

The World's Shortest St Patrick's Day Parade? At a distance of 142M from the Church to the Rising Tide, do we have the shortest St. Patrick's Day Parade in Ireland? Our parade, however short, is packed with participants who will set off from the church after 9:30am Mass (around 10:10am) lead by local piper, Jerry O'Donohue. Local groups participating will provide traditional and popular music, Irish dancing, singing, refreshments and a children's fun tent. A world class parade of vintage tractors, motor cycles and cars - the oldest car being close to 100 years old. Local groups will have displays and sign up for our Text Alert system and Alarm FOB system for the elderly. Our St Patrick's Day parade is always a popular event and you are encouraged to arrive early and park safely. Traffic arrangements will start at 9:15am and will include restricted parking around the church centre and access to the village centre except for residents. There will be traffic diversions for traffic coming down the hill from the Dry Bridge.

The Cobh Branch of the Organisation of National ex-Servicemen & Women would like to sincerely thank you for your generosity during their recent Church Gate Collection.

GCA Church Gate Collection – A big thank you to all who contributed last weekend. €887 was raised.

Leeside AFC LOTTO Numbers: 2, 17, 25 & 27 NO WINNER! €30 Winners: Chip, Mary Coughlan & Kate/Sarah Next Week's Jackpot: **€20,000**

Erins Own Lotto Results – 24th February. Numbers drawn: 2,4,15,18. No winner. €30: M Guinee. G O'Flynn, DD Sheehan. Next week's jackpot: €2,040.

Knockraha Area Community Association Annual Variety Concert will take place on Fri.4th.March @ 8pm in Knockraha Community Hall. We are presently preparing our programme and are inviting members of our parish community to be part of this event by taking part in the comedy sketches, singing and dancing. Youth talent is especially welcome. If you know of suitable acts please contact any member of above Association or 086/8125284

An Innovative & Practical Course - Do you have a strong commitment to social justice and promoting equality? Have you ever wondered about your ways of working? Are you interested in reflecting with others, and learning about the under-lying assumptions, motivations, feelings and beliefs that shape your community practice choices? Are you interested in being better able to bring about positive change in your own community or with the organisations you are involved in? This part-time SHEP course **commencing in March 2016** will be of interest to a wide range of people in voluntary, paid and professional capacities involved in a various roles in their communities. A collaboration between Bon Secours Cork Community Initiative Fund, Cork Volunteer Centre, HSE & SHEP. No Course Fee. €10 deposit required. For Further Information: Contact the Course Coordinator: Liam McCarthy, SHEP (021) 4666180 or liam.mccarthy@socialandhealth.com

Glounthaune Parish **Newsletter – Sunday 28th February** **Third Sunday of Lent**

Fr Ted Sheehan – 087 2033756

Fr John Heinhold – 087 1689292

Emergency – 086 8845055

Parish Office – 021 4353366

Parish Office Opening Hours

Monday – 9am – 1pm & 6pm – 7pm

Tuesday: 9am - 1pm.

Thursday: 9am - 1pm & 5.30pm – 7.30pm

Friday: 9am - 1pm

Weekday Mass Times for Lent

Monday to Friday @ 10am in Glounthaune and at 7pm in Little Island.

Weekend Mass Times

6pm, 9.30am & 12noon in Glounthaune.

10am in Knockraha & 11am in Little Island.

Rosary every weekday morning before 10am Mass. **Eucharistic Service** in Glounthaune Church, Saturdays at 10am.

The Legion of Mary meet on Thursday nights at 7.30pm in the church centre. New members welcome. Contact 086 2524718 for information.

Christian Meditation each Friday from 10.30am to 11am in the prayer room, Church Centre. Everyone welcome. Contact 021 4354479 or 087 6697664.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held in our Parish on

Tuesday 7pm – 9pm in the Church Centre
Wednesday 10am – 6pm in the Church Centre

Friday 4pm – 7pm in Little Island

First Friday: Knockraha - Rosary at 7pm, Mass at 7.30pm and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass.

St Vincent de Paul Helpline
021 4270444 or 087 1520360

“The bush, though on fire, was not consumed” Exodus ch3. What a sight, this burning bush must have been to Moses! But what exactly was it? Did this fire signify God's desire that everyone worship Him alone – as in Deuteronomy ch4? Does God want to burn away all the other “gods” that we have set up in His place? Perhaps the fire represents God's judgement against sin? To those who repent, it is a cleansing fire, but to those who turn away, it is a condemning fire? Jesus talked about fire this way a few times in His preaching (see Matthew ch18). The fact that the fire engulfed the bush, but did not burn it away gives us great hope – Our God never gives up! Perhaps we might focus on how God chose an everyday item from the natural world – an ordinary bush to display His glory. God is present everywhere, He works through all events, both big and little, to bring us closer to Him. We are also pointed towards the fire of the Holy Spirit who can transform us, ordinary people, into the image of God (Acts ch2). Lent is a time when our God wants to purify us. It's a time when He tells us, just as He told Moses and the People of Israel, that He wants to have no false Gods before Him. (Exodus ch20). To that end, Lent is a perfect time for us to invite the Fire of the Holy Spirit into our hearts so that we, everyday people, can be a source of Blessing to all we meet. So, let's make it a point this Lent to ask Jesus to send His fire to purify our hearts and empower our lives, to set us on fire for Him and his Church



Michael O'Sullivan, Kilnamartyra, whose funeral took place last Sunday. We extend our sympathy to his brother Pat & family, Kilcoolishal.

Edward Barrett, Enniskeane whose funeral took place on Thursday. We extend our sympathy to his daughter Etta Martin & family, Kilcoolishal.

Philip Dowley, Mayfield whose funeral took place this weekend. We extend our sympathy to his daughter Marion McCoy & family.

On this Monday 29th February, the Parish Office will open at 10.30am.

Next Friday 4th is the First Friday in March. Fr Ted & Fr John will visit the sick and housebound at the usual times.

Lenten Reflection

Last week's newsletter looked at the Spiritual Works of Mercy as part of our Lenten journey. This week we take a look at the Corporal Works of Mercy. They are:

- To feed the hungry
- To give drink to the thirsty
- To clothe the naked
- To welcome the stranger
- To heal the sick
- To visit the imprisoned
- To bury the dead

St. John of the Cross said "In the eve of our lives we will be judged on our love". In the Corporal and Spiritual acts of mercy we give witness to the fruits and gifts of the Spirit. (Galatian 5:22).

For it is in serving others that we serve Christ Himself: "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40)

The first three Corporal Works of Mercy remind us that in our Lenten fasts, the

money we save should be set aside to give to charities who help the homeless in our society & further afield.

All citizens in our society who work and pay taxes and the government should ensure, in right justice, that our tax money is not used for the benefit of inflated expenses and pensions for our politicians but should help the truly needy in our communities.

Welcoming the stranger means that we extend the hand of friendship to people who become our new neighbours.

The Christian response to the refugee Crisis in Europe is that we should all make an effort and share the burden of responsibility.

Many of us will never have to visit a loved one in prison but we should pray for all who are in prison and for those groups within our Church who have a Special Ministry to prisoners and prison staff.

Finally, the last Corporal Work of Mercy is to bury the dead. A civilized society shows respect for the dead and honour their memory with a dignified resting place. It was heartwarming recently to see an undertaker in Copley Street offer to repatriate the bodies of the two brothers from Turners Cross who died in England recently.

We should also remember to help maintain the upkeep of our local cemeteries.

Masses for the week ahead

Monday 29th Glounthaune @ 10am: Peter Rota Months Mind

Monday 29th Little Island @ 7pm: Jim & Eileen Horan

Tuesday 1st Glounthaune @ 10am: Tim Looney

Tuesday 1st Little Island @ 7pm: Paddy O'Leary

Wednesday 2nd Glounthaune @ 10am: Special Intention for the unborn

Wednesday 2nd Little Island @ 7pm: ----

Thursday 3rd Glounthaune @ 10am: Mass for the people of the parish

Thursday 3rd Little Island @ 7pm: -----

Friday 4th Glounthaune @ 10am: Mary O'Brien

Friday 4th Little Island @ 7pm: -----

Mass Intentions 5th/6th March

Saturday, Glounthaune @ 6pm: -----

Sunday, Glounthaune @ 9.30am: Ann Harrington and William Hickey

Sunday, Knockraha @ 10am: Tadhg Murphy

Sunday, Little Island @ 11am: Tom & Kathleen O'Flynn

Sunday, Glounthaune @ 12 noon: Vincent Bowen

Spring Station Masses

Clash Rd in the home of Rachel & Eamon Crowley on Fri 4th March @ 8pm

St Lappan's Place in the home of Andrew & Hilda Keohane on Friday 11th March @8pm.

Windsor Hill, Corryfield & Sunville in the home of Cora & Owen Cashman on Friday 18th March @ 8pm

Blossomgrove, Ballyvisteale & Ballinagoul in the home of Tom & Martina Murphy on Monday 4th April.

Killahora South & Killacloyne in the home of Eleanor & Eddie Tanner.

Thank you to those who have volunteered to host the station Mass in their homes this spring. We are appealing to families to host the Mass in the following areas: Killeena, Maryville & Glenmore, Caherlag & Rougrane, Annmount, Richmond & Ballinglanna, Dunkettle, Woodville & North Esk, Courtstown, Brooklodge Village, Newline, The Acres & Copperalley, Ballyvinny &

Coolnacaha, Highlands North & Cois Chuain, Highlands Central, Rockgrove, Kilcoolishal & Tower Hill, Lackenroe & Carbertown, Glyntown, Corbally & Chestnut Meadows, Island Cross, Ballyverry & Castleview, Johnstown. **If you would like to host a station Mass but have it celebrated in the Church Centre, we would be delighted to hear from you too. Perhaps a few areas could get together and organize this. Contact the parish office (021 4353366) if you are interested in hosting the Mass in your home or in the Church centre.**

A leap year is a year with 366 days, instead of the usual 365. Leap years are necessary because the actual length of a year is 365.242 days, not 365 days, as commonly stated. Basically, leap years occur every 4 years, and years that are evenly divisible by 4 (2016, for example) have 366 days. This extra day is added to the calendar on February 29th. However, there is one exception to the leap year rule involving century years, like the year 2000. Since the year is slightly less than 365.25 days long, adding an extra day every 4 years results in about 3 extra days being added over a period of 400 years. For this reason, only 1 out of every 4 century years is considered as a leap year. Century years are only considered as leap years if they are evenly divisible by 400.

Items for the newsletter should be submitted by Wednesday at 5pm. Email glounthauneparish@eircom.net or phone 021 4353366. The newsletter is available in local shops and post office.

It is a condition of acceptance of any notice or advertisement for this newsletter that no liability whatsoever is accepted for any loss or damage suffered by anyone by virtue of inaccuracies, errors, misstatements or otherwise.