

Holy Family Parish, Askea

9th February 2020 Vol 29 No 13
The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Tom Little - 91-31559
Fr Tommy Dillon - 91-64882
Sr. Joan Pierse 91-42565

.....
Emergency Priest on Duty

087 2588118

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Askea Parish Community
Centre Phone 91-42565

087 1269709

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Last week's Collections:

Development: €1,205

Offertory: €1,185

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Mass Times:

Askea 9.30am Mon-Fri;

Sat 7pm; Sun 9am,
10.30am

& 12 Noon.

Bennekerry Sun 11.30am;

Tinryland Tues 9.30am &
Sunday 10am

Deadline for items
for Newsletter is
5pm on Wednesday by
phone to 9142565 or
email to

office@askeaparish.ie

Website:

www.askeaparish.ie

**“A people living in darkness
has seen a great light.”**

Christianity is about light. Just as Jesus is light to the world, so his church is to be light in a world of darkness. Light enables the beauty of things to be seen, and we are called to make the beauty of the world shine. But we are not to call attention to ourselves: if you are aware of the light in a room, it is too bright. Our vocation is for others, not ourselves.

Surrounded by discrimination, oppression and war, Christians are challenged to “be united in mind and judgment,” and they are directed by God’s love to “bring humankind to unity and peace.” The light we bring to the world should lead in time to an end of all the world’s darkness: the alienation and oppression of peoples, the attacks on human life and dignity, and disrespect for God’s creation.

Gerald Darring

Keeping in Touch

St Mary's Parish, Bennekerry

Sunday 9th February 2020

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Light For The World

In today's Gospel Matthew applies to Jesus the prophetic oracle of Isaiah:

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone." In like manner, the psalmist's assertion that the Lord is my light is echoed in Jesus' words: "I am the light of the world; the man who follows me will have the light of life."

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The Church ... serves as a leaven and as a kind of soul for human society as it is to be renewed in Christ and transformed into God's family. ... the Church not only communicates divine life to men, but in some way casts the reflected light of that life over the entire earth.

Vatican II, Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, 1965: 40

Gerald Darring

St Mary's Parish, Bennekerry

Fr Tom Little PP - Ph 059 9131559. Fr Tommy Dillon PE 0599142565

Newsletter Items - 059 9143881. Deadline for News items: - 9pm Wednesdays

Emergency Number for the Priest on Duty 087 2588118.

Parish Office - 059 9142565 087 - 1269709.

Website: www.askeaparish.ie; email: office@askeaparish.ie

Anniversaries 9th February 2020

Seamie Harmon, Kernanstown

Fergal O'Connor, Brownhill Avenue

Palatine GAA Club Lotto Results 3rd February 2020. Numbers Drawn . 14, 19, 21 & 26. No Jackpot winner.

4 Lucky Dips €50 each.

Winner

Promoter

Anne Duggan

John Kelly, Bennekerry

Sheila Ramsbottom

Frank McGarry

Hulbert Hayden

Kitty Farrell

Seán Tracey

Liam Tracey

Seller's Prize €70 - Frank McGarry

Next Draw Monday 10th February 2020. Jackpot €12,000.

For Sale: Grave Accessories – Flower pots, flower vases, Lanterns etc. Polished granite. Top Quality. Contact 087 9027278.

Kildare & Leighlin Weekly Lotto Results

For Wed 5th February 2020. Numbers drawn were 3, 11, 25 & 27.

No Jackpot winner. 31 Match 3s won €33 each. Askea / Bennekerry had NO Match 3s.

Winner

Promoter

Next week's Jackpot €12,000. Tickets €2 each – available from Askea Parish Centre. Please note the draw takes place on Wed at 4.30pm in Portlaoise. Tickets must be returned by 5pm each Tuesday to Askea Parish Centre.

Whisperings of my Soul

Fr Seán's book *Whisperings of my Soul* is available to buy in Askea Parish Community Centre or in the Church after Mass – price €15.

Carlow Active Retirement Assoc Next monthly meeting will be held in Cathedral Parish Centre on 12th Feb at 2.30pm. We welcome current members and would like to invite new members to come along and join the group. For more info contact Hugh O'Rourke 086 2567020.

Oberammergau 2020 Fr Liam Morgan of Naas parish is leading a group to attend the Passion Play in Oberammergau from Aug 7th to 14th, 2020. The total cost is €1750 per person sharing a twin room which includes return flights from Dublin to Munich, private transfers, walking tour of Salzburg, five night stay in Kitzbuhel – half board, two night stay in Oberammergau – half board and Category 1 tickets for the Passion Play on Aug 13th. There are a few places available, if interested please contact Tullys Travel, Carlow 059 9136100

National Cancer Control Programme Are you: Aged 50 years or more? Smoker, living with someone who smokes, or exposed to inhaled smoke or fumes at work or in your environment? With no personal history of cancer? Would you like to: Help raise lung cancer awareness? Receive a €50 One4All shopping voucher? We are conducting a study titled: Promoting Early detection and Exploring Awareness of Lung Cancer in Askea Parish Community Centre on Thursday 13th February, 2020. If you are interested in knowing more please contact Askea Parish Centre on 059 91 42565 or 087 1269709.

Carlow College Book Fair Takes place from 1am – 5pm Wednesday 12th February 2020 at Carlow College, St Patricks, College Street, Carlow. All are welcome to browse, buy or sell.

An Eco group is being formed in Tinryland. We are looking for concerned people. If you would like to join or just find out more about what we do then come along to the Tinryland Parochial House on Thursday 13th February at 7.30pm.

Askea / Bennekerry / Tinryland Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Spiritual Director Fr Tommy Dillon – Depart Dublin Tuesday 23rd June 2020 and return on Sunday 28th June – 5 nights staying at the Hotel Solitude. Breakfast, lunch and evening meal. Return coach from Carlow to Dublin airport. Cost €765 per person sharing. Sing Room Supplement €200 subject to availability. Required to book: Valid passport and Non-Refundable deposit of €100 per person. Contact Tully's Travel, Tullow Street, Carlow. 059 91 36100 or www.tullys.ie.

St Willibrord Echternach Pilgrimage 31st May to 4th June 2020

Spiritual Directors Bishop Denis Nulty and Bishop Michael Burrows. Participate in the UNESCO recognised 'Hopping Procession' in honour of St Willibrord (reliquary in Carlow Cathedral), trip includes 3 nights B&B in Luxembourg, 1 night B&B in Utrecht, city tour of Cologne to include Cologne Cathedral. Cost €745pps. The Hopping Procession is a great experience in the beautiful town of Echternach, all who travelled on the first pilgrimage in 2017 loved it. Our group will once again be led in the procession by the Presentation School Band from Carlow. Book with Tullys Travel Carlow 059 9136100.

Famine Walk 2020 Wednesday 12th February at 1pm. Walk from the Agora in IT Carlow to the Famine graveyard on Green Rd. The walk will commemorate those who have died because of Famine in the past and reflect on the current situation in some parts of the world. For more info contact Fr Martin at 059 917 5612.

Quotes about our environment

"I only feel angry when I see waste. When I see people throwing away things we could use." *Mother Teresa*

"The earth will not continue to offer its harvest, except with faithful stewardship. We cannot say we love the land and then take steps to destroy it for use by future generations." *Pope John Paul 2.*

"We have forgotten how to be good guests, how to walk lightly on the earth as its other creatures do." *Barbara Ward*

Graigucullen Valentines Bingo Tuesday 11th Feb 2020 @ 8.30pm

FREE PINK SHEET WITH EVERY BOOK. (2 free sheets with double book)

Giving away €50 for 1 line, €50 for 2 lines & €200 for Full House.

Cake Sale This summer I am heading to Gordon's Bay, South Africa to volunteer in the local school Karongwe with the amazing organisation GVI. I am holding a bake sale in Askea Parish Center on Sunday the 23rd of February to fund raise for the school. Drop in from 9am – 2pm for some delicious buns and cakes. Róisín Lowe.

Éire Óg Clubhouse – Live Music every Saturday night. Dance the night away. No cover charge. Saturday 8th February – Club Darts Finals – Music Dale Bolger.

New Defibrillator Available at Circle K: Highfield Residents' Association have recently provided a Defibrillator at Circle K on the Dublin Road, and 22 of their residents have already trained in its use. The Defib will be available to the wider community 24/7 for anyone suffering from Cardiac Arrest. Other estates and individuals are encouraged to train in CPR and Defib use. Carlow First Responders can provide training, contact Will Paton at 087 678 7115. For further information contact 087 624 5366

Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service seeking marriage preparation course facilitators ACCORD Catholic Marriage Care Service is currently recruiting volunteers to train as marriage preparation course facilitators.

- If you have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church
- If you have the enthusiasm to be part of the Accord team in supporting couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage Accord wants to hear from you!

Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation courses locally. Contact Aisling on 01 505 3112 or by email to info@accord.ie

The closing date for receipt of application forms to be included in Selections for this year is Friday 15th May. Application forms and additional information about becoming a facilitator is available on www.accord.ie

31st Colmcille Winter School Taking place on the 28th and 29th February in Gartan, Co Donegal. 2021 is the anniversary of St Colmcille's birth in Gartan in 521 AD. The theme of the winter school is "The contribution of Irish Christianity on Irish, European and World Civilisation". More information on www.colmcilleheritagecentre.ie

ARISE – Young Adult 18+ National Event

Takes place in Knock Shrine on March 7th 2020. There will be inspirational speakers, music, celebration, fun, a chance to meet with other young adults and much more. For more information, booking, etc. please contact Robert Norton, Youth Co-Ordinator on 059-9164084

Family Carers Ireland Are holding the “Relatives of a Loved One with a Mental Health Issue” support group on Wednesday 5th February at 7pm in The Springhill Clinic, Waterford Road, Kilkenny. All Welcome.

Return to me with all your Heart A thought-provoking selection of scripture readings and reflections designed to accompany the reader through the season of Lent. This accessible and practical guide, which also includes inspirational quotations and questions to prompt the reader to effect change in their day-to-day lives, is the perfect companion for this essential period in the Church calendar. Suitable for clergy, religious and laity this book is written by Gerard Gallagher, pastoral co-ordinator in the Archdiocese of Dublin and is available on <https://www.veritasbooksonline.com/return-to-me-with-all-your-heart-9781847309518-45108/>
Gerard is also happy to be contacted via mobile 0872347220 or email sionmeadow1996@eircom.net to discuss the book further and promote it as a tool for Lent in your parish.

Caring for our Common Home – Bringing Laudato Si to Life in our Parish Communities. *“Truly much can be done!”* Pope Francis, Laudato Si, 180
Join us for this conference with dynamic speakers, practical exhibits, workshops, funding ideas and more. Wednesday 4th March 2020. Dolmen Hotel, Kilkenny Road, Carlow. Registration 10am (conference begins at 10.30am) – 4.30pm. For registration please contact:
Mary.Boyce@trocaire.org. 01 6293333.

Free Computer Classes in St Catherine’s Community Centre, St Joseph’s Road, Carlow. Nervous or beginners very welcome. Afternoon and evening classes. Friendly tutor. Small classes. You can also learn how to get the most from your smart phone or tablet. Contact Andrea on 059 91 38700 for further details.

CALENDAR

Monday 10th February St Scholastica, virgin. Died c 543, sister of St Benedict. She spent her life as a consecrated virgin. Patron of convulsive children.

Tuesday 11th February – Our Lady of Lourdes. On this day in 1858, Our Lady first appeared to the fourteen – year –old Bernadette Soubirous. Later Bernadette was to learn that the mysterious lady was the Blessed Virgin and to hear from her lips, ‘I am the Immaculate Conception’. In 1992 Pope John Paul II instituted the World Day of the Sick to be held on the commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes.

Friday 14th February – Ss Cyril, Monk and Methodius, Bishop, Patrons of Europe. St Cyril 826-69 and St Methodius, 815-85 were brothers from Thessalonica in Greece. They preached the Gospel in Moravia using their own translation of the Scriptures and the liturgy in the local language. These translations into Slavonic were in an alphabet now called Cyrillic, which they devised. They are honoured as apostles of the Slavic peoples and in 1980 Pope John Paul II declared them Patrons of Europe.

Trócaire – action for Climate Change

Next weekend Jane Mellett from Trócaire will speak at Mass about bringing Laudato Si to life in our Parish Community.

Evening Mass during Lent

Eucharistic Ministers or Readers who are available to Minister at the 7pm Evening Mass during Lent are asked to contact the Parish Office with details of which days / dates they are available.

World Day of the Sick

Tuesday 11th February 2020 is the
Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

Mass will take place at 7pm in Holy Family Church, Askea.
The Sacrament of the Sick will be available to anyone who wishes to receive it during the Mass.

World Day of the Sick

Everyone Needs Someone

People need people and friends need friends
And we all need love for a full life depends
Not on vast riches or great acclaim,
Not on success or on worldly fame,
But just in knowing that someone cares
And holds us close in their thoughts and prayers-
For only the knowledge that we're understood
Makes everyday living feel wonderfully good,
And we rob ourselves of life's greatest need
When we "lock up our hearts" and fail to heed
The outstretched hand reaching to find
A kindred spirit whose heart and mind
Are lonely and longing to somehow share
Our joys and sorrows and to make us aware
That life's completeness and richness depends
On the things we share with our loved ones
and friends.

by Helen Steiner Rice