



Ss. Peter & Paul's Church, Straide

Fr. Martin Convey P.P., Tel: (094) 9031029

email: pp@straideparish.com, Parish Website: www.straideparish.com



Masses

Saturday, 14th	8:00 pm	Felix Sweeney (13 th Anniversary)	Straide	[Ticket Only]
Sunday, 15th	11:00 am	Feast of the Assumption – For the people of the Parish Community [Ticket Only]		
	4:00 pm	Funeral Mass of Gerry Bogue, Redhill		[Family only]
Monday 16th	10:00 am	Private Intention		
Tuesday, 17th	10:00 am	Private Intention		
Wednesday, 18th	7:00 pm*	Maisie Walsh	Blanemore	[Ticket Only]
Thursday, 19th	10:00 am	Private Intention		
Friday, 20th	10:00 am	Private Intention		
Saturday, 21st	8:00 pm	People of the Parish Community		
Sunday, 22nd	11:00 am	Denny & Cassie Canning	Ballyvary / Ballylahan	[Ticket Only]

*Please note - the later time of Mass on Wednesday at 7.00 pm.

We remember in our prayers – the souls of Gerry Bogue, Redhill and Fr. P.J. Nyland (Salesian Order of Don Bosco), Crumlin Co Dublin & formerly of Springhill, Ballyvary who both died during the week. May their souls Rest in Peace.

We welcome into the Christian Community - Micheál Declan Hynes-Smith and Michaela Therese Jordan who were both recently baptized into the Christian Community. We wish them, their parents, and all associated with them, the abundance of God's Blessings at this special time in their lives.

PLEASE only take "tickets" for weekend Masses **if and when** you are sure you will use them. Remember, "tickets" taken and then unused, prevent others from attending Church at the weekend.

Congratulations and Best Wishes – to Laura Dunne and Brian Joyce who were married in Straide Church last weekend. We wish them both God's blessings and the best of luck in the future.

First Communion & Confirmation Dates - Subject to Public Health Guidelines they are as follows:

First Communion on Saturday, September 11th at 11.00 am; Confirmation on Saturday, September 25th at 12.00 pm.

Have you an interest - in working with people with a learning disability and / or autism?? Western Care Association are recruiting Relief Staff to work in our Services based across Co. Mayo. More information at www.westerncare.com

Message from Bishop Dempsey on First Holy Communion and Confirmation – Autumn 2021

During the past number of days, a number of bishops have issued statements in relation to the celebration of the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation in their dioceses. I have been contacted by some media organisations asking for clarification around the celebration of the Sacraments in the Diocese of Achonry. On the 24th February this year I issued a statement saying:

'In consultation with the Priests' Council, I have decided to postpone the celebration of the Sacraments of Confirmation, First Penance and First Holy Communion in Achonry Diocese until the Autumn. My hope is that this will give our schools and families more time for the preparation of the children and it will enable families to gather in a safer way to celebrate the Sacraments when the majority of us are vaccinated and restrictions have eased.

I emphasise the reason for this decision is to bring clarity at this early stage for all concerned and to enable the children have a meaningful and memorable celebration with their families, friends, and parish community when it is safer to do so. I thank the families, teachers, parishioners, and priests for all they are doing to prepare the children for the Sacraments during this difficult year. All of the above is, of course, subject to public health advice.'

Following on from this, Confirmations are due to start in the diocese on the 12th of September 2021. As I understand parishes have postponed First Communion Ceremonies until September also, therefore the celebration of these Sacraments in August was never planned for our diocese. As the vaccination programme continues, we look forward to celebrating the Sacraments with our children and their families in a safe and meaningful way from mid-September onwards. In the meantime, may we continue to keep vigilant around the virus so that we can emerge out of this difficult time safe and well.

With kind regards and every blessing, +Paul Dempsey, Bishop of Achonry.

Moy Davitts News - Congratulations to Gale Commons on winning €440 in the Moy Davitts 50/50 draw last Saturday morning. A huge thank you to everyone who supported last week's draw, it is greatly appreciated. Tickets are available in the usual retail outlets and by clicking <https://smartlotto.ie/Bohola-moy-davitts>

Offertory Donations – can be made entering or leaving the church by using the Offertory Boxes at all entrances/exits.

Visitation of the Sick & Housebound – has recommenced for those who have been fully vaccinated (for at least two weeks) and who would like a visit. Contact Fr. Martin if you wish to be added to the monthly Visitation List.

Silence is Sacred – Please make sure mobile phones are turned off while in the church, especially during Mass times. Please, also, refrain from talking at any time while in church. Remember, while in church we are in God's presence.

Altar Society for August - Noreen Doherty, Bridie Mulroy & Jane Mulroy

Thought for the Day: God often takes us into troubled waters, not to drown us but to cleanse us.

Newsletter: Items for inclusion to be handed into the Parochial House by 12pm on Thursday or email pp@straideparish.com.

Additional News Items - are included in the online Newsletter on www.straideparish.com

Guided nature tours for Heritage Week - Enjoy a free guided nature tour of the gardens and grounds of the National Museum of Ireland at Turlough Park, Sunday, 15 August, at 2pm, 3pm and 4pm; Saturday, 21 August at 1pm, 2pm and 3pm; and Sunday, 22 August, at 2pm, 3pm and 4pm. Booking is required. Email educationtph@museum.ie

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People – ALONE Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open 7 days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

Revised Coronavirus Guidance for Churches – as of May 10th

Masses: Up to 50 people can be present – ticket system in operation for weekend Masses (and some weekday Masses also). The church will be open, as usual, for private visits. All Masses will continue to be live streamed from the parish website– www.straideparish.com

Baptisms: These can go ahead with a minimum present. Gatherings in homes afterwards subject to HSE guidelines.

Weddings: Up to 50 people can be present. Gatherings in homes / hotels afterwards subject to HSE guidelines.

Funerals: Up to 50 family members can be present. All stages of the funeral to be private for family members only.

Please Keep Safe in the church: Use sanitizer gel; wear face covering and keep a safe distance from one another.

Socially distanced seating – must be observed in the Church.

All attending Mass – must be seated. Under no circumstances can people stand at the back of the Church throughout Mass. People standing at the back of Church are not socially distanced from those in the back seat.

Covid-19 Collect and Deliver Service - Local Link Mayo is offering a collect and deliver service in existing Local Link routes throughout Mayo from pharmacies and local shops, delivering shopping and critical medical supplies to the elderly, the vulnerable and sick. If you need such support or know someone who does, contact Local Link Mayo on 094-9005150 between 9:00am and 5:00pm (Monday - Friday) or email mayo@locallink.ie.

Tickets - for the weekend Masses of August 21st and 22nd are available to be picked up from the back of the Church from the morning of August 14th. Admission to weekend Masses (and some specified weekday Masses) is by “*Ticket Only*” and has to be strictly enforced to guarantee numbers attending do not exceed 50.

Anniversary Masses on Weekdays - It may also be necessary to have a “ticket system” in place for some weekday Masses if it is thought that the numbers attending may exceed 50. This may arise, especially, for anniversary Masses for the recently deceased etc. Please check the weekday Mass schedule listing where such information is available.

Anniversary Masses at Weekends – Weekend Masses are, first and foremost, public Masses for parishioners to attend. A careful balance must always be struck between facilitating some family members of the bereaved to attend and also, at the same time, allowing regular weekend Mass-goers to be present. Since reopening on May 10th, it has not always been possible to get this balance right. It is proposed that, until the numbers attending Masses can be increased above 50, all *new* bookings for anniversary Masses will be taken for weekdays only (morning or evening).

Mass intentions already booked for weekend Masses - will be honoured for the original dates booked.

Hopefully, all the above will be temporary measures.

Accord Counselling - Challenging times can be rough on relationships. When it comes to protecting your most precious investment (your marriage), talk to ACCORD. Our services, based on your needs, not your ability to pay, can help you get the most from your marriage. Morning and evening appointments are available. Office hours are from 10 am to 1pm Monday to Friday, contact (094) 92 54944 or Lo-call 1850 201 878 or email accordcharlestown@gmail.com.

Growth in numbers of Delta Variant of the Corona Virus – *The safety of Mass goers remains a priority. With the rapid growth in corona virus numbers in the country we should redouble our efforts at keeping safe. Please continue to abide by the following safety measures which are still in place in the church:*

* In order to facilitate social distancing of 2 metres between individuals, the church can only admit 50 people (max.) per Mass. This includes weddings, where 100 can attend the hotel reception afterwards.

*Please sit towards the edge of the seat and not in the middle.

* Please remember that the *Church Obligation* to attend Mass at the weekend does not apply during the pandemic.

* A “ticket” system is in operation for weekend Masses (as well as for some weekday Masses, as listed in the Newsletter). “Tickets” are available the previous Saturday for the following weekend.

* Please only take a “ticket” if you are sure you are going to use it. Remember, unused “tickets” prevent others attending Mass. Tickets are not transferable between Masses.

* The Church seats are sanitised after each daily Mass and are deep cleaned before each weekend Mass.

* Face coverings are compulsory in church and must be worn – visors offer limited protection to the wearer as well as to those in his / her vicinity.

* Sanitizers are provided in the church and should be used on entry and on exit.

* Standing at the back of the church during Mass is prohibited as it contravenes social distancing.

* Communion is distributed at the end of Mass (on the hand only) for those who wish to remain behind to receive the sacrament. Please exit by the side door after receiving Communion or return to your seat by the side aisle.

* In order to facilitate as many regular parishioners as possible attending weekend Masses, Mass Intentions will not be taken for weekend Masses. However, those already in the diary will be honoured.

* A big *Thank You* to our stewards who assist at weekend Masses and to those who clean and sanitize the Church.

Knock Counselling Service – available at (094) 93 75032 or log on to www.knockshrine.ie/counselling

IF YOU NEED HELP

Many parishioners have volunteered to help those who may not be able to shop, collect medicines, go to the Post Office etc. during this Coronavirus outbreak. If, at any time, you need help with these chores call me on (094) 9031029 and I will liaise with the many volunteers within the community who are very happy to help out.

Keep safe, keep healthy and, at all times, follow HSE / Government guidelines. Say a prayer, too, for all who have caught the virus and for all medical staff, carers and volunteers who are working so extremely hard at this time.

St. Vincent de Paul (Foxford) – can provide help for those in Straide who may be in need of food or fuel. Contact (085) 8887777

CCTV – operates 24 / 7 within the Church and in the Church car park. The parish policy concerning CCTV can be found on the parish website (www.straideparish.com) – as can all parish policies.

Pope Francis Prayer of Protection Against Coronavirus

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the Human Race, know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test -

– and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.