

# Parishes of Narraghmore & Moone

*The Faith Communities of:*



*Ballymount. Crookstown. Kilmead & Moone*

## Parish Bulletin - Sunday 14th January 2024 - 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

### THE PARISH TEAM:

**FR LIAM RIGNEY PP** - 087-2607377;  
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**FR TIM HANNON CC** - 059-863 070

**FR FRANCIS MCCARTHY CC** -  
087-6978143

**CONOR MCCANN - Parish Pastoral Worker**  
Athy, Narraghmore, Moone & Castledermot  
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**NATASHA GEOGHEGAN - Parish Pastoral Worker**  
Athy, Narraghmore Moone & Castledermot.  
087-6730300.  
Email: [natasha.curran@dublindiocese.ie](mailto: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](mailto:stlaurenceschurch@gmail.com)

Thank you to all Eucharistic Ministers who were in attendance at our Reflection Day on Saturday 13th January. For those who couldn't make it, information and reflections from the day are available on our website.  
[www.narraghmoreandmoone.ie](http://www.narraghmoreandmoone.ie).

### Ministers of the Word Reflection Day

Ministers of the Word Reflection Day will take place on Saturday 27th January in Moone Hall, from 10:00am - 2:30pm. It is an opportunity for ministers to get together to reflect on this ministry with one another. Looking forward to seeing you there. If you any queries please contact Natasha Geoghegan or Conor McCann.

### INTENTIONS SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Recently deceased: Martin (Bill) Byrne

### CROOKSTOWN 7PM -

Agnes Mc Loughlin (A)  
Phyllis Dowling - Ballybarney (A)  
Michael Dowling - Ballybarney (A)  
Michael Conway - Ballitore Hill (A)  
Elizabeth J Conway - Ballitore Hill (A)  
Jim Hickey - Narraghmore (A)  
Ita Hickey - Narraghmore (A)  
John Delaney - Simonstown (A)  
Kitty Scully - Narraghmore (A)  
Liam Scully - Narraghmore (A)

### Kilmead 10:30am

Joanne Delahunt- (M.M)  
Emmett Corcoran  
Rose and Peter Kane (A)  
Aidan Stafford (5<sup>th</sup> A)  
Des, Mike & Liam Dempsey - Tinakill (A)

### MOONE 12:00NOON

Fr Ambrose Farrington O'Cist -Bolton Abbey (A)  
William (Bill) Carton - Sheriffs Hill (A) and his wife Sheila remembrance  
Bridget O'Sullivan (A)  
Patrick Mahon (A)  
John Leigh - Pill, Belan (A)  
John Delaney - Simonstown (A)

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

**MOST BLESSED TRINITY MOONE:** Sunday 12noon. Holy Day: 11am

### Notices for newsletter

To community organisations in the parishes of Narraghmore & Moone who wish to publicise upcoming events in our newsletter. Please contact Natasha Geoghegan, details above.

To have your Mass intention included in the newsletter it must be received before Wednesday at 4pm. Intentions booked after this will still be included in the Mass and put on our parish website but will not be in the newsletter.

## GODLY PLAY IRELAND

### 3 day Commuter Core Training

Godly Play is a form of spiritual accompaniment for children using a unique method of **storytelling** which allows children to **wonder** about the presence of God in their lives. Godly Play Ireland is offering a core training course aimed at commuters in Dublin and surrounding counties over three Saturdays.

**WHERE?**  
Mater Dei Centre for Catholic Education, DCU St Patrick's Campus, Dublin 9.

**WHEN?**  
20th January, 2024\*  
10th February, 2024\*  
2nd March, 2024\*  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. each day  
\*You must be able to attend all three days and bring your own lunch. Tea/coffee provided.

**REGISTER NOW**  
EMAIL: [GODLYPLAYIRELAND@GMAIL.COM](mailto:GODLYPLAYIRELAND@GMAIL.COM)

**COST?**  
€300

## CATECHETICAL CORNER – DID JESUS TELL US NOT TO PRAY THE ROSARY?

For some, mainly non-Catholics, prayers like the rosary, which involves repetition of the Lord's Prayer, the Hail Mary, and the Gloria, are anti-biblical, because in Matthew 6:7, Jesus said: *"And in praying do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard for their many words."* But Jesus never said we cannot pray in repetition at all. He said, *"Do not heap up 'empty phrases' as the Gentiles do."*

Historically, the central purpose behind prayer and sacrifice among the pagans was to appease or "take care of" the gods, saying all of the right words in order to "move" the gods to act. This becomes evident when in the very next verses of Matthew 6, Jesus says: *"Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Pray then like this: Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done..."*

Jesus gave us a prayer to recite, and yes, in "repetitious" fashion, but it has nothing to do with "moving God." It has everything to do with God moving us! It is *"thy will be done,"* not *"my will be done."* There are other instances of repetitious prayer in Scripture. Consider Revelation 4:8: *"day and night they never cease to sing, 'Holy, holy, holy...'"* Or Psalm 136 which repeats the words *"for his steadfast love endures forever"* twenty-six times in twenty-six verses! Perhaps most importantly, we have Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane; *"...again [Jesus] went away and prayed, saying the same words..."* (Mk.14:39). Our Lord was here praying for hours and saying the same words. Is this "vain repetition?" Surely not.

And neither is the rosary about mindless repetition to ensure God will hear us and give us what we want. That would be "vain repetition." We repeat the prayers of the rosary in order to help keep our focus while we meditate upon the most important mysteries of the Faith. Each decade has a meditation on a different and central mystery in the life of Jesus Christ for our salvation.

Ironically, it can be far easier to drift into "vain repetition" if all we pray are "spontaneous" prayers. We tend to pray the same way, in the same words, over and over.

Prayers such as the rosary have tremendous spiritual benefit. The prayers and meditations represented are either from Scripture or from the greatest minds and souls who have gone before us. They are theologically correct as well as spiritually rich. They free us from having to think about what to say next, and allow us to really enter into prayer, and into God. These prayers can challenge us because of their spiritual depth while they keep us from reducing God to a cosmic vending machine. "Give me, give me, give me..."

Is there a danger of reducing the rosary to mindless recitation? Yes. But this happens in spite of the prayer, not because of it. The rosary, and other prayers, devotions, and meditations of our Catholic tradition actually save us from the "vain repetition" that Jesus warns about in the Gospel.

*Adapted from an original article by Tim Staples - October 2022*



### Saint of the Week - St Anthony the Great

The Feast of St. Anthony the Great is celebrated on 17 January.

#### Prayer

**We come to you today to seek your intercession and guidance.**

**As the father of monasticism, you showed us how to live a life of devotion and holiness, free from the distractions of the world and focused on God. You spent your life in the desert, seeking God in prayer and contemplation.**

**May we learn from your example and be inspired to seek God with the same devotion and zeal. We ask for your intercession for all those who are struggling in their spiritual journey. May they find the strength and courage to persevere in their faith, just as you did in the face of many trials and temptations**

**St. Anthony, we ask for your prayers for all those who are suffering especially those we are sick and in need. May they experience the healing touch of God, and may they find comfort in knowing that they are not alone. We ask for your continued intercession and guidance in our lives, and we thank you for your love and devotion to God and to his people. Amen**

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