

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Moville Parish

St. Pius X, Moville St. Mary's, Ballybrack
St. Columba's, Ballinacrae St Joseph's Oratory, Shrove
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Fr. Patrick McGoldrick, who has served as Curate in the parish of Moville since 1998, has reluctantly, but on medical advice, decided to retire. He has served the Church, the diocese of Derry, and this parish more than well for the 58 years since he was ordained.

He will be sorely missed by all of us who have been privileged to know him, to serve or work with him, or to benefit from the gentle generosity of his pastoral ministry among us.

We wish him well in his retirement, and pray that he enjoys many happy years and an improvement in his health.

Responsorial Psalm – O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

Gospel Acclamation – Alleluia, Alleluia! Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Mass this week: every morning (except Thursday and Saturday) at 10am.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Monday and Wednesday, 10.30am - 9pm.

Rosary, Tuesday, 7.30pm.

Divine Mercy Devotions, Monday, 7pm.

Divine Mercy Chaplet, Wednesday, 7.30pm.

First Confessions, Thursday, 6.45 - 8pm. Please note: this will be a private ceremony for the children and their parents only.

Sunday 6th The three readings today, by chance, deal with the same theme of neighbourly correction. This is a difficult art and can only be exercised through genuine love and the purest of motives. We have to learn to help and to heal each other. In this we have to avoid attitudes of prying, denunciation, jealousy and informing. The spirit of the Gospel which lays down a procedure must be our guide.

Tuesday 8th The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary's birth brings the dawn of hope and the promise that salvation is near at hand.

Wednesday 9th St Ciaran, abbot. He came to Clonmacnois in January 545 and there he founded a monastery, which was to become one of the most renowned in Europe. He died at the age of thirty-three while the monastery was still being built.

Thursday 10th St Peter Claver, born in Verdú, Catalonia in 1580, a member of the Jesuits. In 1610 he was sent to Colombia and worked

among the slaves until his death in 1654. During a tireless ministry he is said to have baptised more than three thousand slaves.

Saturday 12th The Holy Name of Mary. And also St Ailbe, who founded the monastery of Emly, which became very important in Munster.

Sympathy ~ We offer sincere sympathy to the family and friends of **John Doherty** Eleven Ballyboes, **Denis McLaughlin**, Isle of Doagh, and **Maureen Maguire**, Glasgow, who died recently. May they rest in peace.

Fr. O'Hagan had hoped to attend the sick and housebound in the coming week, but the bishop has asked the priests of the diocese not to do so, as going from house to house to visit people who are sick, elderly or vulnerable, could risk passing on infection.

However, while **routine visitation won't take place for the foreseeable future**, Fr. O'Hagan hopes to be able to bring Holy Communion to the sick and housebound on an ongoing, if more casual, basis.

From next weekend onwards, we will have to make some changes to facilitate those attending Mass in St. Pius X Church on Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings. **The church will be divided into two sections.** Section A will comprise the seats in the front and middle of the church; Section B will comprise the seats at the back of the church and in the gallery. Each section should contain no more than 50 people.

We don't want to have to start issuing tickets for Masses, but if more than 100 people wish to attend Mass regularly, we have only two choices – either issue tickets, or provide a second Mass. If we are to provide a second Mass, we will need more volunteers to act as stewards. At present, our cohort of stewards is quite small, and it's unfair to ask the same people to be there every time, and to do so on more than one occasion on a weekend.

There will be **a meeting for anyone interested in acting as a steward**, which will take place in the church on **Tuesday evening, 8 September**, at 7pm.

There have been questions as to why there's **no weekend Masses in Ballybrack or Ballinacrae**. The reason is the same as that given before – the space in those churches is very limited in terms of insisting on social distancing, and only a very small number of people would be able to attend. Also, the webcam is in Merville, so it makes sense, for the present, to have our weekend (and weekday) Masses in St. Pius X Church only.

The **Diocesan Building Committee** has suggested that the work of extending the cemetery at Ballybrack, and providing car parking spaces, should not commence until April 2021 at the earliest, and that it should be phased in order to cut down on immediate costs. The final drawings and costings should be ready by the end of this month. Without knowing the full extent of the overall costs, we can be certain that they will be considerable. The **Parish Finance Council** will have to meet to discuss this, and any fundraising suggestions will be received very gratefully.

Recently someone made an anonymous donation towards the hiring of a skip at Ballybrack “to **get rid of the Christmas wreaths**”. The last time we hired a skip for Ballybrack, it was filled with household rubbish, including large electrical items. Surely it's not the job of the parish to provide a refuse collecting service for such things, and we'd like to think that people would be able to take their old wreaths, and other rubbish, home and dispose of them properly. There are plenty of signs in the cemetery asking them to do so already!

If the generous benefactor of that recent donation would like to have his/her money returned, that can be arranged. If not, it will be used towards the work that will be needed to provide extra graveyard space and car parking at Ballybrack.

During the recent Funeral Mass for the Mullan Family a gentleman gave his **blue jacket** to a bystander while he helped someone who was ill. He forgot the jacket. If someone has it, or knows of its whereabouts, please contact the Parochial House.

Messengers are available in the porch of the Parochial House.

The next **Donegal Hearing Clinic** will take place on Friday 11 September. By appointment only, on 9385758. If attending, please wear a mask, and follow health guidelines.

Greencastle Community Centre: 9381054/info@greencastlecentre.ie

- Office opening full-time from 7 September from 9am to 9pm.
- For details on the Wise Project (helping local women with employability and training) please call Penny on 0861452252.
- QQI Level 1 Computers starting soon. Contact ETB 9362466 to register or for details.
- Jiu Jitsi beginning shortly. Call 07548293258 for details.
- To enroll for Irish dancing call Janet on 0868059955
- Suggestions are welcome for future courses and activities.