

18TH OF FEBRUARY 2024

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, ATHENRY

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, NEWCASTLE

Parish Office: (091)844076 Email: athenryparish@gmail.com

Office Eircode: H65 H224

Office Hours: Tuesday to Thursday 10:30am — 1:00pm; Friday: 10:30am — 4:30pm

Priests: Fr. Charlie McDonnell P.P. Mobile: 086-8193884 Email: frchaz@me.com

Fr. Benny McHale C.C. Mobile: 087-2387336

Deacon: Rev. Julian Drapiewski Mobile: 086-8185188

Pastoral & Counselling: Mike Dunne Mobile: 0879920507. Email: counsellingmike@gmail.com.

Parish Secretary: Bríd Higgins Office: 091 844076. Email: athenryparish@gmail.com

Newcastle bookings: Mary Gannon Mobile: 086-4060187

Safeguarding Rep: Eithna Moran 091-844076

Email: athenryparish@gmail.com Website: www.athenryparish.ie Facebook: St. Marys Parish Athenry

Parish Webcam: www.athenryparish.ie Parish FM: 106.5

Bank: AIB, Athenry; Account Name: St. Mary's Parish Athenry IBAN:IE59 AIBK 9370 1013 1670 45; BIC:AIBKIE2D



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

LENT HAS BEGUN

This weekend we celebrate the First Sunday of Lent—those forty days up to Holy Thursday that Jesus spent in the desert before entering into His Passion. Lent comes during springtime, the time of new growth, but also the time of pruning. Pruning can be painful, but it is the pruning that adds to strengthened growth. It is a time for all of us to begin again. Jesus spent his time in the desert, it was a difficult time, but it was essentially a time of prayer.

One of the things that we strongly encourage is a strengthening of our prayer lives. This can take many forms, such as personal prayer in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament or the rosary. Family prayer—again prayers in the morning, at night, or before and after meals. If the rosary is not already part of your family's life, perhaps introduce a decade at the start. The full rosary takes less than fifteen minutes. Attendance at Mass is also strongly encouraged.

Below you will see practical supports for Lent, such as Bible Study which we strongly encourage, as well as participation in the Stations of the Cross. There are also ways of making sacrifice and giving listed below. As we begin Lent we pray that it may be a Grace filled time which will make our celebration of Easter more real and meaningful.

† STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

Takes place every Friday night during Lent at 7:00pm.

† LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

A reminder that Lenten Bible Study by Fr. Benny, on St. Mark's Gospel, resumes at 8pm on Monday nights during Lent in the Pastoral Centre. It begins Monday February 19th & continuing Mondays 26th Feb & 4th, 11th & 18th March.

TRÓCAIRE LENTEN CAMPAIGN

Each year the people of the parish have given generously to Trócaire who are deeply grateful for this. This year's Lenten campaign has begun. Trócaire boxes are now available in the church and we encourage every family to take one home. This year's focus is on Malawi.

ATHENRY SIMANJIRO PARTNERSHIP

We are delighted to support Trócaire as a Parish annually and we enthusiastically continue to do so, but we also encourage you to consider supporting Athenry—Simanjiro Partnership as part of your Lenten commitment. Information and donation box is available in Athenry church if anyone would like to consider this as an alternative.

TUAM DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGES

(1) TO MALTA 2024

'In the Footsteps of St Paul' Pilgrimage to Malta; from Tuam Archdiocese; 26th June — 3rd July; ex Dublin.

(2) DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA

Pilgrimage Dates: 9th — 16th May 2024. 7 nights ex Dublin with spiritual director.

(3) DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Tuam Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes led by Archbishop Francis Duffy; 30th August — 5th September 2024, 6 nights ex Ireland-West Airport, Knock.

For all three pilgrimages: Contact 01 2410800.

Quote Tuam Diocesan Pilgrimage. Pilgrimage Director: John B. McLoughlin.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2024

The Grow in Love Programme contains activities designed to help a child to learn about God. The Grow in Love First Holy Communion Masses take place at 6:30pm Mass, Athenry Church on the following Saturdays: February 17th, March 23rd and April 20th.

ATHENRY PARISH CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Athenry Parish Children's Choir takes place every Tuesday from 3:15 - 4:15pm in Athenry Pastoral Centre. Open to children between the ages of 7-13. Any questions, please email musicgracekelly@gmail.com. Thank you!

Bereavement Support Meetings:

Life after a bereavement can feel very lonely. Trained facilitators conduct a weekly Bereavement Support Meeting at the Family Centre, Knock Shrine, each Wednesday at 11am. There is also a special meeting for bereaved partners / spouses on the First Thursday of each month at 11am. No appointments needed. Further information from Monica Morley on 094-9375320.

PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA

As per the notice across, please note that there is now a final call on the Tuam Diocesan Pilgrimage to Fatima. Anyone wishing to travel should book immediately.

LISHEENKYLE NATIONAL SCHOOL

Lisheenkyle National School is now accepting enrolments for September 2024. All details and enrolment forms are available on the website www.lisheenkylens.ie or alternatively by contacting the school office at 091 844901 or by emailing admin@lisheenkylens.ie.

OÍCHE OSCAILTE GAELSCOIL RIADA

Gaelscoil Raida are having an open night on February Tuesday the 13th at 6pm in the school. All are welcome! Bígí linn. Enrolment applications can also be made on our website www.gaelscoilriada.com

MUSIC AT 11:00AM MASS—FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Entrance: Now, Christ, thou sun of righteousness

* Offertory: Jesu, Salvator mundi (Menegali)

Sanctus / Agnus Dei: Mass XVII

** Communion: Attende Domine (Plainchant)

Recessional: Ave Regina Caelorum

* Jesus, Saviour of the world, come to the assistance of Thy children, who, through Thy blood, Thou hast saved.

** Hear us, O Lord, and have mercy, for we have sinned against you.

*** Hail, Queen of heaven, hail Lady of the angels. Hail root and gate from which the Light of the world was born.

Rejoice glorious Virgin, fairest of all. Fare thee well, most beautiful, and pray for us to Christ.

Musical note: In keeping with the Church's traditional Lenten practice, the organ is not played in the liturgy during Lent, except on the fourth Sunday ("Laetare").

MASS TIMES

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION ATHENRY

Saturday February 17th

Vigil Mass at 6.30pm

Noreen Farrell nee Kelly, late of Castlambert & Hacketstown Carlow, (First Anniversary)

Sunday February 18th

Mass at 11:00am

Helen Loughnane, Caheroyan Rd. (First Anniversary) & also her husband Tom Loughnane,

Saturday February 24th

Vigil Mass at 6.30pm

Tony Burke, Castlambert (Month's Mind)

Sunday February 25th

Mass at 11:00am

Lily O'Beirne, Swangate (Month's Mind)

MASS INTENTIONS

FEBRUARY 19TH—24TH

† Bridie Mannion, Culliarbaun & deceased Of Mannion family, Ballydavid.

† Peggy Smyth, Raheen & deceased of Smyth & Butler families.

† Michael Murphy, Buttevant, Cork.

† Niall & Annie Morrissey, Swangate & deceased of Morrissey & Coen families.

† Margaret Mongan, Caheroyan Drive.

† Julia & Jack Kelly & deceased of family, Castlambert.

† Rudy Qualter, his father Pat & the deceased of the O'Malley & Qualter families.

† John & Jackie Brackpool, Stratford Upon Avon.

† John & Sabina, William & Mary & deceased of the O'Brien family, Canteeney, Turloughmore.

† Seán Cahill Derrydonnell & Newport, Tipperary.

† Joseph & Delia Torpey & deceased of the Torpey & Hayes families.

† Christie, Sister Jarlath & Philomena Flynn, Cross Street Athenry & deceased of the Quinn family.

† Mary O' Sullivan, Caheroyan

† Marty Lally, Mountgarrett, Michael Lally, London. Patrick Lally, London. his sister Chrissie Egan, her husband Tommy Egan, London.

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE 2024 WITH FR. BENNY

Fr. Benny will be leading a pilgrimage to Medjugorje from Knock to Mostar. Dates: October 9th — 16th 2024.

Price is €855. Price includes:

- ◆ Transport from Mostar Airport to Medjugorje,
 - ◆ 7 nights accommodation,
 - ◆ Breakfast and Dinner each day, plus
 - ◆ Full religious programme by Marian Pilgrimages.
- Booking no. for Marian Pilgrimages is 01 8788159. Please ring Fr. Benny on 087-2387336 for further details.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP CONTINUES

The Bible Study Group has resumed in the Pastoral Centre on Tuesdays at 7:30pm. While we especially encourage young people from 18 - 35 to attend, it is fully open to all.

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

NEWCASTLE

Sunday February 18th

Mass at 10:00am

Rita, Jimmy & Paddy Molloy, Shudane

Sunday January 25th

Delia, Thomas & Michael Glynn, Bengarra

RECENTLY DECEASED

Julie O'Toole, nee Mock Kelly, Athenry & Boston
Lily McGroarty, The Glade

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION (ATHENRY & NEWCASTLE)

SATURDAY / SUNDAY €3,645

THE SYNODAL PATHWAY

Towards October 2024

In the coming months we will hear more about the Irish Synodal Pathway as we go towards October 2024, this will be happening at both a diocesan and national level. The process began in 2021 at an international level and concludes this year. The Irish Church is also working on it's own synodal plan.