



Bandon Parish

Bulletin

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Sunday 18th February 2018 No. 2462

First Sunday Of Lent

The first Sunday of Lent—I love Lent, it's a great season where we can get in 'transformation' mode. Regardless of whether or not someone is still 'practicing' their faith, people still seem to get on board with Lent. We usually give something up, but remember it's not simply about weight loss or getting fit. By doing these things we are trying to make room for something deeper. It's a spring cleaning sort of time. What needs clearing out in my life so that I can make more room for God? Or often do we need to make more room for what God has planned for us? We can get stuck, especially when we are comfortable and don't really want too much to change. But without change we can't grow and things fast become stale in our lives. God is always urging us on because God knows just what possibilities there are for each of us. So Lent might be a time where in giving up something or taking on something, we make space for something new. The gospel today is short and sweet - Jesus is sent into the desert and we too are invited into a desert time. Deserts are interesting places which can allow us to reflect, give ourselves space and we should not be afraid because as the gospel tells us clearly today, it is a Spirit led desert. God is with us in this desert. So enjoy Lent, embrace it. How we make use of this time determines what will be.

Jane Mellett

A reading from the book of Genesis.

God's covenant with Noah after he had saved him from the waters of the flood.

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 24: 4-9

**R. Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love
for those who keep your covenant.**

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. *R.*
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. *R.*
3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. *R.*

SECOND READING

1 Pt 3:18-22

A reading from the first letter of St Peter.

That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4:4

**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Man does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!**

GOSPEL

Mk 1:12-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Jesus was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

STATION MASS

The Spring Station for Carhue North, Laragh and Shinagh will take place on Saturday next 24th February at 10.30am at the home of Con & Áine O'Sullivan.

CARING FOR OUR CEMETERY

The wonderful care given to our cemetery is often the subject of much favourable comment. Great credit is due to the families who keep their graves in such great shape and to the Bandon Brinny Group who work so hard on the general maintenance. However, we get some complaints also about dog-fowling which is causing great distress to families. We appeal to all dog owners to take on board these genuine concerns.

THE VISIT OF THE ICON OF THE HOLY FAMILY

The icon of the Holy Family commissioned for the World Meeting of Families in Dublin August 22nd-26th will be at St Patrick's Church Bandon from March 2nd-5th. The Icon will be present for the welcoming ceremony and Mass on Friday March 2nd at 7.30pm. A petition box will be in place during the visit of the Icon where you can leave your petitions. These petitions will be presented at the final Mass in Dublin on August 26th.

ANNUAL TRÓCAIRE COLLECTION

The Annual Collection in aid of Trócaire will be taken up at all masses on the weekend of the 3rd and 4th of March.

RECENT BAPTISMS

Emily Deirdre Barry, The Paddocks, Cloughmacsimon
Liana Horvath, Blackberry Lane

CUMANN SEANCHAIS NA BANDON A review of the latest Cumann Seanchais Journal number 34 will take place at St Patrick's Parish Centre Bandon on Wednesday February 21st at 8pm. Some of the contributors to the Journal will attend and they will give background information on their article. New members welcome.

CANCER AWARENESS COFFEE MORNING In McLaughlins Bandon Medical Hall on Tuesday 20th February. Time for Tea - Time for ME! All welcome.

DRAMA The Ahakeera Players present their three act comedy play 'Cupid Wore Skirts' this Sunday 18th February at 8pm sharp in Gaggin Community Hall everyone is most welcome.

GRAMOPHONE CIRCLE Monday February 19th at 8pm in Gateway Hall. All welcome.

AFTERNOON TEA DANCE Will take place on Sunday 25th February in Kilmacsimon Community Centre from 3-6pm. Music by C&M Sound. All are welcome.

THE OPINION March issue is out on Thursday next February 22nd.

BANDON FLOWER & GARDEN CLUB Present *A Gardening Talk* by Orla Twomey, Bandon Co-Op Garden Centre in The Munster Arms Hotel on Monday February 19th at 8pm.

BRIDGE EVENING Bandon and District Soroptimists are hosting a Bridge Evening on Sunday 18th February at 7.30pm in Munster Arms Hotel in aid of Saint Vincent De Paul.

PUBLIC PRO-LIFE MEETING Munster Arms Hotel on Monday 19th February at 7.30pm. All are very welcome.

SAINT MICHAEL'S OPEN DAY Avenue Grove (St Michael's Centre New Development) Open Day Saturday 24th February 11am to 2pm. All welcome.