

BANTRY PARISH NEWSLETTER
THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SUNDAY 31ST JANUARY 2016 **VOL. 12.**

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

Parish website: www.bantryparish.ie

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Calendar: Mass Times and Intentions :-

Mon. 1st February:

St. Brigid, Abbess, Secondary Patron of Ireland.

Bantry: 10am John Thornton - Derrinkealig

Tues. 2nd February: The Presentation of the Lord

Bantry: 10am Annie Downey - Dromduve

Wed. 3rd February: 4th week in Ordinary Time

St. Blaise, bishop & martyr

Bantry: 10am:

John & Kitty Keohane – Slip Lawn

Hospital Chapel: 5.30pm:

John Cronin – Gortroe – 30th anniversary

Thurs. 4th February: 4th week in Ordinary Time:

Bantry: 10am Sonny & Nora O’Mahony - Ards

Friday 5th February: 3rd week in Ordinary Time:

St. Agatha, virgin & martyr

Bantry: 10am: Rita & Denis Casey – Bantry & London

Bantry: 7.30pm: Parish Shared Mass

Sat. 6th February: 4th week in Ordinary Time: Ss

Paul Miki & companions, martyrs

Hospital: 10am: Eileen McCarthy (Slip Grove) & Mary Frances McCarthy (Maughnaclea)

Bantry: 6.15pm:

Nancy O’Sullivan – Newtown East

Sun. 7th February:

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Bantry: 9am:

Mary Cronin – Lahern – 1st anniversary

Coomhola: 10am: Geraldine Coakley - Snavo

Kealkil: 11am:

Dan Joe O’Sullivan – Moulraha, Kealkil

Bantry: 12 noon: People of the Parish

Dates for your Diary

Feast of St. Bridget: Monday Feb. 1st.

The Presentation of the Lord: Tuesday Feb. 2nd :

Blessing of Candles at 10am Mass.

Feast of St. Blaise— Wednesday February 3rd:

The Blessing of Throats (using the candles from the previous day’s Feast) will take place at the morning 10.00am Mass in Bantry & at the Hospital Chapel Mass at 5.30pm

There will also be a Prayer Service with Blessing of Throats in Bantry Church at 7.30pm on Wednesday evening Feb 3rd.

Ash Wednesday – February 10th:

Day of Fast & Abstinence: Start of Lent

<u>Mass Times</u>	10.00am	Bantry
	11.30am	Kealkil
	5.30pm	Hospital Chapel

There will be a Prayer Service with distribution of Ashes in St. Joseph’s Church, Coomhola at 7.30pm on Ash Wednesday.

There will be evening Mass at 7.30pm during Lent on Tuesdays & Thursdays in Bantry Church

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes: Thursday 11th February. World Day of the Sick:

The Sacrament of the Sick (Anointing) will be administered during the 10am Mass & during 7.30pm Mass in St. Finbarr’s Church. All who might be in need of the Sacrament are invited to receive it.

“Come and see” Vocations afternoon
2 – 4:30pm Sat 6th Feb. Poor Clare Monastery
College Rd. Cork

Merciful Like the Father – Pope Francis on the Year of Mercy – Part III

People across the diocese of Cork and Ross are invited to make passing through the Holy Door of Mercy a part of their keeping of the Jubilee of Mercy. Individuals, families, and groups are all invited to replicate the journey to the Holy Door of Mercy that Bishop Buckley has made when opening the Holy Door in St Francis’, in December 2015. In our pilgrim journey we are invited to ask ourselves what is it we need to leave behind in order to really encounter God’s Mercy, which is always available to us. The invite to the Holy Door is a sign to us that the obstacles to God have been removed. During this Holy Year may the obstacles of personal weakness, temptation and other challenges, be removed so this year can be one of grace, and a personal encounter with our merciful Father. The journey to the Door of Mercy, followed by its opening and the action of crossing over its threshold, serves, hopefully to remind us of the following; The recognition of Christ as the sole door through which we enter salvation (John 10:9), the one way that leads to the Father (John 14:6), and the Church’s ongoing pilgrimage toward “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today and forever” (Hebrews 13:8).

Stations of the Cross – 5pm – Sundays of Lent – St. Finbarr’s Church, Bantry

Ash Wednesday, February 10th marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of prayer and reflection preparing ourselves for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday. During Lent, in this Year of Mercy, members of the Parish Assembly and others will lead us in the Stations of the Cross on each of the six Sundays of Lent. We will gather at 5.00pm each Sunday in St. Finbarr’s Church and invite you to pray and reflect with Jesus on his journey to Calvary.

LENTEN PETITIONS

Every year during Lent we recall that Jesus was beaten, whipped, mocked, crowned with thorns, and nailed to a cross. Our faith teaches us that He endured this agony and suffering, and died for us. By His suffering, Jesus gave meaning to all of our suffering. Jesus did not come to explain away suffering or remove it; He came to fill it with His presence. This Lent we will unite our own personal suffering with His. Each one of us has some amount of suffering or hurt in our life, sometimes dating from our past. Petitions symbolise the hurt that is contained in our lives and community.

During Lent we invite anyone with any unresolved grief or pain, or any kind of hurt, to place their petitions in the basket at the side of the Sanctuary. Your petitions represent the pain, grief or hurt in your life. It may be associated with;

- ❖ Grief at death or separation The pain of broken relationships
- ❖ The pain of sickness The pain of being misunderstood
- ❖ The struggle of sexual identity The pain of failure
- ❖ Pain of living with an alcoholic partner, parent or child The hurt of the past

What is unique about this spiritual exercise is that you will be able to recognise your own grief and suffering and understand that so many others share similar worries. Please feel free during the coming weeks to place petitions in the basket.

First Friday: There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on the first Friday, 5th February next, after 10am Mass until 7.30pm & you are invited to spend an hour in adoration

First Friday Communion Calls
Fr. Martin & Fr. Sean will make their calls during the coming week

Recent Parish Baptisms:
Clinton Jer McCarthy- (The Sidings, Bantry)
We welcome him into our Christian Community

St. Brigid's Cross: Monday, February 1st is *St. Brigid's Day*. Even though Bantry Library is normally closed on Mondays, the library will be opening at 11am to hold a workshop about how to make the famous St Brigid's Cross. This free workshop lasts an hour & is provided by the Activities Department from *Deerpark House Nursing Home*. All are welcome. The library has some free booklets to give away which explain some of the customs, beliefs & traditions associated with *St. Brigid's Day*.

Please take a Trocaire Box this Lent.
Trocaire Boxes can be collected at the Church Porches.

'Kealkill N.S. Enrolment Evening'
Kealkill N.S. will host an enrolment evening for Junior Infants for September 2016 which will take place on Tuesday, 9th February next at 7pm. Everyone is welcome to attend to view the facilities, meet with class teacher Ms. Maria Daly and other members of staff. There will be a short presentation by Principal Darragh Carey. If possible, please bring a copy of your child's Birth Certificate and their PPS number with you. If you have any queries please contact the school at (027) 66298 or email kealkilns@eircom.net.

There will be a Blood Pressure Clinic held at the Bantry Primary Care Health Centre, Maritime Hotel, Bantry on Wednesday, February 3rd 2016 from 2.30pm to 4pm. All are welcome to attend this free, confidential service being offered by the Health Service Executive and your local Public Health Nurse.

Bingo with a Prize Fund of €500 will take place at Mealagh Valley Hall this Sunday January 31st. at 8.00 P.M.. Usual Bus Service will Run. All are welcome.

Fascinating Talk on Monday 1st February
Colum Hourihane, founding member of Bantry Historical Society, is back to give a Talk on **The Changing face of Medieval Art**. Colum has authored a number of books, published several papers, edited volumes and received many awards and honors. Come to **Christian Fellowship Church, Bantry** on Monday 1st Feb at 8.00pm
Free admission, all welcome. Raffle for copy of edited volume by Colum, plus more!

Enrolment for St Finbarr’s Boys’ National School will take place at the school on Wednesday next 3rd February at 1.30 p.m. Enquiries to 027 50477.

Coomhola National School
Enrolling pupils for school year 2016/'17 on Friday 5th February from 10.00 to 11.00. Enrolment forms are available from the school or downloaded from our website <http://www.coomholans.ie/> All prospective pupils and their parents are very welcome.

Offertory Collection:
Weekend 23rd /24th January 2016: Bantry Church: €1,624; Kealkil Church: €296; Coomhola Church: €235
Special Collection for Diocesan Needs last weekend – Bantry Parish - €1320
Next Special Collection for Lourdes Invalid Fund will take place on Feb 13th & 14th

St Colum's GAA club
Spring clean of St Colum's hall on Sat. Feb. 6th from 9am to 12noon.
Registration day takes place Sunday February 21st in St Colum's hall from 11am-1pm.