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Forthcoming Referendum

Finally, the Supreme Court has stated that the unborn baby enjoys only one constitutional right: the right to life. We will be asked in the Referendum to remove the only remaining effective law to protect the unborn. We can choose to retain the Eighth Amendment, under which doctors and hospitals will protect the lives of both baby and mother to a standard of care that is considered the highest in the world, or we can repeal the Eighth and leave babies with no protection whatsoever. The legislators will then be able to propose laws for abortion right up to birth, with no restrictions and over which the people of Ireland will have no control. We can only speculate as to how many lives have been saved by the Eighth Amendment.

'It is sad that there are children, victims of abortion, who will never see the light of day'. St. John Paul.

'Ireland should be proud of the 8th Amendment' John Bruton, former Taoiseach. Taken from Bishop Buckley's Pastoral Letter

Vocations Sunday – 22nd April: An invitation to men who may be wanting to explore the call to Priesthood in our diocese to come together on Sunday next, 22nd April from 2:30pm to 5:30pm at the Pastoral Development Office in Ballyphehane to reflect and discuss on this vocation in their life. If you would like to know more about the afternoon contact Fr Charlie Kielv 021 4537603

Cork Monster Pro-Life Meeting Monday, 30th April, 7:30pm at Silver Springs Hotel Cork.

**Speakers: Prof Patricia Casey,
Declan Ganley, John Waters,
Becky Healy, Vicky Wall**

SAVE the 8th Amendment

Join us for our final Stand Up for Life Rally in Dublin on Saturday 12th May Bus leaving Bantry Square at 7.00am. For information contact: Catherine Manning on 083-8928299 or Gene Buckley on 085-214682

Calendar: Mass Times and Intentions :-

Mon. 23rd April: 4th week of Easter:

Bantry: 10am: Sheila O'Mahony – High Street

Tues. 24th April: 4th week of Easter:

Hospital: 8.30am: People of the Parish

Bantry: No 10am Mass due to Confirmations

Wed. 25th April: St. Mark, Evangelist:

Bantry: 10am:

John & Angel Cronin & their son Sean – Clooneygorman

Hospital: 5.30pm:

Mary Spillane – Blackrock Road – 1st anniversary

Thurs. 26th April: 4th week of Easter:

Bantry: 10pm: Johnny Sweeney - Newtown

Friday 27th April: 4th week of Easter:

Bantry: No 10am Mass due to Confirmations

Kealkil: 7.30pm: Ned McCarthy - Kealkil

Sat. 28th April: 4th week of Easter:

Hospital: 10am: Ena McGrath – Newtown – 6th anniv.

Kealkil: 10.30am: First Holy Communion Mass

Bantry: 6.15pm:

Jimmy Abbott – Seskin – Months Mind

Eily Whooley – Old Barrack Road – Months Mind

Sun. 29th April: Fifth Sunday of Easter:

Bantry: 9am: Anne O'Sullivan - Newtown

Coomhola: 10am: People of the Parish

Kealkil: 11am: Mary Murphy – Cahirmounteen

Mary & Timothy O'Leary (Lacareagh) & Deceased members of the McCarthy Family – Cahirmounteen

Ellen & Patrick Kelleher – Ahil, Kealkil

Bantry: 12 noon: People of the Parish

Died Recently: We extend our prayers & sympathy to the family, relatives & friends of:

Elizabeth Theresa (Betty) O'Shea (nee Connolly)

- Raheen, formerly of Ballylickey, Bantry &

Huddersfield, West Yorkshire -

May she rest in peace

Confirmation Day: Bishop Buckley will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to the children of the town schools 10.30am on Tuesday 24th April next followed by the children of the country schools on Friday 27th April at 10.30am in Bantry Church.

Please note that there will be no morning Mass at 10am.

There will be Mass at 8.30am in the Hospital Chapel on Tuesday 24th and in Kealkil at 7.30pm on Friday 27th.

There will be limited parking for the elderly and infirm only in the Church Grounds on the day.

PAPAL VISIT: A Bus will be organised from Bantry to attend the Papal Mass in the Phoenix Park, Dublin on Sunday 26th August. We ask those interested in attending to please hand their name in to the Parish office. **Tickets will be allocated by the Diocese at the end of April and we will put in a request for tickets for the people travelling on the bus at that time**

Anam Cara, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent Evening on Tuesday 1st of May from 19:30 to 21:00 in the Maritime Hotel, Bantry, West Cork. This event is open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not.

DAFFODIL DAY AT THE SNUG BANTRY Thank you to all those that supported this worthy cause. The total amount raised was €1,965

CHILDREN'S MASS; Our next children's will be celebrated on Sunday 29th April at 9.00 am. Children who would like to read a Prayer of the Faithful at the Children's Mass can ask their parent/guardian to give their name to Con Keane at 086 8250917.

MISSIONARY SISTERS OF THE HOLY ROSARY
Sr. Mary Gallagher from the Holy Rosary Sisters will speak at all Masses next weekend about their work. The Congregation of the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary (The Killeshandra Nuns) was founded in 1924 by Bishop Joseph Shanahan CSSp to bring the Gospel message to the women of Southern Nigeria. Sisters are presently on mission in Brazil, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, South Africa, Sierra Leone, the U.S.A. and Zambia. Sr. Mary Gallagher will speak at the Masses on Saturday/ Sunday 28/29th April 2018 to promote Mission Awareness.

Recent Parish Baptisms:

**Maya Margaret Lucey
– Dromleigh South, Bantry**

We welcome her into our Christian Community

Cork ARC Cancer Support House Annual Flag Day collection in Bantry and Ballylickey on Thursday 26th April Please support our annual Flag Day collection - all collectors are volunteers - 100% of your donations will directly benefit Cork ARC Cancer Support House, open every Tues. & Thursday at "The Bungalow", Goureebeg near Bantry, to support cancer patients & their families in West Cork and South Kerry, all services free www.corkcancersupport.ie Registered Charity No. 20049881

The Gospels of the Icon

Cork Scripture Group is pleased to announce a public workshop entitled 'The Gospels of the Icon' presented by Lorna Downey on Monday April 23rd from 7.30-9.30 pm in the West Cork Education Centre, Dunmanway. In this Year of the Family it will explore the Gospel background of the Icon. All Welcome. Cost: €5. For information and booking: contact corkscripturegroup@gmail.com or 021-4295144 (Marian or Phil).

Bantry Tidy Towns would like to extend a big thank you to the volunteers who came out for the Spring Clean on Saturday last. This was a general clean up of the approach roads to Bantry in support of the An Taisce/KWD Spring Clean. Fantastic work was done & a mountain of litter & rubbish collected. It was great to see many new faces turning up & especially the junior litter pickers who did great work on Saturday. Please make an effort to now keep your area clean.

Life Enhancement Workshop – Gougane Barra Hotel 10.30am-4.30pm. Saturday May 5th. Tea/coffee included Cost:€30, Suitable for all ages. Booking essential on 085-1215984 or carthaigs@eircom.net
You on live once – Make it the best life you can

Offertory Collection: W/E of 14th/15th April: Bantry:€1780; Kealkil:€255; Coomhola:€230
Special collection for Diocesan Needs last W/E Bantry €1075; Kealkil:€340; Coomhola€200
Special collection takes place for Parish Pastoral Services on W/E May 12th / 13th

JOHN CONNOLLY MEMORIAL PERPETUAL AWARD:

The Bantry Branch of the Irish Red Cross are looking for nominations for the Voluntary Community Person of the Year 2018. The late John Connolly was well known in the Bantry area and beyond for giving his time so freely to so many organisations including the Red Cross. We wish to acknowledge the great work that this man did over the years. If you know of anyone in the community or in the surrounding area who gives of their time tirelessly and deserves this award nomination forms can be obtained at O'Keeffe's SuperValu, Fast.net, The Quays Bar and Andrews Centra. Nominations can be placed in the nominations box which will also be at Supervalu or same can be posted to Heather McCarthy, Secretary, Bantry Branch, Irish Red Cross, Seskin Bantry.

Citizens Information Service is available to help parents and students with the application process for SUSI student grants. Drop into the office in The Square, Bantry or telephone 0761 07890 for information or advice.

Spring Station Masses 2018:

It is hoped to have Station Masses for Spring 2018 during April & May. If you are thinking of hosting the Spring Stations this year, we would ask you to please contact the parish office (tel. 56398) to arrange a date.

Spring Station Masses 2018

**Saturday 5th May @ 11am
Joe & Mary Sharkey – Gories, Cahir,
Leacadiomhaoin, Cappanavar**