

Ferbane Parish Bulletin

Sunday 28th January 2024

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, FERBANE

SATURDAY 27th JANUARY - 7pm

1. Patrick Egan (*Months Mind*).

SUNDAY 28th JANUARY - 11am

Mon. 29th: 10am

Tues. 30th: 10am - People's Mass.

Wed. 31st: 10am

Thurs. 1st Feb.: 10am - St. Brigid.

Fri. 2nd: 10am - Candlemas & First Friday.

Sat. 3rd: 10am - St. Blaise.

SATURDAY 3rd FEBRUARY - 7pm

1. Peter & Nellie Guinan
2. Oliver & Kate Daly and deceased family members.

SUNDAY 4th FEBRUARY - 11am

PATRICK & SARAN, HIGH STREET

SUNDAY 28th JANUARY - 12 noon

Fri. 2nd: 8pm - Candlemas & First Friday.

1. John Connolly (*35th A*), his wife Christina, his daughter Patricia Fleming, his nephew Baby Gerard Foster and his Grandson Baby Alan Melia and deceased family members.
2. John, Christina & Kieran Butler and Mary O'Reilly.
3. Mollie & Kevin Coleman and Kieran and Bridget Kelly, Kilcummin and deceased family members.

SUNDAY 4th FEBRUARY - 12 noon

1. Pauline Claffey (*1st A*) and her parents Michael & Annie Claffey.
2. Shane Ryan (*19th A*).

ST. OLIVER PLUNKETT, BOORA

SUNDAY 28th JANUARY - 9.30am

1. Margaret Earley (*Months Mind*).
2. Nuala Colgan (*1st A*) and Samuel Colgan (*7th A*).

Fri. 2nd: 7pm - Candlemas & First Friday.

SUNDAY 4th FEBRUARY - 9.30am

FEBRUARY FEASTS -

St. Brigid: Thursday 1st February.

St. Brigid's Blessing

May Brigid bless the house wherein we dwell.

Bless every fireside, every wall and door.

Bless every heart that beats beneath its roof.

Bless every hand that toils to bring its joy.

Presentation of the Lord - Candlemas Day:

Friday 2nd February.

Blessing of candles during all First Friday Masses.

Feast of St. Blaise - Saturday 3rd February.

Blessing of throats will take place in:

Ferbane: after 10am and 7pm Masses on Saturday 3rd February.

Boora: after 9.30am Mass on Sun. 4th Feb.

High Street: after 12 noon Mass on Sunday 4th February.

MASSES - All ceremonies can be heard on 106.5FM Parish Radio. Parish bulletin is available on www.ferbaneparish.ie.

COLLECTIONS - January 21st:

Offertory/Shrine €2,150. Thank you.

PARISH OFFICE - Open every Wednesday from 9am-1pm and 2-5pm. Tel: 090 6454309 or email parishoffice@ferbaneparish.ie.

SVP - Confidential phone line 087 9272877.

OFFALY PROLIFE - Prolife Conversation Evening in Dooly's Hotel, Birr at 7pm to circa 9pm on Monday 29th January.

ST. BRIGID'S CREDIT UNION LTD. - The 56th AGM of St. Brigid's Credit Union Ltd. will take place on Monday 29th January at 8pm in the Scouts Den, Clara. There will be a FREE DRAW for those in attendance and refreshments provided. All members welcome!

GALLEN UNITED - *Lotto Draw* (Prize fund €7,600; Jackpot €2,100; Star Prize €5,500). Winning numbers were 5, 6, 23, 26. Bonus 4. No jackpot winner. One match 3 winner. Next draw on Monday 29th January.

FERBANE LIBRARY - Parent & Toddler Group is changing to the earlier time of 10.30am-11.30am on Tuesday mornings. All welcome. Lego Free Play on Saturday, February 10th at 11am. Suitable for age 4 years plus. Children must be supervised by parent/guardian. No booking is necessary.

FERBANE GAA - *Lotto:* Winning numbers in last week's draw 10, 12, 14, 29. Bonus 1. No jackpot winner. Six match three winners. Next week's jackpot is €12,800. Draw on Tuesday 30th January.

FERBANE BRIDGE CLUB - Continues on Wed. 31st January at 7.30pm. All welcome.

FERBANE WOMEN'S GROUP - Meet every Thursday morning in the Bridge Club, Ballycumber Road at 11am. New members welcome. Contact 087 6410156 for more information.

PROGRESSIVE 25 - Cards every Friday night in Ferbane Heritage Centre at 9pm. More card players needed for game to continue.

THRIFT SHOP SALE - In aid of Ollie Daly on Sun. 11th Feb. in the Haggard, Gleeson's. Contact 087 2971456 or 087 7719209 for donations.

LIKE TO START YOUR OWN BUSINESS but not sure how to do it? Offaly Local Development Company are meeting unemployed people NOW for places on their next Business Development Programme. Contact Des Regan on dregan@offalyldc.ie or call 057 9352467 / 087 9699998. Website: www.offalyldc.ie. Closing date 29th February 2024.

ST. CYNOC'S N.S. - Enrolments for 2024-2025 school year. Enrolment forms are available to print from our website www.stcynocsns.ie. Alternatively

you can request an enrolment form by emailing the school on stcynocsns@gmail.com or by phoning the school 090 6454249. Enrolment forms to be completed and returned to the school asap please.

FERBANE BELMONT CE - We currently have vacancies on our scheme for three Groundspersons/Caretakers, three General Operatives and one Caretaker Cleaner. Successful applicants will continue with all existing benefits with a scheme top up. All successful participants can also avail of training and upskilling. For more information call 090 6454068.

PERSONAL ALARMS - If you are over 65 years of age you may be eligible for Senior Alert Scheme personal alarms. For information contact 086 8718942.

4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

'There was a man possessed by an unclean spirit'

In the first chapter of St. Mark's Gospel we are given an insight into a day in the life of Jesus as He moves from prayer to active ministry. We find Him teaching in the synagogue, visiting the home of Peter, healing those who were sick and finally, praying in the wilderness. On entering the synagogue, He is confronted by a man possessed by an unclean spirit. It is His first encounter with the Kingdom of Darkness and marks the beginning of a ferocious battle that will continue from Capernaum to Calvary. Good and evil are very hard to explain or understand. What we do know is that each of us is a mixture of both. 'The battle line between good and evil runs through the heart of every person' (*Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn*). The struggle is essentially an internal one. Consequently, we should make it our constant care to nourish our hearts with all that is good, beautiful, noble and worthwhile so that the light may triumph over the darkness. The greatest threat to our efforts occurs when the lines become blurred, when the unacceptable is seen as acceptable, the indefensible as defensible, the inappropriate as appropriate. This blurring of lines is sadly, a hallmark of our increasingly secular world. To see evil and call it good, mocks God. To see the good and choose the good, gives Him glory.