

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

**CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, FERBANE**

SATURDAY 8th MARCH - 7pm  
 1. Kieran Hennessy (*Months Mind*).  
 2. Kieran & Brigid Kelly.

SUNDAY 9th MARCH - 11am  
 1. Thomas Moore (*1st A*).  
 2. Kathleen & Tom Higgins, Ferbane.  
 3. Mike & Kate Duffy and Michael Cusack.

*Mon. 10th March: 10am*  
*Tues. 11th: 10am - People's Mass.*  
*Wed. 12th: 10am - Sr. Anne Claffey, Endrim.*  
*Thurs. 13th: 10am - Liam & Rosaleen Lowe.*  
*Fri. 14th: 10am*  
*Sat. 15th: 10am*

SATURDAY 15th MARCH - 7pm  
 1. Elizabeth & Christy Wynne, their son Larry and grand-daughter Fiona.  
 2. Bernadette Nannery.

SUNDAY 16th MARCH - 11am  
 1. Maura & Brendan Clarke.

**SS. PATRICK & SARAN, HIGH STREET**  
 SUNDAY 9th MARCH - 12 noon  
 1. Patrick Kenny, Clonboniff.

SUNDAY 16th MARCH - 12 noon

**ST. OLIVER PLUNKETT, BOORA**  
 SUNDAY 9th MARCH - 9.30am  
 SUNDAY 16th MARCH - 9.30am  
 1. Denis Rosney and deceased family members.

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

**MASSES AND DEVOTIONS FOR LENT 2025**

Ferbane: Each day at 10am  
 Boora: Wednesdays 7pm  
 High Street: Fridays 8pm  
 Stations of the Cross: Friday after 10am Mass.  
**LENTEN JOURNEY** -  
*Give up something; Give back something; Give prayer a chance.*

**COLLECTIONS** - *Sunday 2nd March*  
 Offertory/Shrine €2,080.  
 Bank IBAN: IE39 BOFI 9016 3475 9072 05.  
**SVP** - Confidential helpline 087 9272877.

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

**BAPTISM** - We welcome into our Christian Community Daisy Fleur McCarthy.

**DEATH** - Please pray for the repose of the soul of Christinae Daly Gilligan, Ballyclare. May she rest in peace.

**FIRST CONFESSION** -  
 St. Cynoc's NS, Tuesday 11th March at 7pm  
 High Street NS, Thursday 13th March, 7pm.

**PROLIFE CAMPAIGN** - *Church Gate Collection* is being held this weekend Saturday 8th/Sunday 9th March. Please support.

**HIGH STREET / BELMONT WOMEN'S GROUP** - *Monday 10th March*: Following the success of the Christmas markets, monies raised will be presented to Offaly Hospice and local charities. Come and see how the money will be used. All welcome to High Street Hall at 8pm.

**GALLEN UNITED** - *Lotto Draw* (Prize fund €10,500; Jackpot €2,200; Star Prize €8,300). Winning numbers were 6, 7, 11, 13. Bonus 28. No jackpot winner. Five match 3 winners. Next draw on Monday 10th March.

**FERBANE GAA** - *Lotto*: Winning numbers in last week's draw 7, 8, 18, 32. Bonus 6. No jackpot winner. Three match three winners. Next week's jackpot is €10,600. Next draw on Tuesday 11th March.

**COFFEE MORNING** - Continues on Wednesday 12th March in the Bridge Hall, Ballycumber Road at 10.30am. Bus as usual.

**FERBANE WOMEN'S GROUP** - Meet every Thursday morning in the Bridge Hall, Ballycumber Road, Ferbane at 11am. All are welcome. For more info. contact 086 3671799.

**PROGRESSIVE 25** - Cards every Friday night in Ferbane Heritage Centre at 9pm.

**POOR CLARES GALWAY** - Monastic Experience Day for women 18-35. An opportunity to explore and experience Poor Clare life and spirituality. The event will take place from 10am to 5pm on Saturday 15th March. *Contact*: vocations@poorclares.ie to register. *For more information*: poorclares.ie/monastic-experience-days.

**BELMONT GAA 131 GRAND CANAL WALK** Our main fundraiser this year is a Sponsored Walk along the Grand Canal Greenway on Sunday 16th March. It will start in O'Connor Park, Tullamore and finish in Shannonharbour. (*More details later*). Our sponsorship platform is now live, and if you wish to sponsor any of our participants the platform can be accessed though this link <https://belmontgaa.fundmajor.com/>.

**DAFFODIL DAY is on Friday 28th March**  
 If anyone would like to volunteer an hour, please contact Mary 087 2919314.

**GALLEN COMMUNITY SCHOOL** - Are delighted to announce that we will be hosting the **Darkness into Light** walk again this year. Darkness into Light encourages people to come together and to continue fighting and walk from the dark through to the light. The symbolic walk represents how even though you may be in a dark place there is always light at the end of the tunnel. We would like to invite members of our local community to join us on the morning of Saturday 10th May in support of Pieta House. Registration for all is now online.

**OFFICE SPACE TO RENT** - In Ferbane Business & Technology Park, Ballycumber Road. Competitive rates. Please contact Glen in DNG Estate Agents 057 9125580.

**FERBANE BELMONT CE** - Are you in receipt of a Social Welfare payment. We currently have vacancies on our scheme for 1 Groundsperson/Caretaker, 1 General Operative and 1 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.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

‘Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness and was tempted there.’

The word Lent comes from the old English word ‘lencten’, meaning ‘springtime’. For those in the faith family it is a springtime for the soul. It recalls the forty days that Jesus spent in the Wilderness, that bleak, barren strip (35 miles by 15), between Jerusalem and the Dead Sea. It was one of the great milestones in His life. His disciples didn't witness the event, so He must have spoken to them about it. He went there, not to escape from the world, but to be close to His Father as He prepared for His public ministry. While in the Wilderness He was tempted by the devil. The devil has one purpose in the Bible - to move people off the path that leads to God, to order their desires to something other than God. For forty days Jesus faced temptations, which are as old as the human story- pleasure, pride, power, things designed to diminish his commitment and loyalty to the will of His Father. He emerged victorious from the struggle, showing that temptation need not cause us to stumble, but, rather, help us to grow stronger. Lent provides us with an opportunity to look temptation in the eye, to ‘springclean’ the soul so that we can give up who we have been for the person we can become. It's not about giving-up earthly things, but, rather, exchanging them for better things. ‘Lent is a time to experience a fresh taste of God’.