (A). Recently Deceased: Eamon Ringwood

BALLYMOUNT 8.30AM -

KILMEAD 10.30AM - Dinny Redmond -Moatfield (3rd A) and deceased members of Redmond families, May Bradley (A) and deceased members of Mackey and Bradley families, Anne O'Toole (A)

MOONE 12 noon - Brendan Murphy -Timolin (A), Sheila Carton - Sheriff Hill (A) and her husband William, Fr. Patrick Kelly (former P.P. of Moone Parish) and deceased members of the Kelly family, Eddie & Margaret Byrne - Sheriff Hill (A), Paschal Leigh - Pill, Belan (A), Ann (Nancy) Murphy (A)

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

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

OPERATION 'SOUL' TRANSFORMATION. WEEK 5

Monday - Try to get to Reconciliation the Service in Athy or Crookstown on Monday or Tuesday night. Tuesday - Try not to talk about anyone today.

NSFORMA

'gossip' Don't share about others today, even and especially, if it's true.

Wednesday - Make a phone call to someone you haven't spoken to in a while, just to say hello.

Thursday - Lent ends the Easter Triduum begins.

VENI SANCTE SPIRITUS

CONGRATULATIONS to the girls and boys who were confirmed in the faith in Crookstown on Thursday. In his homily Fr Liam reminded



them that the glory of GOD is the human person fully alive. In other words, being the person GOD created them to be. He encouraged them, in

SPIRITUS the words of St Pope John Paul II, to 'launch into the deep', and not to be satisfied with splashing

around the shallows. To use their gifts and talents for the good of others and for the glory of GOD. We pray that GOD will continue to bless them as they grow in the relationship that was begun when they were Baptised. Come Holy Spirit - Veni Sancte Spiritus.



Led by Spiritual Director 28 July 2023

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CELEBRATE THE DIVINE MERCY.

Divine Mercy Sunday is April 16th, join in celebrating The Divine Mercy in St Michael's Church, Athy beginning at Fr Liam was presented with a cheque for 2:30pm. Mass & Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3pm. Everyone is welcome. Also, The Divine Parish Facebook Page beginning on Good Friday.



Тне MOONE ANNUAL CLASSIC AND **VINTAGE ROAD RUN** will take place on Easter Sunday, April 9th, at 1pm. Please come along and support this great event. You will also be supporting a range of local community organisations, including: Moone Karate Club, Timolin Church (repairs needed), Moone Old Folks Club, The Active Retirees and Moone Celtic FC. The run will finish, as always, in the Crookstown Inn with a Charity Auction. All donations would be gratefully received, as will items for the Charity auction, the raffle, the driver's draw and spot prizes. Thank you for your continued support.



€60,000 for the restoration fund of Moone Church from the Moone Road Run. This is Mercy Novena will be available daily on the the culmination of a lot of hard work by the committee & volunteers. Sincere thanks to all involved.



CATECHETICAL CORNER - "IS IT ANY WONDER YOU HAVE SO FEW FRIENDS?"



OUR FULL SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER is displayed at the doors of the church and is available in a leaflet to take home. It is also on our Website and social

media. *********

THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS

Public Veneration of the Holy Face of Jesus in the Potato Market in Carlow on Good Friday from 12noon to 1pm. Everyone is Welcome.

THANKS FROM THE GHENT FAMILY

The family of the late Agnes Chambers neé Ghent, thank all those who attended the Requiem Mass, sent Mass or sympathy cards and letters of condolence. It was very much appreciated. And a great comfort at this sad time. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

MASS TIMES IN NARRAGHMORE & MOONE

ST JOSEPH'S BALLYMOUNT: Sunday 8:30am

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

ST ITA'S KILMEAD:

Sunday 10.30am Mass is celebrated most weekdays at 10am but is subject to change or cancellation without notice. That would be a pretty hurtful thing to say to someone, don't you think? "Is it any wonder you have so few friends?" If you wanted to lash out at someone who had hurt you, you might say something like that. Imagine saying it to GOD? But we'll come back to that later.

As Lent draws to a close and we begin Holy Week, the focus shifts to Jesus and all that He endured for us, and rightly so. During this week we will encounter Jesus as the suffering servant in Isaiah 53. We will see Jesus portrayed as the innocent Lamb for slaughter of the Jewish Passover in the book of Exodus. And we will encounter, in often gory detail, all that Jesus had to endure during His passion. To die by crucifixion still remains one of the most horrible ways to die, not to mention the torture that He had to endure beforehand. We will hear those haunting words: "My GOD, My GOD, why have YOU forsaken Me?" Then we think back to the story of the Transfiguration from the second Sunday of Lent when we hear GOD saying: "This is MY Son, the Beloved One…" It seems hard to equate these various images; Jesus, the Beloved Son, Jesus, the suffering servant, Jesus, the sacrificial lamb and Jesus, the crucified and abandoned One. How can GOD, allow HIS 'Beloved Son' to suffer like this? How can GOD allow us, whom HE also claims to love, to suffer so much, while HE seemingly remains far removed, detached and un-involved?

This is the heart of one of the greatest questions of all time. Why do good people suffer? Why does GOD not stop suffering, especially of little children? I think at some point we have all asked questions like this. At the heart of such questioning is our image of GOD. What do we imagine GOD to be? How do we picture GOD? The scriptures tell us GOD is Father, the word most often used is 'Abba', which is best translated as 'Daddy'.

Only last Sunday, we heard the story of the death of Lazarus, and we encountered Jesus weeping at the death of His friend. On Easter Sunday we will hear the account of how Mary went to the tomb and was in great distress when she thought that the body of Jesus had been taken, but Jesus was there, with her in her distress. On Sunday week we will hear the story of the journey to Emmaus, when Cleopas and his companion, were similarly distraught. As they understood it, all their hopes and dreams for what might have been, were dashed by the death of Jesus. And yet, Jesus was with them. They just didn't recognise Him. What is the common feature in all of these stories? Jesus is right there, walking with the suffering people. Just like a human parent cannot prevent their child's suffering, they cannot protect them from a world that can do so much harm. The same is true of GOD. GOD does not promise to keep us free from suffering. Even HIS 'Beloved Son' had to endure suffering. But what GOD does do, is journey with us. In Isaiah 41:10 we read: "do not be afraid, for I am with you; do not be alarmed, for I am your God. I give you strength, truly I help you, truly I hold you firm with my saving right hand"; in just the same way that a human parent might sit by the bed of a sick child, holding their hand giving them their own strength. And the very last words of St Matthew's Gospel are: "I am with you always, yes, to the end of time." Not to suffer, not to endure pain and hardship and even death would make us not human. It would mean that we live forever, and therefore, would not be with GOD. Death is inevitable. But if we see death as final then it is and should be, a cause for great distress. But this coming week shows us something different. Death isn't final, death doesn't have the final say and our unavoidable suffering has meaning.

Until we understand the nature of suffering then we may well join St Teresa of Avila, who called out to GOD, "If this is how You treat Your friends, is it any wonder that You have so few of them?"

Most Blessed Trinity Moone: Sunday 12noon. Holy Day: 11am

THE PARISH TEAM:

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BER MURPHY & TRISH HOLLIGAN - . Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri 10am - 4pm. Ss. Mary & Laurence Church, Crookstown, TEL: 059 8623154. Email: stlaurenceschurch@gmail.com

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