



Ss. Peter & Paul's Church, Straide

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Masses

February 13th & 14th 2021

Saturday 13th	7.30 pm	Vincent Deacy (1 st Anniv.) & Breege Deacy (11 th Anniv.)	Carragolda
Sunday 14th	11.00 am	John and Julia Reid & all the deceased of the Reid family	Carracastle
Monday 15th	10.00 am	Private Intention	
Tuesday 16th	10.00 am	Private Intention	
Wednesday 17th	10.00 am	Ash Wednesday - Morning Mass	
	7.00 pm	Ash Wednesday - Evening Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 8.00 pm	
Thursday 18th	10.00 am	Private Intention	
Friday 19th	10.00 am	Private Intention	
Saturday 20th	7.30 pm	Micheál Killeen (7 th Anniversary)	Straide
Sunday 21st	11.00 am	Michael Smyth & deceased of the Smyth family	Wood Cottage Blanemore
Monday 22nd	10.00 am	Violet Jordan (Month's Mind)	Frenchpark



We remember in our prayers – the soul of Molly Duffy, Parke, Turlough who was buried last weekend. May she Rest in Peace.

Lent – begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17th. It is a day of Fast and Abstinence. See below for arrangements.

Ash Wednesday – Lent begins on Wednesday of this week. Masses will be at 10.00am & 7.00pm. Ashes will be blessed at the 10:00 am Mass and then available (in sealed sachets) for parishioners to collect from the church throughout the day and bring to their homes and to the homes of those who are self-isolating as appropriate and if desired. Please self-administer the ashes this year. Please, also, observe all hand sanitizing measures if collecting ashes from the Church. As the ashes are blessed, please dispose of unused ashes after use in an appropriate manner. They are not to be discarded in the bin but may be burned. Burial or scattering on consecrated grounds (e.g. on a grave in a cemetery) is also permissible.

Holy Hour – will be held one evening a week throughout Lent after Wednesday evening Mass.

Trocaire Boxes – are available at the exit doors. Please take one home. A considerable sum was raised last year.

Lenten Pledge – Those who wish to take the Pledge for Lent can find further details on www.pioneerassociation.ie

Straide Cemetery Maps – are now due for updating. Updating takes place every three years. The existing maps have now been removed and will shortly be replaced with the new updated ones.

Bealach Nua - is a recovery oriented family peer support service which offers families / friends of people with mental health challenges an opportunity to engage with family peer supporters through individual, group work, wellness days and information evenings. For further information or to access the service please call (094) 9049392 or Fran (086) 0450835 / Noel (087) 9749288.

Western Care - would like to invite you to their **Virtual Valentine Candlelight Evening** – live streamed via their Facebook page. This is a free event on Saturday 13th February from 8pm until 10.30pm. Music and chats with some much loved national and local guests including: Daniel O'Donnell, Nathan Carter, Mike Denver, Sandy Kelly, Tommy Fleming, plus many more local artists. Please see our Facebook page for further details: <https://www.facebook.com/westerncareassociation>. Organised on behalf of Western Care by the *Valentine Candlelight Ball Committee*. raffle will run in conjunction on the night with some very generous prizes. Thank you for your support. If you have any further queries, please contact Teresa Ward, Fundraising and Development Manager, Western Care Association, (087) 246 7857.

Genealogy – Are you interested in tracing your ancestors or have a relative overseas who would like to trace their roots? The North Mayo Heritage Centre, Crossmolina can help. Gift vouchers also available. Contact (096) 31809.

All Masses from Straide Church - are now streamed online from the parish website – www.straideparish.com.

Unfortunately, during this present level of lock down, it is not possible to have parishioners present at Masses. However, the Church remains open throughout the day for private visits and prayer.

You can now make your Offertory Donations - simply, conveniently and securely online at our parish website – straideparish.com. Many thanks to those who use this new facility. Thank you for your ongoing generosity & support.

Offertory Collections – Sincere thanks to all who dropped in Offertory Envelopes to the parochial house during the week and to those who made online donations through the parish website. It is much appreciated.

Altar Society February: Nora McNicholas & Marian McHale

Thought: Solomon was famous for his wisdom, not because he knew everything, but because he knew how little he knew.

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

Message from Straide Community Alert Group (SCAG) - Myself Bernie Lingard, as Secretary of SCAG, and Michael Kelly, as Chairperson, were asked to participate in a Zoom meeting by *Muintir Na Tire*. This is a meeting which usually takes place annually along with *An Garda Siochana* Castlebar and members of Committee Members from the Western Area.

As many will be aware, the Texts seem to have come to a standstill a couple of years ago which was highlighted by most group members. Garda Olive McCarthy agreed to look into these concerns. The Gardai present in the meeting stressed that they would prefer a phone call if any suspicious activity is witnessed locally, rather than hearing details after an event. They also suggested people accessing their *Garda Home Security Check List Challenge* as a means to see how secure your home is from burglaries.

I hope this Information is of some benefit to people in these isolating times we are living in.

Home Sharers required - Have you room in your home? Have you room in your heart? Would you be interested in sharing your home and supporting a person with additional needs, for a few hours per day, a couple days per month, or long term. We are looking for single people, couples, married people and/or families to provide short or long term respite for children or adults. For further info. contact Western Care Association, Social Work Dept. on 094 902513.

Prayer During a Pandemic

We pray together:

For all who have contracted coronavirus, we pray for care and healing.

For those who are particularly vulnerable, we pray for safety and protection.

For all who experience fear or anxiety, we pray for peace of mind and spirit.

For those lost to coronavirus, we pray for their souls and for the loved ones who mourn them.

For breadwinners working from home and for households who are home-schooling, we pray for patience and success.

For front-line workers caring for the sick and comforting the dying, we pray for protection, strength, and blessings.

For children and young adults who miss the company of friends, we pray for perseverance and understanding.

For all confined to their homes facing isolation and loneliness, we pray for God's presence and companionship.

For those suffering in silence, we pray for healing and strength.

For our brothers and sisters around the world, we pray for shared solidarity.

For public officials and decisionmakers, we pray for wisdom and guidance.

Father, during this time, may your Church always be a sign of Hope, Comfort and Love to all.

Grant Peace. Grant Comfort. Grant Healing.

Be always with us, Lord.

Amen.

St Angela's College, Sligo - invites applications for the following course beginning Autumn 2021: *Part-Time Certificate in Religious Education (Primary) with Online Delivery*. The course is open to qualified primary school teachers; qualified post-primary school teachers who wish to transfer to primary school teaching. Parents, sacramental preparation teams and parish catechists who have a specific interest in the area of primary religious education may also apply. Closing date for Applications is Friday 14th May 2021. This date may be extended. For further information and application forms contact Mary Kearns, Senior Administrator, School of Education, St. Angela's College, Lough Gill, Sligo. E. mkearns@stangelas.nuigalway.ie or visit www.stangelas.nuigalway.ie

Level 5 Coronavirus Guidance for Churches

Under Level 5 restrictions all Masses are online. The church will be open, as usual, for private visits.

During this period, all Masses from the church will take place as usual, but without a congregation present.

Mass Intentions (Anniversaries etc): Those already booked will take place as originally scheduled unless the family wish to postpone. Due to the uncertainty surrounding church reopening, it is not possible to offer a rescheduled date.

All Masses are available to watch online at www.straideparish.com

Baptisms: These can go ahead with minimum numbers (the baby, parents, godparents, and celebrant).

Weddings: are allowed with numbers limited to 6 people.

Funerals: are limited to 10 people.

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

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. (Fr. Martin)

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.

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) – has implications for parishes, one being that we can no longer publish names of Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Society or Collectors in Newsletters / Website without written permission. We hope to phase the regulations in throughout 2019. Forms are available on the altar rails. Please bring one home, fill in and return to the Church.

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.

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People - ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm by calling 0818 222 024.

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.