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GOOD FRIDAY: On this day, when "Christ our paschal lamb was sacrificed" what had long been promised in signs and figures was at last revealed and brought to fulfillment. The true lamb replaced the symbolic lamb, and the many offerings of the past gave way to the single sacrifice of Christ. The wonderful works of God among the people of the Old Testament were a prelude to the work of Christ the Lord. He achieved his task of redeeming humanity and giving perfect glory to God, principally by the paschal mystery at his blessed passion, resurrection from the dead, and glorious ascension, whereby dying he destroyed our death and rising he restored our life (Preface of Easter). For it was from the side of Christ as he slept the sleep of death upon the cross that there came forth the sublime sacrament of the whole Church. In contemplating the cross of its Lord and Bridegroom, the Church commemorates its own origin and its mission to extend to all peoples the blessed effects of Christ's passion that it celebrates on this day in a spirit of thanksgiving for his marvelous gift.

HOLY SATURDAY: On Holy Saturday the Church is as it were in the lord's tomb, meditating on his passion and death, and on his descent into hell and awaiting his resurrection with prayer and fasting. The image of Christ Crucified or lying in the tomb, or the descent into hell, which mystery Holy Saturday recalls. This is the night when the Church keeps vigil, waiting for the resurrection of the Lord. The Passover Vigil, in which the Hebrews kept watch for the lord's Passover which was to free them from slavery to Pharaoh, prefigured the true Pasch of Christ that was to come. For the resurrection of Christ in which he 'broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave' is the foundation of our faith and hope, and through Baptism and Confirmation we are inserted into the paschal mystery of Christ, dying, buried, and raised with him, and with him we shall also reign. The full meaning of this Vigil is a waiting for the coming of the Lord.

Please Note - The Easter Vigil is 'The Mother of all Vigils' (St. Augustine) and is the most important Solemn Liturgy of the year, therefore it will last a little longer than the usual Vigil Mass!



BAPTISMS – We welcome into our Christian Community – Alfie Thomas Semple, Betts Road. **Baptism** will take place in St. Patrick's Church on the following dates: **April:** Sun 1st, Sat 7th, 14th & 21st. (*Sun. at 12.15 pm. and 4.30 pm. on a Sat.) Drumsurn & Gortnaghey by arrangement.*



DO THIS IN MEMORY PROGRAMME. LEARNING ABOUT THE MASS WITH KATH AND QUMEN. The Sign of Peace - When we are at Mass we are there as part of God's family. At communion time we are invited to the Lord's Table to share the Bread of Life. It is like being asked to sit down and eat together and that is hard to do if we are not friends with someone else in the family. At this point in the Mass, as members of God's family who are about to share the Bread of Life together, we are invited to share a sign of peace with those around us. This is usually done by shaking hands and saying, 'Peace be with you.' We answer, 'And with your spirit.'

PREPARE FOR BAPTISM PROGRAMME: On Mon. 9th & Wed. 25th April at 7.30 pm. in the Conference Room.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION: £2,217. *Thank you to all who contributed.*

OFFERTORY GIFT ENVELOPES – Will be distributed during the week.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH - *Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist for April:* **6.00 pm.** – Annie Jo Kealey & Rory McGilligan. **9.00 am.** – Eamon Dallett, Margaret McCloskey & Agnes Bonner. **11.30 am.** – Monica Mullin, Bernadette & Martin Millar. **ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH** - *Readers for April:* **6.00 pm.** – Emma Harkin. **9.00 am.** – Seamus Mullin. **11.30 am.** – Cora O'Kane.

ALTAR SOCIETY FOR APRIL - *St Patrick's* – Bernadette Millar. **Imm. Concept.** – Glenda Ferris & Noeleen Burke. **St. Matthew's** – Teresa Taggart & Claire Downey. **Ground Maintenance:** Eunan Rafferty & Sean Canning.

COLLECTORS FOR APRIL — *St. Patrick's* - **6.00 pm.** – Fionnbharr Grieve, Louis McReynolds & Johnny O'Kane. **9.00 am.** – Eamon Dallett, Sean O'Kane & Colin Anderson. **11.30 am.** – Dominic Magee, Eugene Kelly & Colin M. O'Kane. **St. Matthew's:** Sean Farrell, Sean Canning & John T. Mullan.

DERRY DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES - From 1st - 6th July and is led by Bishop McKeown. 2018 marks the 160th anniversary of the apparitions at Lourdes. Contact the Pilgrimage Office, Tel: 7126 0293. Email. derrypilgrim@outlook.com

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE RETREAT - Eight nights beginning 10th October 2018. An opportunity to literally walk in the footsteps of Jesus Christ - from His birth, through His life, to His passion and death. Nine places still available. For further details or to book, please contact 028 7135 1233.

TERMONBACCA – Mass in honour of Blessed Alexandrina (today) Sun. 25th March at 7.30 pm. Mass for the Sick on Tues. 27th March at 7.30 pm. Easter Evening Vigil (Confessions, Adoration and Mass) on Wed. 28th March at 7.30 pm. Marian Devotions for the month of April: Tues. 10th April beginning at 7.30 pm.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION - Reflection and Renewal Day at Knock, on 20th & 21st April, (*same programme delivered each day to facilitate people's different circumstances*) led by Dr. Petroc Willey, Professor of Catechetics at Franciscan University of Steubenville. This event is aimed at supporting people in leadership roles in parishes, especially parishioners/groups involved in leading or setting up faith-study programmes. For more information and booking, visit www.cloynediocese.ie or contact Fr. Seán Corkery on (086) 2420240 / email: cloynenewevangelisation@gmail.com

Please Note! The cemetery lights will switch off at 8.30 pm. instead of 9.00 pm. in the evening.

KEVIN LYNCH H.C. - *Lotto No's: 6, 10, 19 & 20.* Lucky Dip: Ladies G.F.C. Jackpot £2,525

ST. CANICE'S G.A.C. – *Lotto No's: 7, 8, 12 & 22.* £20: Paddy McNicholl, Tara McVey, Pat Paroe, Richard Service, Conor McDermott, Dwayne Reid, Madeline Kelly, Martin McPeake, Kathleen Kelly & L. Fulton. Jackpot £8,700.

Fr. Seamus and Fr. Joseph wish all a very Happy and Blessed Easter