

Straide/Bohola/Shraheens Newsletter

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Newsletter available on www.straideparish.com and [Straide Parish Facebook page](#)

Second Sunday of Easter – 12th April 2026



The Week Ahead

Saturday, April 11 th .	2.00pm Straide 8.00pm Bohola	David McGuinness, Dundalk. (1 st Anniversary) John & Menia Aitken and their son John (George), Barley Hill. Michael Walsh, Ardacarra, his son Micheál & deceased family.
Sunday, April 12 th .	9.30am Shraheens 11.00am Straide	Tom Butler, Shraheens. Dan Molloy, Rathcoole, Dublin, formerly Tavnabeg (4 th Anniversary) his wife Merci & deceased of Molloy family.
Monday, April 13 th .		No Mass.
Tuesday, April 14 th .	10.00am Straide 7.30 – 8.30pm	Private Intention. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Straide.
Wednesday, April 15 th .	10.00am 5.00 – 9.00pm	Private Intention.....(Adoration follows until 12 noon) Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. (Blessed Sacrament Chapel)
Thursday, April 16 th .	10.00am	Tom McEvaddy, Bohola.
Friday, April 17 th .	7.00pm Straide	Margaret McKeown, Currane (4 th Anniversary), her husband Paddy, and deceased of Connolly & McKeown families.
Saturday, April 18 th .	8.00pm Bohola	For all the People.
Sunday, April 19 th .	9.30am Shraheens 11.00am Straide	Private Intention. Kathleen Tunney, Blanemore. (2 nd Anniversary)
All Masses in <u>Straide</u> (www.churchtv.ie/straide/) and <u>Bohola</u> (www.churchtv.ie/bohola/) are live-streamed. Shraheens Mass will be live-streamed on the Bohola Post Facebook Page when requested. (Marked by * above) All Bohola Masses will be broadcast on the 105.5 FM Radio channel.		

Recent Deaths: Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of John William (Bill) Ruane, Grallagh and late of London, who died on Thursday, April 2nd and whose funeral took place in Straide on Tuesday last. May he rest in peace.

Your prayers are also requested for the happy repose of the soul of Liam Salter, Bawnishal, Castlehaven, Co Cork, who died on Good Friday, April 3rd and whose funeral took place in Castlehaven on Monday last. Liam was the father of Barbara Conlon, Toughnane. May he rest in peace.

Baptism: On Monday last, April 6th in Bohola, we were delighted to welcome Sarah Mary Deacy, Castlebar, into God's family. Congratulations to her parents, Maeve and Anthony, her godparents and wider family circle and we wish them every blessing for the future.

First Anniversary Mass for Tom McEvaddy will be celebrated in Barna Church on Sunday next, April 19th at 12 noon. Mass for Tom will be celebrated in Bohola on Thursday next at 10.00am. May he rest in peace.

Tea/Coffee Morning will take place in Straide Parochial House after the 11am Mass this Sunday. Thanks once again to the members of Straide PPC who make it happen.

Catechism of the Catholic Church - Adult Studies Annual Pilgrimage to Knock: "The Church as the People of God, a priestly, prophetic and royal people" on Saturday 18th April. Full details on church noticeboards or see www.catechism.ie for more.

Apostolate of Eucharistic Adoration Annual Pilgrimage to Knock takes place on the evening of Saturday 18th and on Sunday 19th April, including St Carlo Acutis Teenagers Retreat from 11am to 2.30pm on Sunday. Full details on church noticeboards.

A Youth 2000 Day Retreat takes place on Saturday, April 25th at Knock Shrine. Youth 2000 provides an opportunity for young people (16-35) to develop their relationship with God, learn more about the Catholic faith and meet other young people through a structured retreat programme of talks, testimonies and workshops. Donation only. Check out Youth2000.ie to register or contact connaught@youth2000.ie for more information.

New Pilgrim Path Website of the Week, Sunday, April 12th: Gerard Manley Hopkins - Gerard Manley Hopkins is regarded as one of the Victorian era's greatest poets. His fame came posthumously. Raised in a prosperous and artistic Church of England family, he first read Henry Newman's Apologia pro vita sua at Balliol College, Oxford in 1862 – a document which discussed the author's reasons for converting to Catholicism. Two years later, Newman himself received Hopkins into the Roman Catholic Church. Hopkins soon decided to become a priest himself, and in 1867 he entered a Jesuit novitiate near London. To watch a terrific 1986 BBC documentary on the life and extraordinary poetry of Gerard Manley Hopkins, visit: www.newpilgrimpath.ie.



4th / 5th:

Bohola:

€916

Straide:

€427.

Thanks for all your contributions to both the Offertory and to the priest's Easter collection.

Sincere Thanks to all in Bohola and Straide who attended and participated in the Holy Week and Easter Ceremonies or who, either directly or indirectly, helped out in any way. It's great to see so many parishioners giving of their time and getting involved and doing so much for the Church. Thanks to the Readers, the Ministers of the Eucharist, the Offertory collectors and counters, the First Communion children who volunteered for the washing of the feet, the Altar Servers, the Choirs who added so much to all liturgies, our Sacristans for their invaluable back-up and support and to all who decorate and care for our churches. A special thanks to both Pastoral Councils and to all who ensured that everybody and everything was in place.

A special word of commendation to the cast of the Passion Play in Straide and to Kathleen Canning as their director for their hours of preparation during Lent and for the moving re-enactment of the Passion on Good Friday. Special thanks also to Mary Roche who led the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday evening in Straide and to Breda Carney and Catherine Foy for doing likewise in Bohola assisted by John Paul 2 students. Continued Easter blessings to everybody.

Retreat for Ministers of the Eucharist and Scripture Readers will take place on Sunday, 19th April in St. Michael's Church, Foxford from 2pm to 4pm. It will be conducted by Fr. Tom Grufferty, Knock. It is organised by the Fr Peyton Cluster but anyone from outside the Cluster is most welcome.

Pro Life Collection in Straide raised €140. Thank you. Your support is not just inspiring; it is essential. This will help us to provide pro-life education and defend human life at all stages, from conception to natural death. We also campaign for resources to support and assist pregnant women and those in need of healing after abortion.

Foxtrot 2026! Foxtrot is back on Sunday, 19th April at 1pm from the Foxford Leisure Centre. This year is a 5km fun run for all the family! Prizes and raffle on the day! This is an opportunity to raise funds for Brenda Walsh Grealis as well as for the local community. Brenda, originally from Callow, was recently diagnosed with PERM Stiff Person Syndrome (SPS). This is an extremely rare, severe neurological disease that causes extreme muscle rigidity, painful spasms, and progressive loss of mobility. We are coming together with Foxtrot in an effort to raise much needed funds to assist Brenda and her family with this life-changing condition. Any enquiries, please contact Ann on [086-8302975](tel:086-8302975) or Helen on [085-8282000](tel:085-8282000).

Spring-Clean in Bohola: Durkan Community Park is taking part in An Taisce's national spring-clean anti-litter campaign. Meet at Sheridan Community Centre on Saturday, April 25th at 2pm. All volunteers are welcome to litter pick throughout the village or tidy up your own road or townland. Bring bags to central location for disposal. Further information at [086-3620928](tel:086-3620928).

ACRES West Connacht Free Event: 'Food Forests – Growing Food, Trees & Plants in Harmony with Nature' takes place on Thursday, April 16th at 7pm in the Ballina Manor Hotel. All are welcome to this engaging free talk about enhancing the sustainability of our local towns and villages. For Information, contact [085-2683630](tel:085-2683630).

Mayo Cancer Support Church Gate Collection: Mayo Cancer Support Association at Rock Rose House, will hold their annual Church Gate Collection next weekend of April 18th and 19th in Shraheens and Bohola. We would appreciate your continued support for this local charity that offers free emotional support to people affected by cancer and their families. See www.mayocancersupport.ie for more. If anyone can volunteer to assist with the collections, please call Rose on [083-4890754](tel:083-4890754).

Bowel Cancer Awareness Month: Bowel cancer is one of the most common cancers, but when detected early, it is highly treatable. You can reduce your risk of bowel cancer by eating healthy (high fibre, limit processed meat/red meat), limiting alcohol, maintain a healthy weight, being physically active, and getting help to quit smoking. Bowel screening is available to everyone aged 57-71 years. See www.hse.ie/bowelscreen.

It is important to be aware of changes in your body and seek medical advice if you notice a change in bowel habit that lasts more than 6 weeks (diarrhoea, constipation, or a change in stool consistency), feeling like you have to pass stool even when you know your bowel is empty, unexplained bleeding from your back passage, unexplained pain or lump in tummy or back passage, unexplained tiredness more than is normal for you or unexplained weight loss. These symptoms don't always mean cancer, but they should never be ignored.

Could You Take On 7,000 Steps A Day Throughout April? Walk anywhere, anytime and help support Family Carers Ireland while raising awareness for carers nationwide. Sign up at www.familycarers.ie/get-involved. For more information, see www.familycarers.ie/stepup.

Are You Ready to Help Build a Better World? Why not become a Laudato Si' Animator to bring prayer and action for climate justice together? This free online course begins on April 15th and is available for all who are interested in exploring care for creation through the lens of faith and spirituality. Sign up here: <https://laudatosianimators.org>.

The North Mayo Heritage Centre has been helping people research their family history for over 40 years. The service has helped thousands of local people to learn more about their ancestors. You will be very welcome to contact us with your enquiries. Phone [096-31809](tel:096-31809) or email northmayo@gmail.com.

See more in the online Extended Newsletter at www.straideparish.com

**When a woman asks you to guess her age,
it's like deciding whether to cut the blue, red or green wire to diffuse a bomb!**

**A lot of folks believe
the finest day for
mankind was when a
man set foot on the
moon, but my friend
the real finest day for
mankind was when
Jesus stepped out of
the tomb.**

Extended Online Newsletter

Accord Ballaghadereen Offers a Confidential Counselling Service where couples can explore family relationships. Accord counsellors can help if relationships are under stress. For online counselling, please visit www.accord.ie. Alternatively, to book a face to face counselling session, please call Accord Ballaghadereen on [087-9972503](tel:087-9972503).

ALONE Seeking Volunteers: Would you be willing to provide companionship to an older person locally? ALONE are seeking Visitation Support & Befriending Volunteers and Telephone Support & Befriending Volunteers in your area. Full training and support provided. If interested, please apply via the ALONE website at www.alone.ie or for further information please contact us on volunteer@alone.ie or call [0818-222024](tel:0818-222024).

If you are over 60 and would like to know more about the services ALONE can offer you, please call [0818-222024](tel:0818-222024).

Need to Advertise Your Community Event for FREE? Send a jpeg/png file and a brief description of your event to mayoppn@mayococo.ie and the Mayo PPN will share it with our 1,300 plus Community Groups.

Kiltimagh Rural Social Scheme Vacancies: Are you interested in helping your community while earning extra money? We are seeking people for Caretaking, Maintenance, and Social Care positions in the Kiltimagh/Bohola/Midfield areas. 19.5 Hours per week based on a farmer-friendly schedule. **NEW ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA APPLIES** making it more accessible to join our team. Please contact Caroline if you have any questions on [087-2107385](tel:087-2107385).

Strengthen Your Skills for Gaining Employment. Join our Computer & Office Skills course, QQI Level 4/5 at National Learning Network, Breafoy Road, Castlebar. If you or someone you know has an additional support need and are registered with the Department of Social Protection, you are entitled to free upskilling. Contact: Centre Manager, Mary Hanlon ([087-3611096](tel:087-3611096)) or email Castlebar@nlm.ie.

Workability is Here to Help: Workability is a community-based service dedicated to supporting people with disabilities, injuries, or long-term health conditions to access and maintain employment. With personalised guidance and one-to-one support, the team works closely with each participant to match their skills, interests, and goals with real job opportunities. The Workability team understands that everyone's journey is different. Our supportive and confidential approach ensures you are encouraged every step of the way — building confidence, developing skills, and opening doors to sustainable employment. Take the next step toward your future and find out more by contacting us today! Email rosemariemangan@mayonortheastldc.com or call Siobhán [087-4996605](tel:087-4996605). Labhair linn i módh ruin. All confidential.

Balla Bingo Every Sunday Night! Join us online or in the hall at 8pm. Get your bingo books online www.balla.ie.

Balla Line-Dancing Classes are on Saturday Evenings from 7pm to 8pm. Contact Balla CRD [094-9365846](tel:094-9365846) or [087-1850860](tel:087-1850860).

Nia Dance Class continues on Mondays at 10am in Swinford Cultural Centre. Classes are barefoot to music, gentle on joints and great for fitness and well-being. Contact Siobhan at [089-4182740](tel:089-4182740).

Ward Agricultural Consultants and Forestry Service Ltd invites expressions of interest for the new forestry knowledge-transfer discussion groups, Focus Area B: Forest Management Plans and Forest Certification. Participants can earn up to €560 by learning how to manage their forests. This course will also help you prepare a forestry management plan and apply for the Forestry Certification Grant of €1,200. Call, text, or WhatsApp your name and forestry number to [087-9193371](tel:087-9193371). If you have any questions, please call the same number. We are also available to assist with your BISS 2026 application.

Gambling Support: Free support service for problem gamblers and their families is open to anyone in need. Contact Bernie Heneghan, Psychotherapist, by email at gawarenesstacufrc@gmail.com or call [087-7005811](tel:087-7005811).

Mayo Cancer Support provides FREE support services to those affected by cancer. Call [094-9038407](tel:094-9038407).

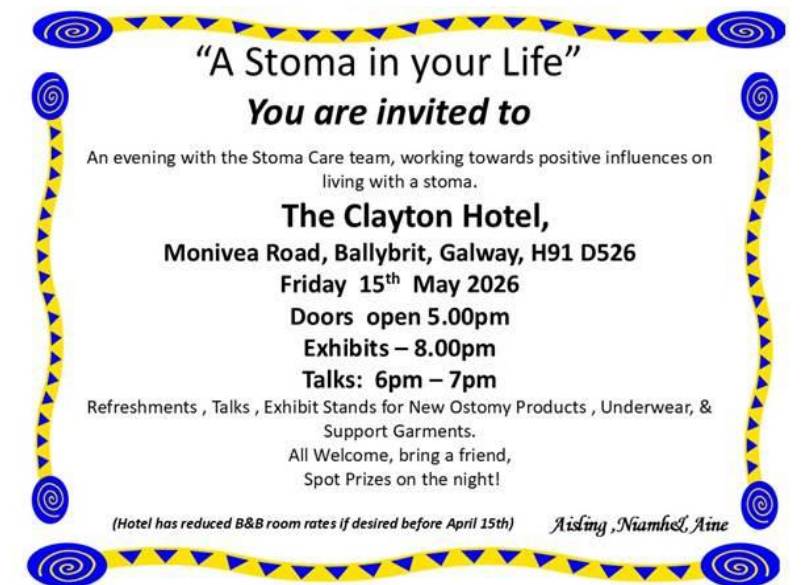
North West STOP offers a free counselling service with no waiting lists. Call or text [086-7772009](tel:086-7772009) to arrange an appointment.

Gianna Care provides help to anyone experiencing an unexpected pregnancy, or who needs help following an abortion. Their trained client advocates, counsellors, nurses and doctors are there to help. See giannacare.ie.

Mindspace Mayo: Mindspace Mayo offers a free support service to young people (12-25yrs) in Co. Mayo, presenting with anything from common concerns (e.g. dealing with break-up, exam stress, bullying) to emerging mental health difficulties like mild depression and anxiety. Mindspace is located in Market Square, Castlebar and anyone can make a referral. Visit www.mindspacemayo.ie or call [094-9067001](tel:094-9067001).

Radio Maria Ireland: Thank God and sincere thanks also to our many listeners and supporters as *Radio Maria Ireland* continues to grow. As an Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station we enjoy commercial free broadcasting - Prayer, Catechesis, uplifting music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies. Do join our growing faith family! Here's how you can listen: **1.** Via Digital TV - Saorview Channel 210. **2.** Download our FREE App "RADIO MARIA IRELAND". **3.** Streaming on our WEBSITE - www.radiomaria.ie. **4.** Via our 'Listen Live Radio' link on our Facebook Page. **5.** Via PHONE – get live radio feed by calling 01-4373277 (no extra charges apply).

Why not drop a line to our Spiritual Director, Fr Des Farren by text on [089-4672000](tel:089-4672000), by phone on [01-4123456](tel:01-4123456), or come and pay us a visit at Radio Maria Ireland, St. Anthony's Business Park, Ballymount Road, Dublin 22. D22 R7W2.



Hospital & Home Visits/Family Deaths: If you wish the priest to visit relations or friends in hospital or at home or to put a notice of family deaths outside the parish in the weekly newsletter – please make contact by phone or email.

Second Sunday of Easter

There are times when we seem to be all alone in the world. There are times when we wonder if God is really out there, during loss, illness: we long for some sign that He is out there, and that He cares about us. And we, like Thomas, begin to doubt.

If you hang around sceptical, unbelieving people, then you are in trouble. Your faith is not fed, belief does not do well in faithless company any more than resistance to drugs rarely survives well among drug-taking friends. Faith is like a muscle in the body: if you do not use it, it begins to weaken. If you do not exercise your faith, it too dies.

The way you exercise your faith is by living it. First and foremost, you have to talk to God. We call that prayer. You have to talk to God because you cannot have a relationship with anyone unless you communicate with them. When Death asks the question, 'Is there anyone out there' the answer is a firm 'Yes!'

If you are a person of faith, hold on to it. Exercise it, use it, it is a gift more precious than gold. You are indeed fortunate when you can say, and believe, the words of St Thomas, 'My Lord and my God.'

Fr Bob's homilies Franciscan friars of the atonement atonementfriars.org

