

St. Patrick's Parish, Doon- 1st March, 2020

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Dear Parishioner,

Lent is a Pilgrimage, a Journey, and it begins with Jesus being led into the wilderness of the desert by the Holy Spirit. The desert for the Jewish People is a very scared and symbolic place. It was in the desert that the Israelites encountered and experienced God. It was in the desert that God established the Covenant with them and said 'You will be my people and I will be your God.' But they grew tired, frustrated and impatient with God and built the golden calf and began to worship it rather than remaining faithful to God. On this, the first Sunday of Lent, Jesus willingly goes into the desert and there he will be tempted to turn his back on God in favour of power, wealth and fame. So, what will he do? Will he be like his ancestors and give into temptations or rely on God when he is offered, what on the face of it looks very attractive. His answer comes in three parts, all from scripture; 'We do not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God; do not put the Lord your God to test and finally, you must worship the Lord your God and serve him alone.' Jesus has the courage and humility to turn to God when he needs help and strength the most; he does not rely on his own strength and willpower when tempted. He doesn't give up on God and God does not desert him. Our daily temptations may not be as dramatic as those of Jesus, but they are no less real or dangerous. Ours are more than likely to be far more ordinary and subtle. We will have another cigarette, another glass of wine, we will do or say something that we know to be wrong in order to protect ourselves. These may start out as small temptations, but in the end they all add up. When we are tempted, we have two choices; to rely on our strength or humbly turn to God as Jesus did and ask for help. God did not abandon Jesus and neither will God ignore us when we ask for help.

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers: 7th/8th Mar:

Readers:

6:30pm Peggy Sweeney

9:30am Mary Lysaght

11am Emma Kennedy

Eucharistic Ministers:

Paud Sweeney/Mary Ryan

Donal Anderson/Peg McLoughlin

Nora Treacy/Anita Sweeney

Anniversaries: 29th Feb/1st Mar:

6:30pm Sally Maher Gurtavalla

Mick, Con & Bridget Hayes Lisowen

9:30am For the People of the Parish

11am Fr Sean Sweeney & his parents Paddy & Annie

7th/8th Mar:

Mary & Paddy Ryan, Carnahalla

Fr Rodgie Maher, Sr Oliver, Sr Alphonsos & Sr Antonio, Toomaline

Ciara McKenna, Hillview Grove

For the People of the Parish

William & Thomas O'Brien, Glengar

Friday 6th March @ 7:30 pm (First Friday) Lena & Billy Ryan, Croughmorka

FIRST FRIDAY: Friday next is 1st Friday of March. Mass @ 9.30am followed by communion calls. Novena Prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help and devotions during 7.30pm Mass.

RECENTLY DECEASED: We pray for the repose of the soul of Anne (Nan) Hanevy, Mount Temple, Moate, Co Westmeath mother of Adele Hayes, Lisowen and Veronica Tobin, Clonteen, Cappamore whose funerals took place during the week. Our sympathy to the bereaved.

MASS CARDS: Available in the sacristy

CHURCH CLEANING GROUP: New people are always welcome as many hands make light work. Thanks to the group for keeping the Church so clean for all of us.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: Confirmation is Tuesday 31st March 2020. First Holy Communion is Sunday 3rd May 2020. As a community of faith, we pray for our young people their parents, guardians, teachers and families as they prepare for these events in their faith journey.

DOON & DISTRICT MEN'S SHED: continues every Monday night in the Convent @ 8pm

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: Cashel & Emly Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage from 13 - 18 June 2020. Booking through Joe Walsh Tours 01 2410810. Anyone interested in volunteering as a helper please contact Fr Jimmy. The draw for the 5th year helper takes place @ 6.30 pm Mass this weekend.

VISITATION OF THE SICK: If you have a family member in a hospital or nursing home who would like a visit from a priest, please contact Fr Jimmy to let him know.

DOON COMMUNITY COUNCIL: For bookings of the hall, meeting rooms, astro turf pitch, birthday parties, marquee hire etc. call 085 1443470.

DOON GAA: LOTTO: no's drawn 8-12-14-20 no winner. Next week's draw will take place in Whelan's Bar with a jackpot of €8,000. Limerick GAA Draw 2020 €10,000 in monthly prizes. €100 to enter for 10 monthly draws. Half of income is returned to Doon GAA club. Closing date is March 24th. First draw 4th April 2020. Local co-ordinator Donal Anderson 086 8421747.

AA MEETINGS: Need help to quit drinking? AA meetings every Friday night @ 8:30pm Daycare Centre, Cappamore. The only requirement to join is a desire to stop drinking.

DARKNESS INTO LIGHT: #Dil2020 in aid of Pieta House will take place on 9th May @ 4.15am in Murroe, and, as usual, takes in the grounds of Glenstal Abbey. On-line registration opens on 25th February, at which time you will be able to avail of early bird rates. Please register as early as possible - no cash will be collected on the night of the walk. Other locations in Co Limerick are Limerick City, Kilmallock and Newcastle West. We look forward to welcoming you to Murroe!

LENT AT GLENSTAL ABBEY 2020: An opportunity to prepare for Easter. Talks every Sunday of Lent @ 4.30pm. This year's series focuses on the Sunday Gospel readings. Further information from www.glenstal.com. Talks will be streamed and available on the website.

PATRICK FEENEY IN CONCERT: Sunday March 8th 2020 in SS Joseph & Brigi Church, Bóthar na Naomh, Thurles as part of his Gospel Concert Tour. Tickets now available in the Parish Office, Cathedral Street, Thurles (0504 22229) & Bookworm, Liberty Square, Thurles (0504 22257). Ticket Donation: €25. Proceeds to the Cathedral Reroofing Project

LENTEN SCRIPTURE SHARING: will take place in Cappawhite Resource Centre, Tuesday nights, March 3rd, 10th, 24th, 31st @ 7.15pm. All surrounding parishes are welcome. See Diocesan website; www.cashel-emly.ie for more details.

Notes for newsletter to be emailed or handed in to Fr Jimmy by 6pm Wednesday Evening for inclusion the following weekend.