



***20th & 21st:***

***Bohola:***

€442.

***Straide:***

Envelopes - €215. Loose - €73.55.

Restoration - €50.

*Thanks for all your contributions.*

**Bohola/Straide/Shraheens Newsletter**

**Stephen O’Mahony PP/Adm – 094-9384115/086-8226405 –** [**boholaparish@gmail.com**](mailto:boholaparish@gmail.com) **(email for newsletter) pppppp**Newsletter available on *mayo.ie* website and *Straide Parish Facebook* page

**Fifth Sunday of Easter 28th April 2023**

###### The Week Ahead

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| **Saturday, April 27th.** | **8.00pm*\* Bohola*** | **P.J. Burke, Carragolda (9th Anniversary) & parents Patrick & Celia.**  **Liam & Mary Carroll, Barleyhill and friends/relations of the Mullagh and Carroll families.**  **For families whose child (children) died before/during /after birth.** |
| **Sunday, April 28th.** | **9.30am *Shraheens***  **11.00am *Straide*** | **For all the People.**  **Kevin McMorrow, Ballyvary. (1st Anniversary)**  **Tom Lavin & John McKeown, Aughaliskey and Faye & Mandy Lavin.** |
| **Monday, April 29th.** |  | **No Mass.** |
| **Tuesday, April 30th.** | **7.00pm *Straide***  **7.30 – 8.30pm** | **Martin Ruane, Ardcloon.**  **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Straide.** |
| **Wednesday, May 1st.** | **10.00am**  **5.00 – 10.00pm** | **Private Intention.………(*Adoration follows until 12 noon)***  **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. *(Blessed Sacrament Chapel)*** |
| **Thursday, May 2nd.** | **10.00am** | **Private Intention.** |
| **Friday, May 3rd.** | **8.00pm *Straide*** | **Mass for Healing.** |
| **Saturday, May 4th.** | **8.00pm *Straide*** | **Pat Smyth, Blanemore. (8th Anniversary)** |
| **Sunday, May 5th.** | **9.30am *Shraheens***  **11.00am*\* Bohola*** | **For all the People.**  **Frank McNicholas, Lismirrane, and deceased family.** |
| ***The Bohola weekend Mass will be live-streamed on the Bohola Post Facebook Page every weekend.***  ***Any other Bohola Masses are put online when requested. (Marked with \* above)***  ***All Bohola Masses will be broadcast on the 105.5 FM Radio channel.***  ***All Straide Masses can be seen live on www.straideparish.com or www.churchtv.ie/straide.*** | | |

***Recent Deaths:*** Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of the following:

*Kathleen Tunney*, Blanemore, who died on Monday last, April 22nd and whose funeral took place in Straide on Thursday.

*Billy McDonnell*, Annagh, Castlebar, who died on Friday, April 19th and whose funeral takes place in Islandeady on this Sunday. He was the brother of the late Marion Clarke, Bohola.

*Seán McGovern*, Blacklion and London, who died on Wednesday last, April 24th. He was the brother of Carol Jordan, Shanaghy.

We extend sympathy to their families and pray they are at peace.

***Baptisms:*** On Saturday last, April 20th in Bohola we were delighted to welcome *Jayden John Jordan*, Treenduff Upper, into God’s family. Congratulations to his parents, Louise and Conor, his godparents and the wider family circle and we wish them every blessing for the future.

And on Friday last, April 26th in Straide, we were also delighted to welcome *Shiva Oisín Arockiam*, Blackfort, Foxford and Leeds, England, into God’s family. Congratulations to his parents, Sharon and Sacchin, his godparents and the wider family circle and we wish them every blessing for the future.

***Coffee Morning Thanks:*** A word of grateful appreciation to the members of Straide Pastoral Council for providing the lovely tea, coffee and goodies after Mass last Sunday. Thanks also to all others who helped out in any way and to those who donated some of the aforementioned goodies! Hopefully we will have a repeat offering in the near future.

***New Pilgrim Path Website of the Week, Sunday, April 28th:*** *Cosmic Hope ….* “Teilhard de Chardin, philosopher and theologian, scientist, paleontologist, mystic and Jesuit priest, profoundly absorbed the Ignatian vision of ‘finding God in all things’ and extended it to the furthest reach of the cosmos. He developed a unique synthesis of science and religion based on an evolutionary understanding of what he called the ‘cosmic Christ’ – the idea that the universe and everything in it is constantly moving towards a point of perfection defined by unity and love.” To read a superb article on “Pierre Teilhard de Chardin: Prophet of Cosmic Hope”, visit: [***www.newpilgrimpath.ie***](http://www.newpilgrimpath.ie).

***National Pilgrimage for Life:*** The first National Pilgrimage for Life, organised by the Council for Life of the Irish Catholic Bishops’ Conference, will be celebrated on Saturday, 4th May in Knock Shrine. The pilgrimage begins with Anointing of the Sick in the Basilica at 2.30pm, followed by Mass at 3pm and Rosary Procession after Mass, weather permitting. Main celebrant and homilist will be Archbishop Francis Duffy. We invite you to celebrate the gift of life and to pray for the protection of all human life.

***Mass for Healing:*** Following a suggestion from the Pastoral Council, a Mass for healing will be celebrated in Straide on Friday evening next at 8.00pm when our prayers will focus on all who are sick. Everyone is invited but especially those who are in need of emotional, spiritual, physical or mental healing. During the Mass, the Sacrament of the Sick will be offered to those who wish to receive it.

***Lourdes Pilgrimage 2024:*** Dioceses of Killala and Achonry Pilgrimage to Lourdes, under the leadership of Bishop John Fleming, Bishop Emeritus of Killala will take place from July 18th to 23rd, departing from Knock. Five nights full board accommodation in the Hotel Agena costs €929 (single rooms available, supplement applies). Main Pilgrimage bookings should be made through Joe Walsh Tours by phone on *01-2410800* or Email *info@joewalshtours.ie*. Book online at *www.joewalshtours.ie/tours/killala-achonry-diocesan-lourdes-pilgrimage-2024*. No booking is definite until a non-refundable deposit of €300 has been receipted by Joe Walsh Tours. A limited number of places are available in the Assisted Section. Contact Eileen on *086-401 3897*.

***Straide Church Rotas for May***

***First Reading:*** Michael Kelly.

***Second Reading:*** Carmel Murphy.

***Prayers of the Faithful:*** Carmel Murphy.

***Minister of Communion:*** Joanne Jordan.

***Offertory Collectors:*** Denis Canning & Paddy McHale.

***Opening/Closing Church:*** Bridie Mulroy.

***Straide Darkness into Light Walk on behalf of Pieta House***, will take place at 4.15am on the morning of 11th May in Straide. This is our first time as an Official Walk and we would welcome you all to join us on our rural route. You can call over and register in person at Straide Community Hall on Thursday, 2nd May from 7 to 8pm or you can register online at *www.darknessintolight.ie* and click on Mayo/Straide option.

***The March For Life 2024***, organised by the Pro Life Campaign, takes place on Monday, 6th May in Dublin at 2pm (meeting point: Newman University Church side of St Stephen’s Green). It is being held to draw attention to the rapidly increasing abortion rates in Ireland and call for support for pregnant women and their babies. The event will be suitable for families and has excellent speakers. Join us in standing up for mothers and their unborn babies! For more information see [*www.marchforlife.ie*](http://www.marchforlife.ie). In extended newsletter *“RTE, The Home of Barefaced Bias”*.

***St Gobnait by Harry Clarke:*** There are just a few days left to see an exquisitely detailed and delicate pen and ink drawing by Harry Clarke, Ireland’s most celebrated stained-glass artist, at the National Museum of Ireland - Country Life, Turlough Park. The St Gobnait drawing, created by Harry Clarke in 1914, is on special loan from the Corning Museum of Glass in New York State. It is on display for a limited time, until Tuesday, 7th May after which it returns to the USA. St Gobnait is Ireland’s patron saint of bees and beekeepers. Admission to the Museum is free. Visit *www.museum.ie* for further information.

***The Mayo.ie Western People Women's Mini Marathon (10km)*** takes place in Ballina on Sunday, May 5th at noon. Runners, joggers and walkers all welcome to join the fun. Registration: *www.westofirelandwomensminimarathon.com*.

***Upcoming Online Q&A Vocations Event:*** The Poor Clares in Galway are hosting an online Q&A for young women who would like to know more about the Poor Clare way of life. The event will take place from 7 to 8:30pm on Wednesday, May 1st. For more information, contact *vocations@poorclares.ie*.

***The Youth 2000 Connaught Retreat*** will take place in Calasanctius College, Oranmore, Co. Galway on the weekend of May 10th to 12th, consisting of workshops, talks, testimonies, music, prayer as well as time to relax and meet with others. Come along for the weekend or pop in to say hello! Donation only, 16 to 35 years. Visit *www.youth2000.ie* or email [*connaught@youth2000.ie*](mailto:connaught@youth2000.ie) to book a place or to get more information.

***Free Advertising with Mayo PPN:*** Are you holding a community event/activity? Email your details with a Jpeg poster to [*mayoppn@mayococo.ie*](mailto:mayoppn@mayococo.ie). We will circulate via the PPN social media platforms to our 1,000 plus community groups.

***CANA Talks – “A Roadmap to Happiness”*** – T.F Royal Theatre, Castlebar – Friday 31st May, 8pm. Presenters: Gerry Glennon (Midwest) & Angelina Nugent (Former Midwest). Speakers: EWTN’s Fr Robert Spitzer (video link), Br. Richard Hendrick, Stephen Giblin, Fr Shane Sullivan, Tara Niekamp, Niall McDonagh. Just 15 mins each to inspire you (from a faith perspective)! Also, the Duggan Academy of Irish Dance & the Coolaney Gospel Choir entertain. Enjoy real-life stories, humour, inspiring talks, great visuals, music and more. This is not a conference, but a show! Tickets €23 plus booking fee at *www.ticketmaster.ie*. T.F. Box Office on *094-9023111*, or at the door. See [*www.canatalks.com*](http://www.canatalks.com).

***The 2024 Western People Martin Sheridan Bursary Awards Scheme*** is now open for applications. €5,000 in funds is available to support athletes from Co. Mayo. Further details and application forms are available by emailing [*martinsheridanbursary@gmail.com*](mailto:martinsheridanbursary@gmail.com). Closing date for completed application forms is Friday, **May 10th**.

***Active Age Group Trip to Donegal:*** Parke Active Age Group invites anyone who may be interested to join them on their annual trip to Donegal and Derry from 16th to 19th of May. For details, phone Marian on *087-2758084*.

***Social Bingo*** continues every Monday in The Sheridan Community Centre, Bohola. Doors open at 8.30pm for a **9.00 start**.

***Moy Davitts 50/50 Draw:*** Congratulations to Mary Devers (c/o Tommy Fleming, Foxford) who won a jackpot of €470 in the Moy Davitts 50/50 draw last Saturday. A huge thank you to everyone who supported last week's draw, it is greatly appreciated. Tickets are available in the usual retail outlets and by and by playing on the club app (Moy Davitts GAA).

***Extended Online Newsletter*** includes much more!

***I’ve decided not to be pessimistic. It wouldn’t work anyway!***

***VAKS Programme:*** Applications are now open for VAKS (Volunteer at Knock Shrine) programme. It is an opportunity for young people in TY, 5th and 6th year to come to Knock to volunteer for a weekend in either July or August. This is a great way to meet new friends, serve others, express your faith and have fun! It is a particularly exciting opportunity this year as we launch our new state of the art Youth Village this summer! For further information, please check out our website [*www.knockshrine.ie/vaks-volunteer-at-knock-shrine*](http://www.knockshrine.ie/vaks-volunteer-at-knock-shrine) or contact us on *094-9375321* or email [*youthministry@knockshrine.ie*](mailto:youthministry@knockshrine.ie).

***SeniorLine - Would like someone to talk to?*** SeniorLine is Ireland's national telephone service for older people open every day of the year from 10am to 10pm, Freephone *1800 80 45 91*. Callers may feel isolated, alone, wish to discuss a problem in confidence, or for company during their day. SeniorLine's older volunteers are trained to listen, to support, to discuss options and to refer caller to other helpful services if necessary. So don't be alone if sharing a problem would help. Phone SeniorLine *1800 80 45 91*, open every day of the year, 10am to 10pm.

***ALONE Volunteer Recruitment Drive for Older People:*** ‘Hi, my name is Paul Stafford and I am the Volunteer Support Officer for ALONE and your local community. I am looking for volunteers in Galway and Mayo and its surrounding areas for older people who need befriending for up to one hour per week and/or telephone support for up to two hours per week. Our befriending programme is designed to help older people combat loneliness and isolation. We need your help more than ever. If this is something that interests you, then please reach out to me on *086-0135043*, email *paul.stafford@alone.ie* or follow the link [*https://alone.tfaforms.net/f/ALONE-Volunteer-Expression-of-Interest-2021*](https://alone.tfaforms.net/f/ALONE-Volunteer-Expression-of-Interest-2021).

***RHS Home Care*** is a Non Commercial Home Care Provider bringing professional home care services to those who need assistance to remain living in their own homes. We are now recruiting new Healthcare Assistants in your area and would love to hear from you. Potential applicants must have the required QQI level 5 (two modules completed care skills and care of the older person). Please email you CV to *jobs@rhshomecare.ie* or call Aoife on *090-6625988*.

***Trócaire:*** Please return your Trócaire Box/envelope donation as soon as possible. Thanks to those who have already done so.

***Cemetery Masses:*** Advance notification for those away and at home who may be making plans for the summer - Mass will be celebrated in St Joseph’s Cemetery, Bohola on Saturday, **August 3rd at 6.00pm** and in Straide Cemetery on Sunday, **August 4th at** **11.00am**. Say a prayer that the weather will be somewhat kinder than last year, especially in Bohola!

***ACCORD Seeks Volunteers:*** ACCORD Catholic Marriage Care is currently recruiting volunteers to train as marriage preparation programme facilitators. If you have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church and if you have enthusiasm to be part of the Accord team in supporting couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage, then Accord wants to hear from you! Successful applicants will receive professional training and be part of a team delivering marriage preparation programmes locally. Please contact Aisling on *01-5053112* or by email to *marriagepreparation@accord.ie*. See [*www.accord.ie*](http://www.accord.ie). Closing date for applications is Friday, 3rd May.

***Mayo Stoma Support Group*** will hold a meeting on 23rd May at 7.00pm in the Ellison Hotel, Castlebar. All are welcome. If you are attending please message Christopher on *(087) 6275766* with your name and number of people attending.

***Postgraduate and Mission & Ministries Programmes at St Patrick’s Pontifical University, Maynooth.*** Programme applications close from 30th June to 30th August for different programmes. Visit sppu.ie/courses for more information.

***Millions Facing Starvation in Ethiopia:*** All are encouraged to please pray for the people of Tigray in Ethiopia, where drought and civil war have left many in crisis and in danger of starvation. Mary’s Meals feeds tens of thousands of children one meal in each school day in the region. If you feel called to support our mission and help us reach more children, please visit *marysmeals.ie* or contact *01-8535163*. Thank you.

***‘Take the Risk for Christ’. Priesthood in Achonry Diocese:*** Have you the courage to “Take the Risk for Christ”?Contact our Vocations Director, **Fr Paul Kivlehan, The Presbytery, Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon. Tel. *094-9860011*, *Mobile 087-3683535*, E-mail** [***pkivlehan@achonrydiocese.org***](mailto:pkivlehan@achonrydiocese.org) **or contact any local priest for more information.**

**Call for investigation into RTÉ Investigates well received**

On Monday evening, RTÉ crossed a line they never traversed before.

There have been lots of abortion themed prime time programmes on RTÉ in recent decades – the vast majority of which were biased – sometimes terribly so – but at least the pro-life viewpoint was represented, albeit in a tokenistic way.

But Monday evening’s RTÉ Investigates chose a different tack – they didn’t interview a single  pro-life representative. They even went one better than that. Over the course of the entire programme which lasted one hour and five minutes, they didn’t reference a single pro-life point.

The only time the pro-life side was mentioned was when programme makers and their guests were disparaging pro-life individuals, who in turn weren’t afforded an on air opportunity to defend their reputations and good names.

In a most egregious display of disregard for impartiality, the programme painted a very dishonest picture of Ireland’s new abortion law to viewers.

No mention of Ireland’s soaring abortion rate. No mention of the obscene reality that happens under the new law where babies that survive late-term abortions are left to die alone in hospital corners without receiving any human warmth or medical care.

The presenter of the programme claimed at the outset that they’d spent seven months making it. Based on what aired, they must have spent the entire seven months working on choreography and optics because their time certainly wasn’t spent producing fair and objective content for viewers.

It was hard going watching such an unbelievably biased programme and many pro-life volunteers were understandably distraught afterwards.

There’s another way, however, of assessing what happened. RTÉ literally threw everything at the programme and still came up short. Seven months of preparation went into it but less than seventy two hours after it aired, it was gone from the headlines.

All things considered, it was a big mistake for RTÉ to broadcast it. It’s the kind of programme they would have been able to get away with in the past. But times have changed. Clearly, there are some people at the station who still haven’t got the message and think it’s business as usual despite all the scandals that have engulfed RTÉ over the past year.

The request we made earlier in the week for a Special Oireachtas Committee to be established to examine editorial bias in RTÉ has already been embraced by several members of the Oireachtas. The disgust felt by so many people over what happened on Monday evening is not going to recede any time soon. RTÉ must be held to account for this appalling programme.

We will keep the pressure on and not relent until a full and proper investigation into RTÉ Investigates has taken place.

