

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

**GREETING**

In the name of the Father ..... Amen.  
The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

**PENITENTIAL ACT**

Have mercy on us, O Lord.  
For we have sinned against you.  
Show us, O Lord, your mercy.  
And grant us your salvation.  
May almighty God have mercy on us....  
Amen.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**OPENING PRAYER**

O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING**

**2 Chronicles 36:14-16. 19-23**  
*A reading from the 2nd book of Chronicles.*

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus

speaks Cyrus king of Persia, 'The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up.'

**The word of the Lord.**  
**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 136:1-6**

**R. O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not!**

- By the rivers of Babylon there we sat and wept, remembering Zion; on the poplars that grew there we hung up our harps. (R)
- For it was there that they asked us, our captors, for songs, our oppressors, for joy. 'Sing to us,' they said, 'one of Zion's songs.' (R)
- O how could we sing the song of the Lord on alien soil? If I forget you, Jerusalem, let my right hand wither (R)
- O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not, if I prize not Jerusalem above all my joys! (R)



**SECOND READING Ephesians 2:4-10**

**A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians**

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ - it is through grace that you have been saved - and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

**The word of the Lord.**  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Glory and praise to you, O Christ! God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son; everyone who believes in him has eternal life. Glory and praise to you, O Christ!**

**GOSPEL John 3:14-21**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

Jesus said to Nicodemus: 'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up

the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.

No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil.

And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

**The Gospel of the Lord.**  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**NICENE CREED**

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

*All bow for following three lines:*  
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

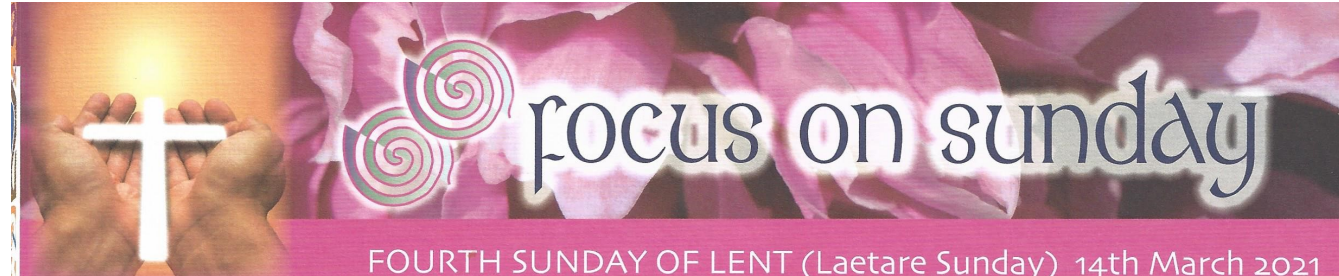
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

*Pray brothers and sisters.....*

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.



Jesus offers a message of hope and salvation to the whole world.

*Give life by your unfailing light to those who walk in the shadow of death....*



**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting, for the salvation of all the world. Through Christ our Lord.

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. Lift up your hearts.  
We lift them up to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right and just.

**AFTER THE CONSECRATION**

*The mystery of faith.*  
Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

**THE SIGN OF PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And with your spirit.

**INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION**

Behold the Lamb of God, .....  
Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

**Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, to praise the name of the Lord.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world, illuminate our hearts, we pray, with the splendour of your grace, that we may always ponder what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty and love you in all sincerity. Through Christ our Lord.

**PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE**

Look upon those who call to you, O Lord, and sustain the weak; give life by your unfailing light to those who walk in the shadow of death, and bring those rescued by your mercy from every evil to reach the highest good. Through Christ our Lord.

**CONCLUDING RITE**

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

May the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

Go in peace. Thanks be to God.



'What will we do about the world and all its people?' the Trinity said to one another. They had looked on our world and saw that their people, whom they loved, needed some sort of help; salvation, meaning in life. The best solution came up that one of them would become like us, a human being. God, father of all, sent his Son and his Son, later called Jesus ('because he would save his people from their sins'), said Yes. Jesús said yes without knowing what this 'Incarnation' would entail.

We know how this life story would unfold, with the seeming tragedy of Jesus' death. We might miss the point of why he died. It's in the gospel 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son'. This that we might not be lost. Humanity can be lost in fear, bitterness, poverty, greed and all the realities in ways that we can use or abuse each other. The sending of Jesus was pure and simple love which invites all of us into that same love – to receive it and to share it.

Jesus walks with us on our journey of love. It is a day-by-day journey, bringing an immense joy. Pope Francis in Fratelli tutti, writes: 'Goodness, together with love, justice and solidarity, are not achieved once and for all; they have to be realized each day.'

*Donal Neary SJ, Editor, Sacred Heart Messenger.*

**Jesus' Story** *Fr. Liam Hickey*

Jesus tells us today that God The Father loves our world with all its beauty, the stars, the sea, the mountains, the rivers and all animals and fish that live there. We, God's Children, are His greatest creation. Sometimes we forget God and we begin to fight with each other and disrespect our world. When we talk to Jesus His Spirit always helps us to notice God's gifts, like family, friends and the people that keep roads and parks tidy and bright.

# ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, BALLYHAUNIS

## PARISH NEWSLETTER 14th MARCH 2021

**Parish Priest: Fr. Stephen Farragher, 094-9630006 / 087-9210305**

**Email: ballyhaunisparish@gmail.com Parish Office: 094-9630006**

**PARISH WEBSITE: <http://www.ballyhaunisparish.ie>**

**PARISH RADIO: 105.2FM Newsletter on line: Parish website & [www.mcnmedia.tv](http://www.mcnmedia.tv)**

**Web-cam: <http://www.ballyhaunisparish.ie> or [www.mcnmedia.tv](http://www.mcnmedia.tv)**

**Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR) Jacinta Flynn, (contact the parish office)**

### Emergency numbers:

Knock: 094-9388100

Fr. Feeney, Ballinlough: 094-9640155

Fr. McGuinness, Bekan: 094-9313937



### ANNIVERSARY MASSES 15th - 21st MARCH 2021

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10.00am. Saturday 7.30pm.**

Sighle & John Forde, The Square

Mary & Michael Lyons, Lecarrow, & John Bradley, Manchester

Patrick Cassidy & decd. Crossard

Tommy Jordan, Knox St.

May, Mark, Harry & Kieran Benson & Mary Kate Sweeney, Upper Main St.

Michael & Madge Fahey, Main St.

Thomas & Delia Glynn, Upper Main St.

Frances & Desmond O'Toole, Doocastle

Doris & Eddie Duddy & decd. Manchester

Kate, John, JJ & Patrick Goulding, Ballinlough

Ellie & Tom Donnelley, Andy Killeen & Brian Hassall, Manchester

Laercio Alves da Costo, Brazil

Delia & Tom Cregg & decd. Ballinlough

Pat, Ann & Tom Walsh & decd. The Neale

Catherine McManus, Laois, & Michael Walsh, Bray

Sean Finn, New York & Hazelhill

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**Sunday 10.00am First Anniversary:** Fr Joe Cooney, former P.P. Ballyhaunis

Elizabeth Rabbitte, Derrylea

John Lyons, Beech Lawn

### MASSES:

Monday, Tuesday,  
Wednesday, Friday 10.00am.

Saturday Evening Vigil: 7.30pm.

Sunday: 10.00am.

### CONFESSIONS:

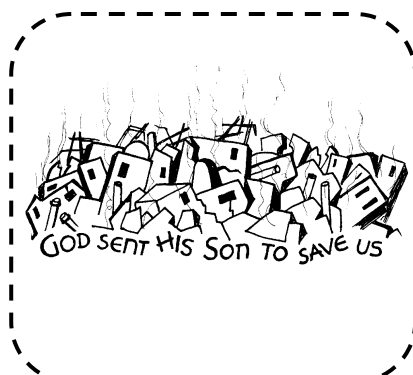
Before Saturday Vigil Mass

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday: 10.30am. - 1.00pm.

### BAPTISMS

Saturdays & Sundays 11.00am.  
Minimum of two weeks' notice required. Contact the parish office, 094-9630006, for updates due to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions.



15th - 21st MARCH	READERS	All weekday and weekend Masses, and the daily rosary at 9.00pm continue to be broadcast on parish radio 105.2FM and streamed on the parish webcam: <a href="https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-patricks-church-ballyhaunis">https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-patricks-church-ballyhaunis</a>
Monday	Martin Fitzmaurice	The 10 o'clock Mass on Wednesday mornings is being broadcast on Mid West Radio. <b>Please use the lighters for lighting candles as the hand sanitiser is highly flammable.</b>
Tuesday	Tommy Caulfield	
Wednesday	Anne Durkan	
Friday	Willie Broderick	
Saturday 7.30pm.	Mary Donnelly	
Sunday 10.00am.	Orla Phillips	

### Recently Deceased

We remember in our prayers  
Kathleen Smith formerly of Lissaniskea, Bekan, aunt of Regina Carney, Classaroe  
Sr. Monica Henry, Sisters of Mercy, Wanstead, London, sister of the late Jimmy Henry, Crossard

Parish Church. BIC: ULSB IE 2D IBAN: IE69 ULSB 9852 7005 5200 31

**CHY3 TAX CERTIFICATES:** Thanks to all who have returned their CHY3 certificates to date. If you received a certificate and have not yet completed and returned it, we would ask you, please, to do so using the enclosed stamped self-addressed envelope or drop it in the letterbox of the Parochial House at your earliest convenience.

**MOTHER'S DAY:** We wish all the mothers in our parish a very happy Mother's Day!

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY:** Wednesday next, 17th March is the Feast of St. Patrick, Patron Saint of Ireland. The 10 o'clock Mass will be broadcast on Mid West Radio.

**LENT:** Trócaire packs containing the Trócaire box and information on this year's Lenten campaign are available in the church porch. Please take one home and make a contribution to help those suffering hunger and injustice in many parts of the world. This year's campaign focuses on South Sudan and we learn more about the suffering of people who have lost their homes and loved ones to war, and how they are rebuilding their lives through love, friendship and solidarity.

**SCOIL ÍOSA** - Enrolment of new pupils for the 2021-2022 school year in Scoil Íosa has now commenced. Enrolment forms may be collected from the school by appointment, can be emailed directly to applicants on request or alternatively can be downloaded from our website under the enrolment tab. The closing date for applications is April 30th 2021. Please contact either: [kdennedy@iosaballyhaunis.com](mailto:kdennedy@iosaballyhaunis.com) [iosaballyhaunis@gmail.com](mailto:iosaballyhaunis@gmail.com) or [ccassidy@iosaballyhaunis.com](mailto:ccassidy@iosaballyhaunis.com)

**LOUGH DERG:** On Sunday 21st March RTE Studio Broadcast Mass at 11.00am. will be celebrated by Msgr La Flynn, Prior of Lough Derg along with the Lough Derg Pastoral and Music teams. The Mass will be offered for the Lough Derg pilgrim family near and far. Tune into RTE 1 TV or RTE Radio 1.

**FAITH RENEWAL EVENTS Online [www.knockshrine.ie/](http://www.knockshrine.ie/)**

**'Living Christian Faith' - Lenten Conversations**

**Thursday 18th March: 'Proclaiming Christian Faith as a priest or religious today'**

Sr Ursula Lawler, lecturer in Christian Ethics at Mary Immaculate College, returned missionary and editor of the *Africa Magazine*, Fr Sean Deegan SPS; Ballyhaunis Parish Priest Stephen Farragher and Father Eamonn Conway will discuss living priesthood and religious life today in conversation with young *Irish Catholic* journalist Jason Osbourne.

Join Fr. Eamonn Conway and guests online each Thursday evening at 8.30pm. To watch, simply log on to [www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live](http://www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live) Full programme details are available at [www.knockshrine.ie/news](http://www.knockshrine.ie/news)

**PAROCHIAL HALL RENOVATION PROJECT:** Sincere thanks to all who have donated to the fundraising drive for the renovation of the Parochial Hall. Your ongoing support is very welcome and much appreciated. Unfortunately commencement of work is again stalled due to the extended Covid-19 restrictions on construction projects into April. For further information please contact 087-9777899 or 087-6982473.

Email: [ballyhauniscommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:ballyhauniscommunitycouncil@gmail.com) or visit our Facebook page: Ballyhaunis Community Council

**BALLYHAUNIS COMMUNITY COUNCIL AGM** will be held on Monday 29th March at 8.00pm. via Zoom. For further details please contact 087-9777899 or 087-6982473. Email: [ballyhauniscommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:ballyhauniscommunitycouncil@gmail.com) Visit our website [www.ballyhauniscc.ie](http://www.ballyhauniscc.ie) or Facebook page: Ballyhaunis Community Council

**KNOCK SHRINE:** Pope Francis, through the Pontifical Council for the promotion of the New Evangelisation, will officially recognise the unique status of Knock as an International Marian and Eucharistic Shrine on 19th March, Feast of St Joseph. Pope Francis will deliver a special message via video link during Mass at 7.30pm on Friday 19th March next at Knock Shrine.



The Mass will be celebrated by Most Rev. Michael Neary, Archbishop of Tuam and concelebrated by Fr. Richard Gibbons, PP and Rector of Knock Shrine, and will be streamed live on Knock Shrine website [www.knockshrine.ie](http://www.knockshrine.ie) and on Facebook @knockshrine. The 19th of March is also the day that Pope Francis will celebrate the 8th anniversary of his inauguration as Pope.

**Extract from Pope Francis' address at an interreligious meeting, delivered March 6, 2021, in the Plain of Ur, Iraq**

Dear brothers and sisters, This blessed place brings us back to our origins, to the sources of God's work, to the birth of our religions. Here, where Abraham our father lived, we seem to have returned home. It was here that Abraham heard God's call; it was from here that he set out on a journey that would change history. We are the fruits of that call and that journey. God asked Abraham to raise his eyes to heaven and to count its stars (cf. Gen 15:5). In those stars, he saw the promise of his descendants; he saw us. Today we, Jews, Christians and Muslims, together with our brothers and sisters of other religions, honour our father Abraham by doing as he did: we look up to heaven and we journey on earth. *We look up to heaven.* Thousands of years later, as we look up to the same sky, those same stars appear. They illumine the darkest nights because they shine together. Heaven thus imparts a message of unity: the Almighty above invites us never to separate ourselves from our neighbours. The otherness of God points us towards others, towards our brothers and sisters. Yet if we want to preserve fraternity, we must not lose sight of heaven. May we -- the descendants of Abraham and the representatives of different religions -- sense that, above all, we have this role: to help our brothers and sisters to raise their eyes and prayers to heaven. We all need this because we are not self-sufficient. Man is not omnipotent; we cannot make it on our own. If we exclude God, we end up worshiping the things of this earth. Worldly goods, which lead so many people to be unconcerned with God and others, are not the reason why we journey on earth. We raise our eyes to heaven in order to raise ourselves from the depths of our vanity; we serve God in order to be set free from enslavement to our egos, because God urges us to love. This is true religiosity: to worship God and to love our neighbour. In today's world, which often forgets or presents distorted images of the Most High, believers are called to bear witness to his goodness, to show his paternity through our fraternity. From this place, where faith was born, from the land of our father Abraham, let us affirm that God is merciful and that the greatest blasphemy is to profane his name by hating our brothers and sisters. Hostility, extremism and violence are not born of a religious heart: they are betrayals of religion. We believers cannot be silent when terrorism abuses religion; indeed, we are called unambiguously to dispel all misunderstandings. Let us not allow the light of heaven to be overshadowed by the clouds of hatred! Dark clouds of terrorism, war and violence have gathered over this country....