

# *Parish of Stranorlar*

## *Church of Mary Immaculate*

**PRIESTS:** Rev. Kieran McAteer, P.P. Tel. 9131135  
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Live Streaming - [churchservices.tv/stranorlar](http://churchservices.tv/stranorlar)  
Facebook - St Mary's RC Parish Stranorlar

### **13th Sunday in Ordinary Time 2nd July 2023**

**MASSSES:** Saturday - 6pm (Vigil) Sunday - 9am & 11am  
Weekdays Monday - Thursday 10am Friday 10am & 7.30pm  
Saturday 10am

**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.

**Visitation of the Sick:** Tuesday - Ballybofey Town & Country  
Wednesday - Stranorlar Town & Country

**Visitations will take place on Tuesday 11th & Wednesday 12th July**

**1st Anniversary:** The 7.30pm Mass on Friday 7th July will be offered for the repose of the soul of Mary Doherty, Donegal Road, Ballybofey.

**Month Mind:** The 6.00pm Mass on Saturday 8th July will be offered for the repose of the soul of Willie Mc Dermott, Letterkenny and formerly Meenahorna, Ballybofey.

**Rose Tea:** A Rose Tea will take place at the home of Aubrey & Kaye Barclay, 'Meadowbrook', Drumboe Lower, Ballybofey, F93 XCKO from 11am to 8pm on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July. Donations will be shared between Cancer Research & Stranorlar Church of Ireland. Everyone is welcome.

**The Alzheimer Café:** will take place on Wednesday 12th July at the Villa Rose Hotel from 11.30am to 1pm. Everyone is welcome. Our guest speaker is Mary Kara from Donegal Mindfulness. Hope to see you there.

**Photographic Journey around the Finn Valley & many other parts of Donegal:** Enda Hughes of Cappry is launching his new book in the Villa Rose Hotel on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July between 6pm and 9pm. Everyone is welcome. All the proceeds of the book will be going to the Donegal Hospice, Plant Youth Ballybofey and Cunamh

**Baptisms:** The following children were received into the Christian community of Stranorlar recently – Sophie Sadie Sweeney Mc Glynn, Joey James Sweeney, Emily Susie Kelly, Adam Jay Brogan, Nela Szczepanska, Jack Duddy, Amara Elvina Horne, Éadha West, Henry Geordie Mc Glinchey, Amelia Mc Menamin, Caitlin Bernadette Doherty, Iseult-Mila Mc Connell, Jordan Mathew Sijo John, Caoilinn Burke, Rachel Maria Mc Elhinney, Cianán O'Donnell, Clara Ann Flangan, Charlie Thomas Cassidy Mc Daid, Kenny Whiteman, Thembelani Moyo, Siyabonga Whiteman, Jarmaine Whiteman, Shane Whiteman, Ella Mary Doherty, Matthew Ellis Curran, Louie Maverick Ledard, Tory May Mc Devitt, Elena Anne Sweeney, Millie Demi Barclay Bradley, Ólan Martin Callaghan, Conor William Gamble, Evie Gallen, Tallulah Bradley, Jax Noel Griffin Farren, Aria-Rae Dowd, Noah Christopher Mc Laughlin & Myles Dan Lynch.

### ***THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 2nd July 2023***

Christ is no farther away than the people we meet every day. His cry for help is heard in the needs of the poor, homeless, and those rejected by society. Help us to hear and respond to His cry. Jesus' requirements for joining his movement would have shocked those who heard him. Family was as central an institution in those days as economics is in our world. A student I knew in school thought of joining the Jesuits but when he heard that Jesuit life was austere, and instant obedience was demanded, he had second thoughts. I served in a number of American parishes and saw many people enter the RCIA programme with a view to becoming Catholic. Some dropped out before taking the final step at Easter, and citing belief in Catholic teaching on the Eucharist or the church's position on sexual morality as too much to take. If anything attracts people to Christ it is the enthusiasm, joy and commitment of believers. People with long, grave and grim faces attract nobody. The late Catholic apologist, Hilaire Belloc, once said, "Wherever the Catholic sun does shine, there is laughter and good red wine!" Good Catholics know how to live their faith joyfully and carry it with conviction. Jesus Christ is the centre of our faith, not austerity or the rules of the church. Who is Jesus Christ for you? That requires not only some thinking about and a bit of reading, but especially prayer. Saying prayers is not necessarily prayer. Prayer is dialogue between God and us, a dialogue initiated by the Spirit of God. Spirituality centres today are offering contemplative prayer opportunities. The lost prayer of contemplative listening is being rediscovered today. Pope Francis often uses the term 'encounter with Christ' to describe the action of God when people use the words of sacred scripture, especially the gospels, for quiet mindful prayer.