

Ferbane Parish Bulletin

Sunday 14th February 2021

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Peter Burke - (090) 6454380 • Fr. Michael Morris - (090) 6454309 • www.ferbaneparish.ie

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, FERBANE

Sunday 14th February

- 11am
1. Janie Robinson (*1st A*).
 2. Eddie Mitchell.
 3. John & Mary Connaughton and Josie Kinnarney and deceased family members.
 4. Mary Kenny (*6th A*).

Mon. 15th: 10am

Tues. 16th: 10am - People's Mass.

Wed. 17th: 10am

Thurs. 18th: 10am

Fri. 19th: 10am

Sat. 20th: 10am

Sunday 21st February

- 11am
1. Andrew Wynne and deceased members of the Wynne & Smollen families.
 2. Tracey Buckley.
 3. Rita Kelly, her husband Paddy and their son Joe.
 4. Patrick Feeney and deceased family members.

MASSSES - All ceremonies can be heard on 106.5FM Parish Radio. Also the 11am Sunday Mass will be live streamed on **Ferbane Parish Facebook page**. Our Parish bulletin is available to view on www.ferbaneparish.ie.

COLLECTIONS - Offertory/Shrine for last weekend = €2,310. We deeply appreciate your continuing generosity at this difficult time. If

you wish to offer financial support to the Church by electronic transfer our bank details are as follows:- BIC: ULSB IE 2D IBAN: IE28 ULSB 9857 2021 5400 50 Please note your box number or your name when transferring money. Míle buíochas. **DEATHS** - We pray for the souls of Tommy Kenny, Fadden, Belmont; Noeleen Mooney, Aughaboy and Lucy Brazil, Derrica Bridge. Rest in peace.

PRAYER FOR TEMPERANCE SUNDAY, 14th February -
Compassionate Lord and Saviour, you inspired the Capuchin Friar Theobald Matthew to show your compassionate face to those addicted and burdened by the abuse of alcohol or addicted behaviour, and to promote temperance. May we today, continue to serve our brothers and sisters with love and joy and to foster balance and moderation in our lifestyles with the help of God. So, we pray, 'here we go in the name of God'.

LENT 2021 - Ash Wednesday, 17th February: Ashes will be blessed at the 10am Mass in Ferbane. A quantity of envelopes containing blessed ashes will be made available in Church porches in Ferbane, High Street and Boora.

Stations of the Cross: Fridays of Lent at 8pm, broadcast from Ferbane Church on **Parish Radio 106.5FM** and on **Ferbane Parish Facebook page**.

'Living the Christian Faith - Lenten Conversations'. Knock Shrine, Thursdays of Lent, chaired by Fr. Eamonn Conway, DD, Professor of Theology at Mary Immaculate College. *Topic for Thursday 18th February: 'Living Christian Faith in the Family'*. www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live or on Facebook @knockshrine.

SVP - Confidential helpline 087 9272877.

SEEKING OLD PHOTOGRAPHS - Brosna Press are seeking old black and white photographs for inclusion in a forthcoming book of photographs from the early 1900s up to the 1960s. The photo can be of any subject, depicting life in West Offaly from the turn of the century onwards. Photographs will be carefully scanned and promptly returned to their owner. Ideally photographs to be supplied with captions. Call 090 6454327 or email diarmuid@brosnapress.ie for more info.

TRÓCAIRE BOXES - Available in the Church for collection. This Lent we are asked to remember the people of South Sudan:

'As we move through the Lenten time, the time when we contemplate Jesus in the desert, pray for us the people of South Sudan and pray for peace here. Accompany us, hold our hands, hold the hands of the Church in South Sudan, hold the hands of our brothers and sisters in South Sudan, walk with us during this Lent time. Through Christ, our Lord, Amen.'

'My appeal to you is, please don't leave South Sudan alone.' (Fr. James Oyet Latansio).

PARISH OFFICE - Wed. from 9am - 1pm and 2pm - 5pm. **Bulletin deadline is 3pm on Wednesday.** Tel: 090 6454309 or parishoffice@ferbaneparish.ie.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

'Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him'

A recent television documentary on the heroic men and women who are working on the front line in our hospitals in the battle against Covid-19 revealed in a striking way that compassion costs. It always does. In today's Gospel Jesus reaches out in tender compassion to touch a leper. In doing what He did, He was crossing a significant boundary and breaking every law, taboo and convention of His day. The leper was the most miserable outcast in Jewish society. He/she had to live away from the community, wear a bell and cry out, 'Unclean, unclean'. To touch a leper made oneself unclean. The judgement of Jesus does not follow society's standards, however. He understood how it felt to be rejected, to feel unwanted, to find no room at the inn and so, an untouchable one is touched, an outsider is brought in, an excluded one is made to feel welcome, a suffering human being is healed in body and spirit. No life, however broken or rejected is beyond God's reach. Today, as in every generation, there are 'untouchables' in our world, people on the edge, the least, the lost, the last. The leper represents those whom society considers to be flawed. Our challenge is to do as Jesus did; to notice and be courageous enough to step out to bring inclusion where there is exclusion so that no brother or sister has to carry the cross alone. Jesus' ministry of compassion cost Him. It will cost us too.