

# PARISH OF INISHMAGRATH

## First Sunday in Lent

22nd February 2026

Parish Office, Drumkeeran - 964 8025 ~ Parish Administrator - Fr P Casey 916 4143

Neighbouring Priest: Fr T Mannion 964 3014

### Masses

<b>Sat 21st Feb</b>	7:00pm	<b>Tarmon.</b>
	8:00pm	<b>St Brigid's Church, Killargue.</b>
<b>Sun 22nd Feb</b>	10:00am	<b>Drumkeeran.</b>
	11:30am	<b>St Patrick's Church, Dromahair.</b>
<b>Mon 23rd Feb</b>	6:00pm	<b>Drumkeeran.</b> Exposition only.
<b>Tues 24th Feb</b>	11:00am	<b>Áras Bhríde.</b>
	7:00pm	<b>St Brigid's Church, Killargue.</b> - Exposition with Mass at 8:00pm.
<b>Wed 25th Feb</b>	9:30am	<b>St Patrick's Church, Dromahair.</b>
<b>Thur 26th Feb</b>	10:00am	<b>Drumkeeran.</b>
	7:00pm	<b>Mary, Mother of God Church, Newtownmanor</b> - Exposition with Mass at 8:00pm.
<b>Fri 27th Feb</b>	7:00pm	<b>St Patrick's Church, Dromahair.</b>
<b>Sat 28th Feb</b>	7:00pm	<b>Creevelea.</b>
	8:00pm	<b>Mary, Mother of God Church, Newtownmanor.</b>
<b>Sun 1st Mar</b>	10:00am	<b>Drumkeeran.</b>
	11:30am	<b>St Patrick's Church, Dromahair.</b>
<b>Mon 2nd Mar</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Drumkeeran.</b> Retirement Celebration Mass for Fr Tom McManus with reception in Drumkeeran Community Centre afterwards.

**Pray for:** We continue to remember in our prayers all those who have died, including the recently deceased; Geraldine Harkin, née Heraghty, Treenadullagh, Drumkeerin whose funeral takes place on Sun 22 Feb in Drumkeeran Church at 2:00pm. May she rest in peace.

Notices can be sent in to [newsletter@inishmagrath.com](mailto:newsletter@inishmagrath.com) for inclusion, subject to review and adjustments as space allows.

All notices should be received by 10:30am on Friday morning to be included in that week's newsletter, thank you.

We also have a website at [www.inishmagrath.com](http://www.inishmagrath.com) and we are on Facebook under Parish of Inishmagrath.

**Confession:** Available after weekday Masses and anytime on request.

#### Thought for the Day

**Matthew 4:1-11**

Charity is not optional but a requirement of true worship. St John Chrysostom vehemently denounced excessive wealth connected with indifference for the poor. 'It is very cold, and the poor man lies in rags, dying, freezing, shivering, with an appearance and clothing that should move you. You often adorn an unfeeling corpse, which no longer understands honour, with many varied and gilded garments. Yet you despise the one who feels pain, who is torn apart, tortured, tormented by hunger and cold.' This profound sense of social justice leads him to affirm that 'not giving to the poor is stealing from them, defrauding them of their lives, because what we have belongs to them.'

*Pope Leo XIV - Dillexi Te, Love for the Poor*

**Retirement Mass:** On Mon 2 Mar we will celebrate Fr Tom's retirement from the Parish of Inishmagrath, the evening will begin with Mass in Drumkeeran Church at 7:00pm with a reception afterwards and an opportunity to say farewell to Fr Tom. All are welcome to join us for this event.

**Diocese of Kilmore:** Easter is the heart of our faith; a time of great joy and renewal for our parish communities. As we enter into Lent, we begin a journey of spiritual preparation. But we also prepare our parishes and our liturgies to celebrate the great feast of the Resurrection well. On Sat 7 March, a liturgy workshop led by Fr Turlough Baxter will take place in the Pastoral Centre, Cullies, Cavan, from 10:00am until 4:00pm. This workshop is especially for members of parish liturgy groups, choirs, and all who are involved in preparing for Easter in our parishes. Together, we will reflect on how we approach the Sacred Liturgies of Holy Week and how we can prepare thoughtfully and prayerfully for Easter. More details will follow. Contact Martina at [pastoralservices@kilmorediocese.ie](mailto:pastoralservices@kilmorediocese.ie) with any queries.

**Choir Practice:** Will be held on Thurs 26 Feb at 7:30pm in Drumkeeran Church, new members always welcome.

### **Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood in the Diocese of Kilmore**

Loving God, our need for Vocations to the priesthood in our diocese is great.

In a busy world it is difficult for people to hear and respond to your gentle but insistent call.

We pray for the gift of courage, generosity and faith in the hearts of those you call.

We beg you, Lord, for the gift of new vocations to the priesthood in our diocese.

In your fatherly care, accompany those who are seeking to do your will in their lives.

Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

*(Composed by Fr Ultan McGoohan, Diocesan Vocations Director.)*

### **Something to reflect on...**

The story of sirens in Greek mythology describes the negative and positive ways of fighting temptations. The Sirens are creatures with the heads of beautiful women and the bodies of attractive birds. They lived on an island (Sirenum scopuli; a group of three small rocky islands). With the irresistible charm of their song, they lured mariners to their destruction on the rocks surrounding their island. They sang so sweetly that all who sailed near their home in the sea were fascinated and drawn to the shore only to be destroyed. When Odysseus, the hero of the Odyssey, passed that enchanted spot he escaped the temptation from sirens by ordering himself to be tied to the mast and ordering his sailor comrades to put wax in their ears, so that they might not hear the luring and bewitching strains. But King Tharsius chose a better and positive way of conquering Sirens' temptations. He took the great Greek singer and lyrist Orpheus along with him. Orpheus took out his lyre and sang a song so clear and ringing that it drowned the sound of those lovely, fatal voices of the Sirens. Today's readings advise us that the best way to break the charm of this world's alluring voices during Lent is not trying to shut out the music by plugging our ears, but to have our hearts and lives filled with the sweeter music of prayer, penance, the word of God, self-control, and acts of charity. Then temptations will have no power over us.

*Fr Antony Kadavil - [www.frtonyshomilies.com](http://www.frtonyshomilies.com)*

**A Lenten Resource for All:** As we prepare for Lent, "Baptised & Sent" is being offered to parishioners throughout the diocese as a simple and accessible way to engage with faith during the Lenten season. This resource is for everyone; individuals, families, parish groups, and anyone interested in reflecting more deeply on what it means to be baptised and sent to live the Gospel in daily life. The programme will be used during Lent, with materials suitable for personal reflection as well as group discussion. Further details will follow.

**Knights of St. Columbanus:** Open night on Tues 24 Feb in St Joseph's Centre, Leitrim Village at 8:30pm. The Carrick Primary Council (Branch), known as CK88, caters for faithful Catholic men, living in Carrick-on-Shannon, Ballinamore, Boyle, Bornacoola, Carrigallen, Cloone, Dromod, Drumsna, Drumshanbo, Elphin, Keadue, Mohill, Newtowngore, Rooskey, and surrounding areas.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Knights of St. Columbanus, in the Carrick Council, area and would like to attend our open night, or find out further information about our Fraternal Order, please contact Ciarán on 086-6027126. Attendance by pre-arrangement only. Website: [www.knightsofstcolimbanus.ie](http://www.knightsofstcolimbanus.ie) (St Joseph's centre is located on Church Road, Leitrim Village (N41EA39).

**Pioneer Total Abstinence Association of the Sacred Heart:** Parishioners who wish to take a short-term pledge for Lent are invited to visit [www.pioneers.ie](http://www.pioneers.ie) or to speak to a Pioneer in the parish.

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**The North Leitrim Women's Centre:** The Hidden Half – Fields to Finances. Wed 4 March at 7:00pm in the Food Hub, Drumshanbo. This is the first in a series of practical workshops offering support, advice and information on issues identified by women farmers in Co. Leitrim. Veronica Ryan, Teagasc Advisor will be available to give advice on the night on supports available through Teagasc. Free event for women in farming – everyone welcome. To register contact 071 9856220 or email [info@northleitrimwomenscentre.ie](mailto:info@northleitrimwomenscentre.ie).

**The Organic Centre:** Potato Day is on Sun 1 March from 12:00pm until 4:00pm at the Organic Centre, Rossinver, Leitrim. Enjoy our onsite craft and food market. Tours, talks and demonstrations. Quality seed potatoes for sale. Music & children's entertainment. Cafe open. Free entry. All welcome.

**Seanad voting:** Registration deadline for graduates, Irish citizens with degrees from designated 3rd level colleges are eligible to vote in the 'Higher Education' constituency which replaces the NUI and Trinity panels in Seanad Éireann. Thousands of previous voters have been removed from the register. Ensure you are registered on [www.seanadvoter.ie](http://www.seanadvoter.ie) before February 26th. Evidence of a passport or pre-2005 birth certificate is needed. For queries email [applications@seanadvoter.ie](mailto:applications@seanadvoter.ie).