

# Beragh Parish Bulletin



**The Assumption of our Lady into Heaven**

**15<sup>th</sup> August 2021**

Parish Priest Mgr Colum Curry PP VG

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## **Parish Office Opening Hours**

Mondays: 1.00 pm - 4.00 pm; Fridays: 9.00 am - 1.30 pm.



Dear Parishioner and Gentle Reader,

Some years ago, a priest friend brought me to see a statue of Our Lady of Clonfert in a little country church not far from Portumna in Co Galway. I had never heard of it before and didn't realise that during the month of May thousands of people from various places come on pilgrimage to the parish of Clonfert, not to mention the people who come to pray throughout the year.

When we think of Mary, and especially on today's feast of the Assumption, we are inclined to imagine her heavenly beauty and glorious dignity as Mother of God.

The statue in Clonfert does not match such expectations - in fact it is far from elegant. It is carved from wood; Our Lady's left arm is missing, and the child's head has been damaged and repaired. But despite all of that, it exudes a warmth and a beauty that is very consoling. I think her brokenness is a perfect image for our world today.

Experts have dated the statue to the 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> century and reckon it may have come from one of the monastic houses in that locality.

During the time of religious suppression, the statue was hidden within a tree where it remained until the 19<sup>th</sup> century when it was discovered by a local man cutting wood.

The statue was taken for restoration to the National Museum and the following report compiled: ‘The Holy Child is fully draped as was customary in the early 14<sup>th</sup> century. Unfortunately, most of the face and the top of the head have been restored with plaster. The right arm is broken off and the two feet are worn away. The Madonna’s arm has been sawn off. Other parts are decayed, and the appearance of the whole figure has been spoiled by repainting. The Clonfert Madonna is not shown in distant solemnity but as the Mother of the Human Race. The gentle smiling Virgin has left her remote throne and stands, as it were, within reach of all, clasping her Child who turns to caress her with his hand and plays with a tress of her hair”.

In 1932 the statue was put on show during the Eucharistic Congress of that year as evidence of the long-established devotion to Our Lady in Ireland.

### **Prayer to Our Lady of Clonfert**

Our Lady of Clonfert, I come to you as one of your children, who will never forget the importance of a woman like you. I come because I believe in you. I come to say thanks for the past and the present and ask you to bless me in the future. You know me, you know how I live, and you know my needs. Please help me, especially when I need you most. I have problems, worries and anxieties the same as everyone else, help me to cope. So often I would just love to give up when life

hurts me and people betray me, but give me the courage never to lose heart. Bless my family, my life, and my friends. No matter what happens to me, help me to believe to trust and to hope.  
Our Lady of Clonfert, pray for us.

**With every blessing, Monsignor Colum.**

### **Parish Covid-19 Team**

There will be a short meeting of the Parish Covid team on Wednesday (18<sup>th</sup> August) in Beragh chapel at 7.30 pm.

### **Annual Blessing of Graves**

The blessing of all graves will be done privately during this week (16 August 2021).

### **Covid-19**

While the Executive has decided to ease the restriction of face coverings in places of worship, Church leaders are encouraging people to continue to use them as a precautionary measure against the spread of infection.

### **Mary's Meals - Step by Step to feed next Child**

Join supporters by walking at Gortin Glens Forest Park on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2021 starting at 11.00 am.  
Mullaghcarn Trail 7 km or Nature Trail 2 km - Guided walks.  
Registration from 10.00 am in main car park.  
For more information please contact Helen Quinn (07814 441 701).

## Fundraising Update - Trócaire

In the coming weeks and months, it is possible that a Trócaire fundraiser may call to your home inviting monthly donations. Fundraising representatives will be wearing Trócaire blue branded jackets and face masks and will adhere to COVID compliance guidelines to ensure safety measures are met.

The door-to-door campaign allows us to reach people who have not donated to our Lenten appeal and also gives people the choice to donate in different ways. Monthly donations help Trócaire to plan ahead and have greater impact with the communities we exist to serve.

PS If you would like to contact Trócaire directly on any matter related to this initiative, you can contact Louise Walker on 00353 5053 225 or [louise.walker@trocaire.org](mailto:louise.walker@trocaire.org)

## Do you want to learn more about your Faith?

If you are interested, why not consider joining our Theology programme. The course takes two years with one night per week and two weekends over the academic year and is accredited by St Patrick's College, Maynooth. There are no educational entry requirements, and completion of the course is based on submitted work and does not include sitting exams.

Our Theology course will be continuing this year, starting on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September. If you are interested, and would like more information, please contact Milanda at [milanda@parishandfamily.ie](mailto:milanda@parishandfamily.ie)

## Summary of Beragh Parish Collections

Weekly Envelopes: £ 465

Loose Collection: £ 20

### **Other Collections**

Candles: £ 95

Building Fund: £ 270

Priest's Dues: £ 390

**Total: £1,240**

## Grant them Eternal Rest, O Lord

All names on the Parish Dead List

**Recently Deceased:** Mary Dooley; Jimmy McElhatton; Maureen McGarrity;  
Kathleen McKee; Gussie McDonald.

### Church of Immaculate Conception, Beragh

<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	Private Intention.
	<b>11.30 am</b>	Paddy McGarvey; Mary and Mick Grimes; Tommy McCann.
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	Private Intention.
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>8.30 am</b>	Private Intention.
<b>Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> August</b>	<b>12 noon</b>	Wedding (Restricted Numbers).
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	Private Intention.
	<b>11.30 am</b>	Michael McNelis.

### Church of St Malachy, Seskinore

<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>7.30 pm</b>	Private Intention.
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### Church of St Patrick, Drumduff

<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	John and Brigid Ward.
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>7.30 pm</b>	Leo Loughran.

### Oratory, Sixmilecross

The Rosary and Masses from the Oratory are available on You Tube. Search for “sixmilecross oratory youtube”.

## **Beragh Red Knights GAA**

Last week's lotto numbers were 11, 12, 16, 17 & 28. No jackpot winner this week but the £50 is shared among Noel Franey, John F Mullan and the McSorley children. Next week's jackpot is £12,100 and tickets can be bought online on Klubfunder <https://www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/BeraghRedKnightsGAA> or at local shops.

In ladies' football, our minors are in championship action this week. The girls face a tough test against Urney on Tuesday evening. Throw in at 7.00 pm. Later in the week, our seniors continue their league campaign against Clann na Gael. With games coming thick and fast, please follow us on Facebook and Instagram for regular updates on games and results.

Due to a number of covid cases, Tyrone's All-Ireland senior football semi-final was unfortunately postponed. The Club would like to wish any individual who has contacted the virus a speedy recovery, and the best of luck for the game, which is now taking place on Saturday (21<sup>st</sup> August) in Croke Park. The Club would also like to remind our members that coronavirus is still a major issue in our society, and that certain measures such as social distancing, wearing masks and washing hands are simple but effective methods of avoiding the virus. This is a responsibility each and every one of us needs to take seriously.

## **Radio Maria**

Thank God and sincere thanks also to our many listeners and supporters as RADIO MARIA IRELAND continues to grow. As an Irish run Catholic Talk Radio Station we enjoy commercial free broadcasting. We offer Prayer, Catechesis, Uplifting Music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies. So do join our growing faith family. Here is how you can listen:

- 1 Via Digital TV - Saorview 210
- 2 Download our **free** App "Radio Maria Ireland"
- 3 Streaming on our website - [www.maria.ie](http://www.maria.ie)
- 4 Via our "Listen Live Radio" link on our Facebook page
- 5 Via phone - get live radio feed by calling 353 (0) 14373277 (no extra charges apply)

Why not drop a line to our Priest Director, Fr Eamonn McCarthy, at Maria Ireland, St Anthony's Business Park, Ballymount Road, Dublin 22

## **Prayer by Telephone**

The Sisters of Mercy at "Bethany" House of Prayer, 34 Point Road, Dundalk, welcome any person who may wish to request prayer, especially during these difficult times. Telephone 00353 (42) 9331602, from 9.00 am to 9.00 pm daily. One of the Sisters will be happy to listen and pray with you. All requests are confidential.

### **Important Information about the Parish Webcam**

The web camera in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Beragh has been upgraded. Anyone wishing to watch Mass etc. being streamed from Beragh Parish should go to the parish website [www.beraghparish.com](http://www.beraghparish.com) for the new link or go to [www.churchmedia.tv](http://www.churchmedia.tv) Anyone with a set top box should search for Church Media to add that channel. Any problems with the set top box, please call 07879 606 583. You will also notice on the bottom left hand corner an

additional camera choice: “Baptismal” which focuses on the baptismal font for the celebration of baptisms and “Mobile” which is available for Devotions and is only available when streaming is active.

### **Mass arrangements for Beragh Parish**

All Masses from Church of the Immaculate Conception, Beragh are streamed via webcam.

To log on please go to: [www.beraghparish.com](http://www.beraghparish.com)