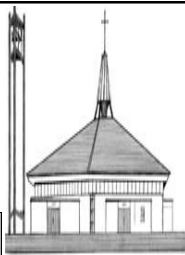


Aughavas & Cloone Parishes

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14th March 2021



4th Sunday of Lent

Pray for the happy repose of the soul of Michael Brennan, Derry (brother-in-law of Breige Solon, Rocullion); Patrick J. (Paddy) Cooke, Gortermone, Carrigallen, husband of Lily (nee Harahan) and father of Cyril, Drumerkane and Seamus, Druminbawn, who died on Sunday 7th March and Tommy Moffett, Mahana, Ballinamore whose funeral took place on Saturday in Cloone followed by burial in Fenagh Abbey cemetery.

Masses

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|----------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| Aughavas: Sat. 13th Mar. | 7.00 pm. | |
| Cloone: Sun. 14th Mar. | 10.00 am. | Pro. Populo. |
| Cloone: Mon. 15th Mar. | 10.00 am. | Mary Ellen McNamara, Kiltyfea. |
| Aughavas: Tues. 16th Mar. | 7.00 pm. | Eve of Feast of St. Patrick. |
| Cloone: Wed. 17th Mar. | 10.00 am. | St. Patrick's Day. |
| Cloone: Thurs. 18th Mar. | 10.00 am. | Elizabeth McHugh, Drumdoney. |
| Cloone: Fri. 19th Mar. | 8.00 pm. | Feast of St. Joseph. |
| | | Sean Cooke, Drumlegga. 1st Anniv. |
| Aughavas: Sat. 20th Mar. | 7.00 pm. | |
| Cloone: Sun. 21st Mar. | 10.00 am. | |

Please note that all masses will be live streamed and without a congregation.

St. Patrick's Day: There are some postcards in the porches of the churches in Cloone and Aughavas. They would be suitable to send to someone in a nursing home. You are welcome to take some if you could use them.

Spending time with the Scripture for the Fourth Sunday for Lent

Lord, we thank you for putting us in the presence of your Word which you inspired in your prophets. May we approach this Word reverently, humbly and attentively. May we not despise this Word, but receive all it has to say to us.

We know that our hearts are closed, often incapable of comprehending the simplicity of your Word. Send your Spirit to us so that receiving the Word in truth and simplicity, our lives may be transformed by it.

Let us not be resistant, Lord; may your Word penetrate us like a two edged sword; may our hearts be open to it; let not our eyes be closed, nor our minds wander, but may we give ourselves entirely to this listening.

We ask this Father, in union with Mary who used to recite the psalms, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Carlo Maria Cardinal Martini S.J.)

A few notes to help us enter into the spirit of *Lectio Divina*

- Basically, it requires spending time with the Word, say 20 minutes.
- Open up the gospel of the day and first of all read it slowly (*lectio*).
- Then read the passage again and take time to reflect on whatever struck you (*meditatio*).
- Don't force it—a phrase or image will stay with you.
- Then having chewed the word a bit, respond by offering a prayer to God that arises in your heart (*oratio*).
- Then read the passage one final time and be still and rest (*contemplatio*)—be nothing, be still.
- Allow the Lord to work!
- Put simply the fourfold task of Lectio Divina is to **read, reflect, respond, and rest.**

“Be careful in the way that you live, for your life may be the only gospel that your neighbour ever reads.”

The Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of Lent is taken from the Gospel of St John 3:14-21

A reflection on the Gospel for the 4th Sunday of Lent.

The tomb of St. John Henry Newman bears the striking epitaph: **‘Out of darkness and images into the Truth’**. These well-chosen words capture the essence of the human search for meaning that fills the pages of Scripture. Nicodemus is a case in point. He was a man of substance, an influential leader within his community, a renowned teacher of the Law and yet he was searching for more. Having heard about Jesus, he was curious. Drawn by the simplicity, freshness and quiet authority of His preaching he approaches the Master under cover of darkness. There in the quiet space he elicits from the Lord the wonderfully consoling teaching that sums up the entire Gospel and will change his life forever.

‘God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son to save it’.

In that tender moment of enlightenment, a heart is touched, a thirst is quenched and a curious searcher becomes a devoted follower. The expert in the Law meets Love, is surprised by love and is now impelled to spread love because love changes everything. It changes the way we see and hear and respond. We next meet Nicodemus defending Jesus at His trial before the Sanhedrin, and finally and most movingly we see him walking up the Hill of Calvary on Good Friday carrying precious spices in order to give his Saviour a decent burial. It is he, together with Joseph of Arimathea who takes Jesus from the cross and returns Him to His mother. In Nicodemus, we see someone who, because of his encounter with Jesus, gave up what he was to become what he could be. Having stepped out of the shadows, he discovered the Truth. Isn't that what the Lenten journey is meant to be?

Living with Addiction in the Family: with Mick Devine, March 27th, 10.00-12.30 (via Zoom). Families that live with addiction experience shame, guilt and anxiety and feel it is 'all my fault.' The pressures of the past year have made this even harder. Recovery is possible. This workshop will offer positive tools for managing addiction in the family so that all family members can work towards greater wellbeing. Cost €10 or €20 per family. Register and link: info@galilee.ie All Welcome