

**BANTRY PARISH NEWSLETTER**  
**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2015

VOL. 11. NO. 20

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Parish Office times: Weekdays: Mon. Weds. Thurs. & Fri. 9.30am – 11.30am. Fridays only 1.30pm-3.30pm

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**Calendar: Mass Times and Intentions :-**

**Mon. 18<sup>th</sup> May: 7<sup>th</sup> week of Easter:**

**Bantry: 10am – Jason O’Sullivan - Glencreagh**

**Tues. 19<sup>th</sup> May: 7<sup>th</sup> week of Easter:**

**Bantry: 10am: Marie Mulvey**

**Wed. 20<sup>th</sup> May: 7<sup>th</sup> week of Easter:**

**Bantry: 10am May Cronin – Lahern Months Mind  
Hospital Chapel: 5.30pm Cecile Lopez**

**Thurs. 21<sup>st</sup> May: 7<sup>th</sup> week of Easter:**

**Bantry: 10am: Brendan Killeen – Church Road**

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May: 7<sup>th</sup> week of Easter:**

**Bantry: 10am Brendan Gillespie – late of Bridge  
Street, Bantry & London.  
Kealkil: 7.30pm Patrick Hourihan – Baurgorm &  
London**

**Sat. 23<sup>rd</sup> May: 7<sup>th</sup> week of Easter:**

**Hospital: 10am: Paddy Russell – Reenrour East &  
Goulanes**

**Bantry: 6.15pm: Tom O’Grady – Ardnagaoithe  
– 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary.**

**Sun. 24<sup>th</sup> May: Pentecost Sunday:**

**Bantry: 9am Brian Harrington – Scart Road  
Coomhola: 10am: Michael Maguire – 3<sup>rd</sup> anniv.  
Kealkil: 11am John & Kit O’Leary – Crossogue &  
Cousane  
Bantry: 12noon People of the Parish**

**May Rosary at nine at Our lady’s Shrine  
in Bantry Church grounds. All Welcome**

**Remaining First Communion Dates 2015**

May 23<sup>rd</sup> – Gaelscol Bheanntaí – 10.30am Mass  
*May God bless all our First Communion Children  
on their special day & always.*

**Eucharistic Processions in  
Bantry Parish 2015**

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May: Coomhola  
Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June: Kealkil & Bantry**

If you wish to help out, there will be a preparation meeting for the upcoming Corpus Christi procession, in Bantry Sacristy on Wednesday next at 7:30pm.

**Excerpts from Bishop John Buckley’s recent  
letter on  
Marriage and the Family**

This is a critical time for marriage in our society. This Friday, the people of Ireland will be asked to vote in a referendum that will change the meaning of marriage in the Constitution of Ireland.

Neither the Church nor the State invented marriage and neither can change its nature.

Marriage is of fundamental importance for children, mothers and fathers and society – all of us need to reflect deeply before changing it. Pope Francis said recently that “**the family is threatened today by growing efforts to redefine the very institution of marriage.**”

This referendum is about the nature of marriage and the importance that society places on the role of mothers and fathers in the bringing up of their children. “**Children have a right to grow up with a father and mother.**” (Pope Francis)

There are very serious concerns that, should the amendment be passed, it will have very serious implications which will arise sooner or later. Redefining marriage will inevitably demand a revised curriculum in our schools. What will we be expected to teach children in school about marriage? Will those who sincerely continue to believe that marriage is between a man and a woman be forced as a result of this referendum, to act against their conscience?

I encourage everyone to think about these issues and to vote on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The effects of this proposed amendment will be far-reaching for this and for future generations. I say to all voters: Marriage is important – reflect before you change it.

**Eucharistic Holy Hour in the Hospital  
Chapel every Monday evening at 8pm .  
Welcome for everybody.**

**Recent Parish Weddings:**

**We congratulate Bernadette Whooley (Reenrour East, Bantry) & Mark O’Shaughnessy (Gurteenroe, Bantry) who were married in St. Joseph’s Church, Coomhola, on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2015.**

**We wish Bernadette & Mark long & happy lives together**

**Recent Parish Baptisms:**

**Eoin Martin Donaldson** (Lisheens, Kealkil)

**Christy Minehane** (Lacareagh, Kealkil)

We welcome them into our Christian Community

**Thanks to all who hosted the Station Mass in their homes and to all who supported the Priests by giving their station offering and Parish Dues. We appreciate all your support and generosity. Fr. Martin & Fr. Seán**

**Peru Jubilee Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 7.00 pm at St. Patrick's Church, Rochestown, Cork. People from every parish are welcome to attend, to give thanks for the work of the Diocesan Mission in Peru which was founded in 1965. Refreshments afterwards at the Rochestown Park Hotel.**

**Garden Party at St. Joseph's Unit, Bantry General Hospital on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May (12.30pm-4.30pm). There will be a variety of stalls, competitions, bric-a-brac etc. Please come along and support. All welcome.**

Bingo with a Jackpot will be held at Mealagh Valley Hall on Thursday May 21st. at 8.30P.M.. Your Continued support is much appreciated. All are welcome.

**Pastoral Development Office collection – thank you**

Fr Charles Kiely wishes to sincerely thank you for your generosity in contributing to the annual collection for the Pastoral Development Office in our Diocese. Along with this word of acknowledgement I would also like to thank sincerely those who attended and took part in our recent Evening of Prayer for Vocations in this Year of Consecrated Life where over 600 people gathered. We look forward to meeting many of you over the coming year for training and events.

**Friends of Bantry General Hospital**

Following his talk in London recently entitled “**RMS Lusitania and Safety at Sea**” Michael T Kingston who is The Lloyd's List Global Maritime Lawyer of the year, will give the same talk in The West Cork Hotel Skibbereen on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July at 8 PM. This is being held in aid of “Friends”. Who are about to start on a new project having recently completed the Glosair 400 purchase for the Hospital. Tickets for this event priced 10 euro are available from Committee members of “Friends” or at Thornhill Bros. Electrical, Townsend Street, Skibbereen or in Bantry from Bantry Photo Services, New Street.

**Do you want to learn more about the possibility of overseas volunteering and/or training in Overseas Development & Mission? Viatores Christi (VC) will hold an Information & Recruitment Session on Saturday 23rd May 2015 at 12.00 at VC HQ, 8 New Cabra Road, Phibsboro, Dublin 7 Tel. 01-868 9986 info@viatoreschristi.com [www.viatoreschristi.com](http://www.viatoreschristi.com)**

**Just 4 Fun Kids Camp** is running in Colaiste Pobail Bheanntrai from the 29th of June to the 3th July 2015. It is a exciting kids summer camp which has a range of activities for boys and girls from the ages of 5-13 years. For more information contact the Just 4 Fun Kids Camp Office on 087 182 1594 or checkout our new website [www.just4funkidscamp.com](http://www.just4funkidscamp.com)

**Lourdes Pilgrimage.**

**The Bantry Parish and Friends Pilgrimage will take place from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> September 2015 (Ex. Cork) with Full Board accommodation in the 'Agena Hotel'.**

**Spiritual Director: Fr. Martin Keohane P.P.**

**Booking forms: Available in the Sacristy, Bantry Church or see Church porches for details**

**Bealtaine Festival at Bantry Library**

continues at Bantry Library during May with a free workshop on Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 12 noon by the Activities Dept. of Deerpark House Nursing Home. They will be hosting a session of movement to music, where through group participation, exercise, fun and laughter, people can celebrate together. All are welcome. For further details, contact Bantry Library at 027-50460.

**National Learning Network, West Cork.**

Are you looking for a job and need to retrain or up-skill? National Learning Network provides personalised training and support to people who, for a variety of reasons, may find it difficult to gain employment or access to higher education or training. A wide range of FREE practical and certified training opportunities are on offer in West Cork. No formal qualifications necessary. Social Welfare entitlements unaffected and training provided throughout the calendar year. For further information and transport details contact: Mary Deane on 027 51027 or [westcork@nlm.ie](mailto:westcork@nlm.ie)

**May 7<sup>th</sup> – National Alzheimer's Tea Day.**

**Deerpark House Nursing Home** hosted a pop up dock where we served Tea / Coffee and homemade cupcakes. It was a beautiful sunny May morning where people enjoyed wonderful home baking over a chat in the Bantry Sunshine compliments of Deerpark House Nursing Home. We would like to express a special thank you to The Bakehouse Cafe who kept us supplied with boiling water on the morning and a big thank you to all who donated so generously €350 was raised for the Alzheimer's Society of Ireland.

**Offertory Collection: Bantry: Weekend 9<sup>th</sup> / 10<sup>th</sup> May: €1740.**

**Second Collection for the Pastoral Development office in the Diocese last weekend: Bantry Parish: €1830**