

Reflection:

Today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

In today's Gospel we hear John the Baptist contrast his baptism of repentance with the baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John the Baptist says that he has baptized with water, but that the one who is to come will baptize with the Holy Spirit. John's baptism was not yet a Christian baptism; it was a preparation for the Christian Baptism we celebrate today, and through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received. In accepting John's baptism, Jesus, though sinless, united himself with all sinners.

The descent of the Holy Spirit on Jesus at his baptism shows that something new is beginning through the baptism and ministry of Jesus.

The baptism of Jesus is considered an important manifestation of God in the person of Jesus, another epiphany. Jesus' baptism inaugurates his mission. Mark's Gospel moves quickly from the report of Jesus' baptism to Jesus' temptations in the desert to his ministry in Galilee after John's arrest. The end of the ministry of John the Baptist is the beginning of Jesus' ministry. In an analogous way, our Baptism inaugurates our mission as Christians.

Surprisingly, on this the last day of the Christmas season the Gospel does not tell a story from Jesus' childhood. Instead the Gospel reveals Jesus' relationship to God: the Son of Mary and Joseph is also God's own Son. We believe that through Baptism we are also made children of God.

Eucharist isn't just a ritual that happens on the altar. It happens whenever there is self-giving, for the sake of another.

A beautiful folk story tells of a sunflower who grew alone on a piece of derelict land. One day a sparrow came to her and told her how beautiful she was. The two became friends, and every morning the sparrow came to talk to the sunflower. Then one morning he was absent. Days passed, and eventually a weak and dying sparrow came to say his last goodbye to his sunflower friend. In her distress, she bent down to him, and dropped a few of her seeds for him, so that he found a new lease of life. Days passed again, and weeks, and one day the sparrow came to his friend, and was distraught to find that she was dying. 'Don't be dismayed', she reassured him. 'My time is over, but see, I leave you all my seeds. Eat your fill and let them make you strong to survive the winter but leave a few seeds here on this ground. Then next year, there will be more sunflowers here in this wasteland, and more sparrows will fly among them, and all creation will be enriched'.

CORLOUGH/TEMPLEPORT PARISH NEWSLETTER



Sunday 10th January 2021 – The Baptism of the Lord.

Fr. Sean Maguire P.P. – Telephone 049-9523103/087- 2101540

Parish Website: www.corlough templeport.com

Email addresses: templeportnewsletter@gmail.com

Liturgies in our Parish

Public worship has been suspended until further notice. All liturgies will be broadcast locally on FM108 and streamed live on www.churchtv.ie/bawnboy and also on the Corlough-Templeport Parish Facebook page.

- Sunday: Mass - 11am (Followed by the Rosary)**
- Monday: Mass - 8pm (Followed by the Rosary) (Facebook and FM108 only)**
- Tuesday: Mass – 9.00am – Guided Holy Hour 8.30pm.**
- Wednesday: Mass - 9am (Followed by the Rosary)**
- Thursday: Mass - 9am (Followed by the Rosary)**
- Friday: Mass - 8:00pm (followed by the Rosary)**
- Saturday: Mass - 8:15pm (followed by the Rosary) (Facebook only)**
- Sunday: Mass - 11am (Followed by the Rosary)**

Mass intentions

- Saturday:** Francis, Mary Ellen and Liam Cassidy, Tiernawanagh
- Sunday:** Sean Crossan, Cloneary.
- Monday:** Teresa & George Pugh; Bernard and Terence O Reilly, Teresa McManus, Lisanover
- Tuesday:** Sean McHugh, Arderry
- Wednesday:** The People of the Parish
- Friday:** Kathleen Plunkett (months mind) and JP Plunkett, Erraran
- Saturday:** Bernard and Elizabeth McHugh; Tottie, Christy, Sean and Joe McHugh, Lannanaria
- Sunday:** Sean O Reilly, Port; Pa Molly and Míchéal Brady, Port

Pray for Eugene Heavey, England and formerly of Tullyveela, who died on Wednesday and **Sean Drumm**, Teemore (brother of Moira Timmons) who died last week. May they rest in peace.

Guided Holy Hour will take place each Tuesday night at 8:30pm during this time of pandemic. All are welcome to tune in via ChurchTV, FM 108 or Facebook.

Level 5 - Living with Covid-19

Religious services move online. Places of worship remain open for private prayer. Funerals are limited to 10 mourners. 6 guests can attend a wedding from the 3rd of January. Baptisms cannot take place at this time.

Mass intentions: If you have a Mass intention booked in the coming weeks and would rather wait until the restrictions are lifted, please contact Fr Sean. The Mass intentions booked for Kilnavart and Bawnboy on the coming Sunday mornings will be offered at the 11am Mass.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Wednesday	Corlough	No Adoration
Friday	Bawnboy	5:00pm-7:00pm

Dates for your Diary 2021

(Subject to guidelines from the diocese and government)

- Diocesan Pilgrimage - Knock – Sunday 20th June - 2:30pm
- Blessing of the Graves - Kilnavart – Sunday 25th July - 9:30am
- Bawnboy, Port and the Workhouse - Sunday, 25th July - 11am
- St Mogue’s Island - Monday, 2nd August - 3pm
- Corlough - Sunday, the 8th of August - 12:30pm

Mass for Fr Greg McGovern SMA - Corlough - Sunday, 31st October - 2pm (Archbishop Okolo, Papal Nuncio)

Data Protection Notice: As you know, a webcam has been installed in St Mogue’s Church, Bawnboy. Please log into www.churchTV.ie/bawnboy to check out the exact area that is covered.

RTE NEWS NOW broadcasts Mass each weekday at 10:30am. Mass is broadcast on Sundays either on RTE 1 at 11am or at 2pm on RTE NEWS Now.

The Irish Catholic Newspaper will no longer be on sale in Bawnboy and Kilnavart churches. It will be available to buy in Maguires Shop, Bawnboy in the new year. Thank you to all those who supported this publication in recent years.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Calendar; Claddagh Community Childcare First Annual 2021 Calendar sponsored by Local businesses and clubs is currently on sale! All proceeds go towards the outdoor area and can be purchased in Brogans butchers or by contacting claddaghchildcare@gmail.com. €5 per calendar! Thank you to all those who generously sponsored us and for your continued support.

St. Aidan’s GAA: Online Lotto Draw Result Numbers Drawn 9, 12, 13, 23. No Jackpot winner. 3 Lucky Dip Winners - Michael McNulty, Mullaghmore. Declan Shannon, Munlough. Geraldine Mc Caffrey, Kilsob, Bawnboy. Next week’s Online jackpot is €4,800. Draw closes at 6pm on Monday. Draw will take place on Monday night. **Operation Keep Well** Templeport has been rescheduled to February in light of Government guidelines, the virtual programmes are still going ahead. please log on to Templeport St Aidan’s GAA facebook page for more information on registration. **My Life by Irish Life** As a Health and Wellbeing initiative, Templeport St Aidan’s GAA along with Templeport LGFC have registered for the new GAA/Irish Life Every Step Counts Challenge. The challenge is for the club to collectively walk 4000km over 8 weeks and then to be entered into a draw to win one of three O’Neill’s vouchers. Please log on to Templeport St Aidan’s GAA facebook page for more information on registration.