

From the Parish & Cluster

FAMILY CIRCLE Cards are in circulation.

BINGO in the Gillooly Hall on Sundays from 9pm with refreshments available. All welcome.

KEEP FIT CLASSES Body & Soul - A workout for the whole you. Classes in the Gillooly Hall every Tuesday at 8pm. €5 per session. All funds to Sligo Cathedral Restoration Fund.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING will take place in St. Columba's Church, Rosses Point, Co. Sligo on Wednesday 15th January at 8.00pm. All intentions entered in the Book of Remembrance will be prayed for at the ceremony and a presentation will be made to the local Society of St. Vincent de Paul and North West Hospice from the collection organised by the Sligo Rotary Club during Christmas week in O'Connell Street. All are welcome to attend.

LIVING IN THE DIVINE WILL A Day of Prayer, with spiritual direction and sharing led by Dolores Quigley from Dublin, in St. Michael's Family Life Centre on Saturday 25th January from 10am to 4pm. All are most welcome.

SAINT BRIGID'S CROSSES Reeds are gathered with work underway on the preparation of St. Brigid's Crosses for her feast Day, 1st February. Those able to help should contact the Sisters of the Presentation on 071 9160740. All volunteers most welcome.

From the Diocese

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK ON VOCATION The ministry of Jesus was not about establishing structures. During the three or four years of his earthly ministry, much of his time was spent inviting people into relationship with God and forming disciples. At the end of St. Matthew's Gospel, he told those who were gathered with him to "go make disciples" (Mt. 28:19). That is the mission of the Church. If we have buildings, or management structures, these are not an end in themselves. All these things are of value if they serve the mission of the Church, which is to live as Jesus lived and to form new disciples. (Bishop Kevin, Some Definite Service, Pastoral Letter on Discipleship and Mission in Changing Times, 2019)

BISHOP KEVIN'S PASTORAL LETTER ON DISCIPLESHIP AND MISSION IN CHANGING TIMES This weekend, The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, Bishop Kevin publishes a pastoral letter on Discipleship and Mission. This letter focuses on a number of related challenges:

- the need for us to take seriously Jesus' commission to the Twelve to "go make disciples"
- the mission of the family in nurturing Christian vocation
- the connection between discipleship and ordained ministry in the life of our Diocese today
- the need for us to re-imagine the shape of pastoral ministry in our Diocese, taking into account the number of priests, the population of our parishes and the declining financial resources

The invitation to discipleship is central to the celebration of every liturgical season, every feast and every sacramental celebration. From the moment of conception to the moment of death we are being called. It is crucial for the mission of the Church in our Diocese that a culture of vocation in this general sense is fostered. It is out of that culture of vocation the people discern their specific vocational call. A copy of the pastoral letter is available in churches and also online at www.elphindiocese.ie

MEDJUGORJE YOUNG ADULT PILGRIMAGE LED BY BISHOP KEVIN DORAN from 15/16 – 22/23 July 2020. The Pilgrimage is open to young adults aged between 18 and 35 years of age at the time of travel. The cost per person sharing is €650. For more information, detail of costs, registration form etc. please see the diocesan website on www.elphindiocese.ie/medijugorje2020 or contact Frank McGuinness, Director of Young Adult Ministry, on 087 9880690 or frank.mcguinness@elphindiocese.ie. €50 discount for those who book before 30th January 2020. The Diocese would be very grateful to anyone who would be in a position to contribute towards the cost of sending a young adult on this very worthwhile pilgrimage. Our young people need encouragement and a reduced fare is always more appealing. Please contact Frank if you are able to help in any way with this mission.

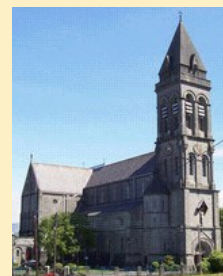
ARISE – Young Adult (18+) National Event takes place in Knock Shrine on Saturday 7th March 2020. There will be inspirational speakers, music, celebration, fun, a chance to meet with other young adults and much more. Registration is from 10am and the day will finish at 4.30pm. Cost €10. For more information, booking, etc. please contact Frank McGuinness, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry, Diocese of Elphin. Text, Whatsapp, Call, etc. to 087 9880690 or email: frank.mcguinness@elphindiocese.ie Please see Diocesan Website at <https://www.elphindiocese.ie/arise/>

NEW PARISH YOUTH MINISTRY LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME 2020 Elphin Youth & Young Adult Ministry is planning to run a New and Reformatted Parish Youth Ministry Leadership Training Course in order to offer parishes the opportunity to have trained parish volunteers who will be in a position to support their priest and parish with youth and young adult ministry. The course will run between January 2020 and December 2021 over 9 weekends. The venue for the course will be Knock Shrine. All details and Application Form are available on the Diocesan Website at <https://www.elphindiocese.ie/youthministryleadershiptraining2020/> Application & Registration will remain open until 31st March 2020. For more information please get in touch with Frank McGuinness, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry on 087 9880690 or email frank.mcguinness@elphindiocese.ie

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND The next (residential) Weekend (Fri 8pm to Sun 4:30pm) will be held in **Dromantine, Newry** from 31st January-2nd February. This weekend offers married couples of all ages in a good relationship, private time to rekindle the joy of their love. To book please visit our new website www.marriagecounter.ie or phone 087 2162436.

RETRouvaille – A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES Do you want to improve the communication with your spouse? Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage? Are you hurt, frustrated or angry with your spouse? Does talking about it only make it worse? The Retrouvaille programme can help marriages at all stages. **Next programme: 7th-9th February 2020.** Contact: Tony & Anne 01 4953536, Mike & Anne 01 4500922, text or call 086 4135440, or visit www.retrouvaille.ie.

SILENT RETREAT will be held from 24th February to 1st March in St. Mary's, Knock, Co. Mayo. **Theme:** "If you but knew the gift of God..." **Preached by:** Fr. Kilian Byrne. Silence, prayer, teachings & liturgy of the Church. A privileged time to come away from noise and distractions, and listen to the Spirit of God, - Who is Love. €440 full board. Website: www.foverofcharity.ie
Contact: Helen on 086 1678027 or email hellywilliams@gmail.com



CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, SLIGO NEWSLETTER

Sunday 12th January 2020

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Elphin
Diocesan
Year of
Prayer for
Vocations

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

At his baptism Jesus was revealed as the Son of God and began his work of bringing the vision of God, his justice and his liberation to people.

At our baptism each of us is given a share in this mission, so we become children of God.

RESTORATION WORK

has begun again on the exterior of our Cathedral.

If anyone wishes to donate to fund this major maintenance project please contact the Parish Office on 071 9162670 or visit the website:

www.saveaslate.com

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2020 18TH-25TH JANUARY

Theme: "They showed us unusual kindness"

Church Unity Week starts on Saturday 18th and finishes on Saturday 25th January. During this time we are asked to pray in a special way for unity among all Christians.

PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2020

Lord Jesus, Lord of wholeness, your prayer for unity amongst your disciples has fallen on closed ears and on hard hearts. Open our hearts, eyes and minds to your love and truth within all Christian people and strengthen in us the resolve to work to restore the unity of your Church and your creation to the glory of your name. Amen.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL SERVICE

in the **Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception**, Temple St. on Friday, 24th January at 7.30pm. Homilist: Rev. David Clarke, Presbyterian Minister. All welcome to attend. There will be light refreshments for all served in the Gillooly Hall after the service.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2020: 26TH-31ST JANUARY

Theme: "Living in Harmony with God's Creation."

There will be a special celebration to mark the opening of the week at **12noon Mass** on Sunday 26th January. This annual celebration gives us all the opportunity to be more aware of the unique contribution that our Catholic schools make to Irish life.

During this week we invite you to take time to reflect on the service that Catholic schools give to children, parents, families and communities. We ask you to consider how best you can offer support to the service that your child's Catholic school provides in so many different ways.

PRIEST ON DUTY: Fr. Declan Boyce

TODAY - Sunday 12th January

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Today's Feast Day: The Baptism of the Lord

8.30am Mass

10.30am Mass: (Children's Liturgy included.)

12noon Mass

7pm Mass: Tea after Mass in Upper Room

BINGO in the GILLOOLY HALL, TONIGHT, SUNDAY 12th January at 9.00pm with a JACKPOT of €1,850.

Monday 13th January

Today's Feast Day: St. Hilary

8.00am Mass: Special Intention

10.30am Mass: Fr. Desmond O'Connor (Anniversary)

11.00am: For the Elphin Diocesan Year of Prayer for Vocations the Prayers of St. Joseph's Young Priests Society will be recited each Monday in the Cathedral

7.30pm: Choir Practice (New members please contact Parish office)

Rosary every weekday morning at 10.00am.

Tuesday 14th January

8.00am Mass: Thomas Joseph Moran (Anniversary)

10.30am Mass: Agnes Fowley & (husband) John & (son) Michael (Anniversary)

8.30pm-10.00pm: Prayer Group in St. Michael's Family Life Centre

Wednesday 15th January

Today's Feast Day: St. Ita

8.00am Mass: Mary Cullen (Anniversary)

10.30am Mass: Vincent Bird (Anniversary)

Tea after 10.30am Mass

8.00pm: Prayer Meeting in Gillooly Hall.

Adoration in St. Bernadette's Chapel, Rockwood Parade, Monday to Saturday from 3.30pm to 4.30pm.

Thursday 16th January

Today's Feast Day: St. Fursa

8.00am Mass: Special Intention

10.30am Mass: Kevin McNiffe (Recently Deceased)

6.00pm: I Thirst Movement in Missionaries of Charity Sisters House, Temple Street.

8.00pm: Legion of Mary Meeting in Assumpta House, 72 John St.

Friday 17th January

Today's Feast Day: St. Anthony

8.00am Mass: Our Lady's Intentions

10.30am Mass: Paddy Branley (Anniversary)

3.00pm-4.00pm: Divine Mercy Holy Hour in Nazareth Nursing Home Oratory.

Saturday 18th January

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins today

8.00am Mass: Frances Lynch (Anniversary)

10.30am Mass: Eilish Harte (Month's Mind)

2.00pm to 4.00pm: Confessions

7 30pm Vigil Mass

This week's newsletter is sponsored in memory of all Holy Souls

Sunday Readings for 19th January

1st Reading: Is. 49:3. 5-6; 2nd Reading: 1 Cor. 1:1-3; Gospel: Jn. 1:29-34.

rest in peace

Your prayers are asked for the repose of the souls of:

EILISH HARTE (née Keaveney), Ard na Veigh;

PEGGY BURKE, Hanley Tce., Maugheraboy Rd.;

MARGARET (PEGGY) FINAN (née Coyle), St. Joseph's Tce. and

JOHN C. HARRISON, Greenfort.

May God grant them eternal rest and comfort and console their bereaved families and friends.

Restoration Fund website: www.saveaslate.com

Join us online with live WEB STREAMING on our website: www.sligocathedral.ie

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

(since figures were last published in our newsletter dated 22nd December 2019)

Sunday 22nd December 2019

PARISH ENVELOPES: €1,952.00

PLATE / STANDING ORDERS: €1,508.00

RESTORATION FUND COIN BOXES: €300.00

Christmas Day (Wednesday 25th December) 2019

CLERGY (ENVELOPES & PLATE): €10,942.00

PARISH ENVELOPES: €560.00

RESTORATION FUND COIN BOXES: €300.00

Sunday 29th December 2019

PARISH ENVELOPES: €1,135.00

PLATE / STANDING ORDERS: €1,461.00

RESTORATION FUND COIN BOXES: €303.00

Sunday 5th January 2020

PARISH ENVELOPES: €1,864.00

PLATE / STANDING ORDERS: €1,635.00

RESTORATION FUND COIN BOXES: €425.00

THANK YOU for your support of our Parish and Cathedral.