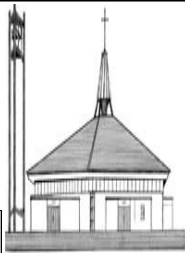




# Aughavas & Cloone Parishes

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**20th Mar. 2022**

## 3rd Sunday of Lent

### Masses:

- Aughavas:** Sat. 19th Mar. 7.00 pm. Michael Heslin, Druminbawn. M.M. and the Anniv. of Eddie & Mary Heslin, Druminbawn.
- Cloone:** Sun. 20th Mar. 10.00 am. Michael & Margaret Gannon & D.M. of the Gannon and McCabe families, Drimeen. Michael & Brigid McCabe, Corduff.
- Aughavas:** Sun. 20th Mar. 11.30 am. Pro. Populo.
- Cloone:** Mon. 21st Mar. 10.00 am. Pat Frank Ryan, Rocullion.
- Rossan:** Tues. 22nd Mar. 7.00 pm.
- Aughavas:** Wed. 23rd Mar. 8.00 pm.
- Aughavas:** Thurs. 24th Mar. 10.00 am.
- Cloone:** Fri. 25th Mar. 8.00 pm. Hugh Higgins & D.F.M., Drumadorn.
- Aughavas:** Sat. 26th Mar. 7.00 pm. Mary Jo Curran, Corriga.
- Cloone:** Sun. 27th Mar. 10.00 am. Kathleen Tiernan, Drumgowla & London. John Charlie & Maisie Bohan, Drumhalla.
- Aughavas:** Sun. 27th Mar. 11.30 am.

**Eucharistic Adoration in Aughavas**— Monday's from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

**Eucharistic Adoration in Cloone**—Tuesday's from 8.00 pm to 10.00 pm.

**Aughavas Parish Pastoral Council Meeting** in church on Tues. 22nd March at 8.00 pm.

### 1. Covid Restrictions

- It was acknowledged that all Covid restrictions have been lifted by the Government. Accordingly all restrictions in Church are also lifted. It is permissible to use Holy Water fonts again and to distribute Holy Communion on the tongue.
- It was noted that we should remain sensitive and respectful (by way of responsible social distancing and optional wearing of masks) towards those who may still feel vulnerable or anxious.
- We will not yet resume the handshake at the Sign of Peace.
- During the Season of Lent, the bishops encourage everyone to return to Sunday and weekday Mass in our churches, welcoming each other back as we gather once more together. From Easter Sunday, 17 April, Sunday Mass will once again be deemed an essential expression of faith for all in our Church in Ireland. As always, those whose health is vulnerable or who are unwell will not be under any obligation to attend Mass, and should keep themselves safe and pray at home until they are better.

### 2. Ukraine

The bishops gave much consideration to the shocking developments which have happened in Ukraine in the past fortnight. They commended the outpouring of support and generosity which has been evident in our communities.

The bishops offer the following response:

- They ask for continued prayer for the people of Ukraine and for a peaceful resolution to the conflict.
- They encourage charitable giving through TROCAIRE and other agencies. A decision was made to hold a nationwide collection in all churches in aid of the people of Ukraine on Mar 27<sup>th</sup> next.
- They comment "As tens of thousands of refugees arrive in Ireland in the near future, there is no doubt that the Gospel is calling on us to open our hearts and our homes. They ask all parish communities to give serious consideration to ways in which refugees can be accommodated and integrated while with us."

### Trust and be patient

It is seldom that anyone has a perfect garden. Gardeners learn to let nature take its course and yet to intervene when it is appropriate. This gardener was determined to try some other tactics before uprooting the plant.

Today's Gospel gives a wonderful image of God. God is the gardener – a hopeful and patient gardener. God will not toss us aside immediately if we are not bearing fruit. Our gardener, God will fertilize us, nurture us, and pull the weeds that are growing within and around us. However, we have to allow God to be our gardener. The question for us is: will we bring our weeds to God and ask him to help us uproot the weeds from our hearts?

If we ask God to do so, God will gift and grace us as we work together with God to uproot the weeds from our lives. Hopefully, over time, the weeds will gradually disappear from our lives. We have to trust our Divine Gardener's timing. We human beings typically want instant answers and instant solutions. However, our weeds may be deeply rooted and it may take time for them to be completely uprooted. Will we trust God, our gardener? Will we strive to be patient with the process?

Today I invite you to ask yourself: What is the weed I want uprooted from my heart and life? Take your desire to God and place it in God's hands. God is trustworthy! God will not fail you! In the meantime, trust and be patient.

**National Collection in aid of Ukraine:** This collection will take place in all churches on March 27<sup>th</sup> next. Please bring your donation to Mass in an envelope marked 'Ukraine' and put it in the offertory basket.

**Cloone Agricultural Show** are holding a fundraising Drama night on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March in Cloone Community Centre with Seamus O'Rourke putting on his latest play "The Handyman". Tickets are available by ringing Gerry on 087 7701355 or Sheila on 086 8823871. Starting time is 8.00 pm. A raffle will be held on the night and your support will be greatly appreciated. Admission fee is €12.00.

**Offertory Collection:**(5th/6th Mar.) Aughavas € 430.00; (6th Mar.) Cloone € 660.00.