

**BANTRY PARISH NEWSLETTER
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

SUNDAY 6TH MARCH 2016

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To contact Priest on duty: Telephone 087-7999886

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

Parish website: www.bantryparish.ie

Fr. Sean Crowley C.C.

Tel. 027 50193

Parish office: Tel: 56398 email: office@bantryparish.com

Calendar: Mass Times and Intentions :-

Mon. 7th March: 4th week of Lent:

Bantry: 10am Seanie Kearns - Lahadane

Tues. 8th March: 4th week of Lent:

Bantry:10am: Declan Cronin – High Street

Bantry: 7.30pm: Johnny Sweeney - Newtown

Wed. 9th March: 4th week of Lent:

Bantry: 10am: Winnie Cotter - Seskin

Hospital: 5.30pm: Con Keane- Kealkil

Thurs. 10th March: 4th Week of Lent:

Bantry: 10am

Kitty Keohane – Slip Lawn – 1st anniversary.

Bantry: 7.30pm:

Maudie & Paddy O’Mahony – Ards

Friday 11th March: 4th Week of Lent:

Bantry:10am: Donal Lynch - Gurteen

**Kealkil: 7.30pm: Marie Whelton (nee Dullea) –
Douglas & Pearsons Bridge – 1st anniversary**

Sat. 12th March: 4th Week of Lent:

Hospital: 10am: Paddy McSweeney - Shanavalla

Bantry: 6.15pm:

Jane & Jeremiah McCarthy - Newtown

Sun. 13th March: Fifth Sunday of Lent:

Bantry: 9am: Eileen Minehane – Dromleigh South

Coomhola: 10am:

Bridie O’Brien – Coomhola Bridge

Kealkil: 11am:

John, Betty & Sean McCarthy – Cappabue North

Bantry: 12 noon: People of the Parish

Died Recently:

We extend our prayers & sympathy to the families,
relatives and friends of;

**Billy Daly – Maughnaclea, Kealkil,
formerly of Schull & Pulrose, Isle of Man.**

**Timothy O’Sullivan – Marino Terrace &
Coomleigh, Bantry
May they rest in peace.**

Recent Parish Baptisms:

**Ella Rose Keane – Caher, Bantry &
Hannah Louise Keane – Caher, Bantry**

We welcome them into our Christian Community

**Tim Flynn of Volunteer Missionary
Movement has written to thank the people
of Bantry Parish for their kind welcome and
generosity shown to him last weekend. A
total of €2683.40 was raised in the parish
and this support makes it possible for VMM
to work with those who are poor &
marginalised, to empower them & to have a
positive impact on their lives. For further
information on the work of VMM please go
to www.vmminternational.org**

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

CoAction Summer Camp: CoAction would like to
hear from adults, 2nd. & 3rd. level students interested in
volunteering in their Summer Camp in **July**.
Applicants must be over 16yrs. For further info. and
registration pack contact the volunteer coordinator at
027- 54027/50114 or winnieosullivan@coaction.ie
Late applications cannot be guaranteed inclusion in
camp. **Closing date Friday March 11th.**

**Leaflets showing the Holy Week 2016
schedule are available in the Church
Porches this weekend.**

Clarification on Low Gluten Hosts
Having received some queries on the
low gluten hosts we contacted the altar
bread suppliers and they confirm that
there is only a miniscule amount of
gluten in the low gluten hosts.
The exact amount is 20 parts per
million. The proportion 20 parts per
million is the same as 0.002%.

Spring Station Masses 2016

It is hoped to have Station Masses for Spring 2016 through March until 30th April. If you are thinking of hosting the Spring Stations this year, we would ask you to please contact the parish office (56398) to arrange a date.

Spring Station Masses 2016

Saturday March 5th @ 11am

Vincent & Mary Cronin – Treanamaddreee, Lisheens

Saturday March 12th @ 11am

Mark & Esther Kearns – Caher, Gories, Leacadiomhaoin, Capanavar

Friday 18th March @ 8pm

Pat & Eileen Holland – Kealanine, Coomhola, Derrynakilla, Farranfadda, Corran, Cooleenlemane, Inchinagown

Saturday 9th April @ 11am

Dan Joe Holland – Derrycreha, Esknafeelna, Ardnatrush Beg

St Colum's GAA: Cage crew/U6's training on Saturday mornings from 10-11am. U8 boys hurling training on Friday evenings from 6-7pm, both take place in the hall.

Bantry Macra will also be holding a charity 6km fun run/walk in aid of charity (Cork ARC and MS Ireland) on Sunday the 13th of March starting at the Westlodge Hotel. Registration at 12:30, race starting at 1pm. All are welcome.

Coomhola / Ballylickey & District Community Alert Group: Are hosting a Community Alert meeting on Thursday, March the 10th at 8pm in the Ouvane Falls. All warmly welcome to attend.

Seskin Montessori & Pre-School.

We hold an Open Day for new pupils on 10th March from 12.30 - 2.00. FREE ECCE Places.

Come along and see our preschool and meet our friendly staff. All welcome!

For information contact
Mary O'Sullivan-Keane on 027 52116

Ray Murnane Rehab Fund: Tickets available in shops and from the committee for Race Night fundraiser on 26th March in the Maritime Hotel. Last September Ray suffered a severe spinal injury as result of an accident and is now confined to wheelchair for the rest of his life.

Beginners Cards at Mealagh Hall on Sat. March 5th. at 9.00 P.M. All Are Welcome.

ALIVE Catholic Paper (March edition) available at church porches. Please take one for your family and some for your friends.

Offertory Collection:

Weekend 27th / 28th Feb: Bantry Church: €1480; Kealkil Church:€250; Coomhola Church: €225

Special collection Irish Bishops Commissions will take place on March 12th & 13th

THE DEEP END • A New Creation

The parable of the prodigal son is so familiar to us, and when stories are familiar they can lose their meaning. But let us look a little closer at the context of the story. Jesus told this parable in response to some comments and complaints by the Pharisees and the scribes: 'This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.' What would these detractors have made of the story, flying as it did in the face of their traditional morality?

What about the so-called sinners? The 'tax collectors and sinners' were already at ease in the company of Jesus; they were seeking him out to hear what he had to say, and he in turn was welcoming them. How this parable must have spoken to them! It wouldn't have been much of a stretch for them to compare the generous welcome and forgiveness of the father in the story to the treatment they were already receiving from Jesus.

One sentence strikes me from today's second reading: 'For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation'. The 'sinners' with whom Jesus associated were made new by his presence, just as the son in the parable was surely a changed man after his reunion with his merciful father. He was 'dead and has come to life'.

This familiar parable is not just about how forgiving and merciful God is. It is about how his mercy brings us to new life. If we, sinners, return to him and let him welcome us back, we are new creations.

Tríona Doherty. Email trionad@gmail.com

West Cork Carers Support Group will host a Staying Fit for Caring Morning with Eleanor Fitzgerald, Physical Therapist, on Wednesday 16th March (11am-12.30pm) in Bantry. Cost: €5. All family carers welcome. Booking essential on 027-53848