

Parish of Stranorlar

Church of Mary Immaculate

PRIESTS: Rev. Kieran McAteer, P.P. Tel. 9131135
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Facebook - St Mary's RC Parish Stranorlar

Ascension of the Lord - 29th May 2022

MASSES: Saturday - 6pm (Vigil) Sunday - 9am & 11am
Weekdays - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday 10am.
Friday 10am & 7.30pm

CONFESSIONS: Thursday 7pm - 7.30pm,
Saturday 12 - 1pm & 5.15pm - 5.45pm.

ADORATION: Thursday 10.30am - 7.30pm.

BAPTISMS: Every Sunday - 12 noon & 1st Saturday of every month.
To book contact the Parish Office on 9131135 on Fridays between 10am – 12.30pm. (Please give two weeks notice) The Baptism Teams are available to visit families again.

Recent Deaths: We offer sympathy to the families, relatives and friends of Hugh Brogan, Drumboe Lower who was buried on Thursday and Phyllis Roarty, Kilross who's funeral takes place this Sunday. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

Blessing of Graves – Sunday 5th June: These services will take place in Drumboe Graveyard at 6pm and in Stranorlar Graveyard at 7.15pm.
A one-way traffic system will be in place for Drumboe Graveyard again this year entering at Drumboe Ave.

Sessiaghoniell Blessing of Graves: This service will also take place on Sunday 5th June immediately after 11am Mass.

Raphoe Diocese: National Eucharistic Adoration Pilgrimage to Knock on Saturday 18th June. Bus leaving Letterkenny for Knock at 7.30 a.m. sharp, cost €25. To enquire or book a seat, ring 0863074435. For additional information, see www.eucharisticadoration.ie

Parish Secretary: This week we say farewell to our secretary Breege Cannon after 25 years of dedicated service to the parish of Stranorlar. We wish to thank Breege sincerely for her loyalty, dedicated work and sense of service to the people of the parish. May she enjoy many years of healthy retirement.

Confirmation: We congratulate the boys and girls from St. Marys N.S., Dooish N.S., Roberston N.S. and Welchtown N.S. who made their confirmation yesterday. Many people contribute to this ceremony making it a wonderful occasion. We thank all concerned very sincerely.

Minister of the Word for June: Saturday 6pm - Kathy Taaffe.
Sunday 9am - Wendy Mc Nulty. 11am - Helen Kelly.

Minister of the Eucharist: Saturday 6pm - Marion Duffy & Ann Marie Sweeney. Sunday 9am - Ciaran Roarty. 11am - John Patton & Donal Sweeney.

Catholic Home-schooling: Are you looking for an Irish curriculum? Mater Dei Education are holding an information evening on Wednesday, 1st of June at 8pm in The Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny. For more information call Grace on 085 7289 675 or Breda on 086 8065040.

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD: The Lord is absent : that was the first experience of Jesus' followers after his death. But even though he has returned to his Father, he is with us. Today's feast is the celebration that he is present both in heaven and on earth. It took just this small group to begin something which would change the world forever. Jesus knew his mission to spread God's kingdom on earth was for everyone, everywhere and all times. The way he ensured this was to leave us for heaven and send out ordinary men and women, apostles and disciples to bring his word and work to all throughout the ages and to us today. The feast today of the Ascension is what we might call, 'Upwards and Onwards'. The Lord has moved into a new way of life, being with us now from heaven. Our faith is that he is caring all the time for us and for his church. Pope St John 23rd used to pray at night: "Ah Lord, I'm tired and going to bed. it's your church, so look after it!". We try our best as his disciples to work with him and the community of the church in his service. In times when the church is under a lot of pressure, both inside and outside, we need to work in prayer with the Lord and in listening to his word. Also, in working together, like the apostles, we are sent each day in his name. We do this in ordinary love in our relationships and in caring for those most in need as best we can. We show our living Christian faith in our acts of loving care – the care we show for the marginalized and the dispossessed in our own communities or those who have been driven to our shores by war or climate change. His last words were to assure us of this presence which 'would clothe us from on high' and his last gesture was a blessing. As we bless ourselves today and during the week, we can recall that in this action, the Lord is blessing us. In your name and power O Lord, I want to live my life in love. Amen.