

Parish of Stranorlar

Church of Mary Immaculate

PRIESTS: Rev. Kieran McAteer, P.P. Tel. 9131135
Rev. Anthony Briody, C.C. Tel. 9131157
St. Mary's Parish Centre Tel. 9175853
St. Vincent de Paul Tel. 087 9955351
Parish Website - www.stranorlarparish.ie
Email - stranorlarparish@gmail.com
Facebook - St Mary's RC Parish Stranorlar
Live Streaming - churchservices.tv/stranorlar

25th Sunday of the Year - 19th September 2021

MASSES: Weekdays: Monday - Saturday 10am.
Saturday - 6pm (Vigil) Sunday - 9am & 11am.

All masses can be viewed on churchservices.tv/stranorlar

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 12 -1pm & 5.15pm - 5.45pm

ADORATION: Thursday from 10.30am - 7.30pm.

BAPTISMS: Every Sunday & 1st Saturday of the Month.
To book contact the Parish Office on 9131135 on Mondays,
Tuesdays or Fridays between 10am -12.30pm.

Recent Deaths: We offer sympathy to the families, relatives and friends of Dan McCrudden, Cois Na Finn, Ballybofey who was buried on Wednesday and Con Doherty, Ard McCool, Stranorlar who was buried Thursday. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

Months Mind's: The 10am Mass on Thursday 23rd September will be offered for the repose of the soul of Susan Hegarty, Drumboe Ave.

The 11am Mass on Sunday 26th September will be offered for the repose of the soul of Sr. Imelda Burke, Blackrock Drive.

1st Anniversaries: The 10am Mass on Friday 24th September will be offered for the repose of the soul of Seamus Barron, Aghashiell.

The 6pm Mass on Saturday 25th September will be offered for the repose of the soul of Maureen McGurk, St. Vincent's Close.

First Holy Communion: We congratulate the boys and girls from Dooish N.S., Robertson N.S. & Welchtown N.S. who made their First Communion yesterday. Many people contributed to this ceremony making it a wonderful occasion. We thank all concerned very sincerely.

Parish Draw: We are hoping to begin our annual Parish Draw in early October. This year, however, because of restrictions it will have a different format. It will take place on line. The draw has always been well supported over the years and we hope that it will be a success this year too. We will give more details in the weeks to come.

Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

There is no such question as to who is "the greatest in the service of God". We are all infinitely loveable in the sight of God.

Competition starts very young in life – we have here a story about jealousies among the first disciples of Jesus. He has just spoken about his death and now they are arguing who is the best of the group. But he does not get involved in their argument instead he calls a child – the child was a nobody in those days and greets that child with love. He does not ask us here to become like little children but to welcome them just as they are. He is somehow highlighting something very important – welcome and hospitality. A welcome for everyone in the love of God and in the church. This was his lesson to their jealousies. Our care for all whom we meet. Our care should also extend not just to each other as individuals but to all of creation.

We are here to care for and not subdue creation. This requires a change of mindset.

Climate change affects us all; but it affects the poorest and weakest of us most of all. Children, suffering poverty and hunger, families made homeless, farmland made barren or flooded. We have a duty to act to protect these most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters.

Take time each day to give thanks for the earth, for the food we eat and the air we breathe. Give thanks for the beauty of creation – the things that nurture not our bodies but our souls. The quiet places we escape to when the busyness of life is too much, the beauty of nature which can brighten our dark days. The more we remember to be grateful for the earth the more we will remember our duty to care for it. Jesus reminded His disciples that they must be humble servants – in our care for creation we are the humble servants of future generations.

This week – start making some small changes: refuse plastic in a store; turn off lights you do not need; it won't change the world immediately but if we all get into this mindset, things can change.

Why care – because the heart of God goes out to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.