

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

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time 19th February 2023 **Temperance Sunday**

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

CONFESSIONS: 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.

Ash Wednesday: Wednesday 22nd February is Ash Wednesday and a day of fast and abstinence. Ashes will be blessed and distributed at all the Masses. Please note that the early Mass will be at 7.30am in order to give more people the opportunity to come to Mass for Lent.

Trocaire Boxes: Lenten Trocaire Boxes are available in the porches.

Month's Mind: The 6.00pm mass on Saturday 25th February will be offered for the repose of the soul of Ronan Roddy, Trenamullin.

1st Anniversary: The 6pm mass on Saturday 25th February will be offered for the repose of the soul of Derek (Day) Reid, Ballinamona, Donegal Road.

ACCORD: We would be delighted to hear from you if you're interested in becoming an Accord Marriage Preparation facilitator. Contact marriagepreparation@accord.ie for information on recruitment and training

What are you doing for Lent? We are excited to launch a Lenten Programme in our parish for Lent called *Sycamore*. Sycamore is an informal course about the Christian faith and its relevance for life today. It gives you space to meet people and share ideas. Each session involves a short film and time for discussion. You are invited to join us in the Parish Centre from 8pm to 9pm for the five Thursdays of March (2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th) for a short film, conversation and food for thought. We hope you can join us.

Temperance Sunday: The Sunday before Ash Wednesday is designated as 'Temperance Sunday' when we honour the grace of Temperance, especially as related to the abuse of intoxicating drink. The Raphoe Diocesan Pioneer Council is again this year in keeping with the aim of the Association organising 'the Promotion of Sobriety and Temperance' where a person makes a private pledge to abstain from alcohol during Lent and say a special prayer.

The Annual Diocesan Mass: As part of a Day of Atonement for Survivors and Victims of Clerical abuse a mass will take place in St. Eunan's Cathedral, Letterkenny on Friday 24 February at 10am. A Candle of Atonement will be lit. The Day of Prayer has been marked in Irish dioceses and parishes since 2017. If you believe you need support, please check the Safeguarding Posters in the porch for contact details.

Diocesan Planning: The Diocese of Raphoe is planning for the future; a future that it sees as very different from the present. An early step in the planning is to gather information from the Parishes. One piece of information needed is the numbers attending masses in our Churches on Sundays and week days. This survey began throughout the Diocese on Monday last and will continue for 3 weeks until Sunday the 5th March. The members of the Legion of Mary have kindly agreed to do this count here in our Church and this is very much appreciated.

Raphoe Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023: The Raphoe Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023 will depart from The City of Derry Airport on Tuesday 23rd May 2023 for 5 nights. The Pilgrimage will be led by Most Reverend Bishop Alan Mc Guckian, SJ, with Pilgrimage Director, Fr Stephen Gorman. The cost of the Pilgrimage is €879, fully inclusive. To book please contact Joe Walsh Tours DIRECTLY on 01 2410800.

Day of Prayer for Temperance

It is hard to forgive and forget, but Jesus asks us to go one step further: we must love those who offend us - be forgiving and tolerant of our enemies. If we strive to achieve this Jesus favours us with his compassion and love.