

# *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

### **6th Sunday after Easter 14th May 2023**

**MASSES:** Saturday - 6pm (Vigil) Sunday - 9am & 11am  
Weekdays Monday - Friday 10am Saturday 9.30am

**CONFESSIONS:** Thursday 7.00pm - 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 Death:** We offer our sincere sympathy to the family, relatives and friends of Kathleen Merritt, Formerly of Ard Mc Carron, Ballybofey, who's funeral took place on Wednesday. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace

**Month Mind:** The 10am Mass on Friday 19th May will be offered for the repose of the soul of Margaret O'Brien, Donegal Road. The 6pm Mass on Saturday 20th May will be offered for the repose of the soul of Hugh Brogan, Drumboe Lower, Stranorlar.

**Variety Concert:** will be held by The Church of Ireland in the Henderson Hall (opposite the church) on Saturday 13th May commencing 8pm admission at door €10 Proceeds for church funds. All welcome for a good nights fun

**First Holy Communion 2023:** We congratulate the boys & girls from St. Mary's 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.

**First Holy Communion 2023:** The children from Dooish N.S., Robertson N.S and Welchtown N.S. will make their First Communion next Saturday 20th May at 11am. We hope this will be a very joyous occasion for all concerned.

**Holy Hour Vigil:** Sisters of the Home of the Mother are having a Holy Hour Vigil on Saturday May 27th at 7:30pm and a Family Day on Sunday, May 28th (Pentecost) from 11am to 6pm at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Parochial Hall and House. All are welcome. For more information and to register for the Family Day please contact the Servant Sisters of the Home of the Mother at: [hmactivitiesireland@gmail.com](mailto:hmactivitiesireland@gmail.com)

**Relay for Life:** This year we have decided to put in "Team Ballybofey & Stranorlar". If you'd like to be part of our team please click the link below and sign up. If you register with us before Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> I can order a t-shirt for you. <https://www.relayforlife.ie/join/TeamBallybofeyandStranorlar>  
This event will take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> June in Letterkenny. Each team will have a participant or several participants walking at all times throughout the 24hrs. This amazing event gives participants an opportunity to celebrate and remember both survivors and victims of cancer. All money raised goes towards this charity. There is a link attached for more information. <https://donegalrelayforlife.com/>.

**Abortion:** Changing the Narrative – a Statement of the Catholic Bishops: Five years on from the May 2018 referendum which removed the constitutional guarantee of the equal right to life of unborn children and their mothers, the Bishops of Ireland have issued a statement which also takes into account the recent review by Government of the abortion legislation introduced following the referendum. At that time the bishops said, “*a new situation now exists in Ireland. It is essential for us as a Church, which cares passionately about the gift of life, and wants to support both mothers and their unborn children, to seek better ways of responding to this new and very challenging reality*”. Today, bishops reaffirm the deep conviction of our faith, namely, that the dignity of every human life, from conception to natural death, is a value for the whole of society, rooted in reason as well as in faith. No matter what legislation is passed, the fundamental right to life for all human beings at every stage of development still prevails. The bishops remain convinced that the relevant law, the *Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018* will, in due course, be repealed. In the meantime, the Church will continue to seek loving and supportive protection for every mother and for every child in the womb, including babies diagnosed with a disability or a life-limiting condition. The bishops will continue to do their best to change the narrative through dialogue and by testifying, in season and out of season, to the Gospel of Life. How can People of Faith help? Read the full statement (which is available in the church and also on [www.catholicbishops.ie](http://www.catholicbishops.ie)).