

Parish Pastoral Council meeting in Dromintine Conference Centre on Thursday 17th September from 7.30 p.m. - 9.30 p.m.

Parish Pastoral Centre: The Tenders will be returned this week for the new building and work should start soon.

Sign-Up Sunday: 26th/27th September - Parish based societies/groups/organisations should use this weekend to promote and recruit new members.

SHYNE - meeting this Sunday, 13th, at 7.30pm in St. John the Baptist Meeting Room.

Country Comes to Town: St. Patrick's Church will participate next Saturday 19th September. Face Painting and tea/coffee available from 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Come and visit - stay and pray.

Dear Parishioners

Thank you for your support over my years in Portadown. Your faith and devotion to Mass have been part of my faith journey. I now have the opportunity to spend more time at teaching and research. I invite you to pray for Jesuit vocations, especially for the three men from Ireland who are at the start of their training in Birmingham. God bless!
 Brian Mac Cuarta S.J.

Drop off at St. John the Baptist Primary School and Nursery - driving up the Garvaghy Road who not drive up and around the roundabout to be on the school side of the road?

SPIRITUAL EXERCISES IN DAILY LIFE: a mixed Church group of 6 - 8 people facilitated by Fr. Michael Bingham - fortnightly meetings for an hour or so from October to May following a process of prayer, learning to discern where God is present, acting and inviting us in our daily lives. If you think this programme may be what you are looking for, please pick up a leaflet from the sacristy or porch or contact Fr. Michael at 38330366 or michael_bingham1@btinternet.com

Offertory Collection - Sunday 4th
 £22497-72

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GATE - Youth Magazine available in Churches - £1-50.

Requiescant In Pace

Lately deceased: Kieran McClean, Nathan Creaney, Eileen Skelton, Kathleen Murphy, Margaret Marley, Margaret Murray, Mary Maguinness, Vona Lynch, Elizabeth Donaghy, Fr. Kevin Devine

At This Time: Susanna Creaney, Emer Treacy, Tony Gorman, Charles Keegan, Mick Fay
 McConville Family, Cosmi Ximenes, Adelina de Fatima, Rosinha Soriano, Dessie & Teresa Hogan

Sunday 13th: Mary Breen, Tommy McAlinden

Monday 14th: M.M. Ann Green, Rita McShane, Bernard McParland, Mary Beattie, Seamus

Marley, McAlinden Family, Mary Rose Wolohan, McDonald Family

Tuesday 15th: James Lavery, Mary Gillen

Wednesday 16th: Mary Ann McCabe, William Breen

Thursday 17th: Kathleen McCoy (1st Anniversary), Elizabeth McAtamney, James Thompson, George Hall

Friday 18th: M.M Paul Douglas, Margaret Murphy, Margaret Lester, Eileen Sloan, Maureen O'Neill, Mary Jane O'Reilly

Saturday 19th: M.M. Oliver O'Neill, Br. Francis McCann, Seamus Donnelly

Anniversaries late for bulletin should be left in the Sacristy for inclusion on the proper day.

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When submitting notices for the bulletin please include a contact name and telephone number.

Notices and anniversaries should be left in by the Wednesday prior to publication.

Follow the Lord Jesus. If you lose yourself for Jesus' sake you will find life. He is worth it and your life depends on it. Contact Fr. Paddy Rushe 00353 42 93 34259.

Marriage Encounter Weekend 9th / 11th October at Emmaus Conference Centre, Swords, Co. Dublin.

Monaghan Charismatic Prayer Group monthly healing Mass on Monday 14th September in St. Louis Convent Chapel, Monaghan at 8 p.m. Rosary at 7.30 p.m. All welcome.

St. Vincent De Paul Society

Clothes shop, tel. 38393898 or Furniture shop tel. 38394219, in Mayfair Business Centre, Garvaghy Road. Opening hours Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. NEW SELF HELP LINE - 38339639. Response within 48 hours.

The Presentation Sisters Koinonia Project -Â Meditation Monday 14th September 7.30 p.m., T'ai Chi Chih classes Wednesday 16th September 7.30 p.m. or Thursday 17th September at 11 a.m.Â For details please call 38332220 or e-mail brigidkavanagh@btinternet.com

Servite Priory - Benburb:Â Forthcoming event: Wednesday 30th September.Â An Evening with Sr. Joyce Rupp O.S.M.Â at 7.30 p.m.Â Thursday 1st October.Â A Day with Joyce Rupp.Â at 10 a.m.

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ACCORD Marriage Preparation Courses: in Armagh City

Hotel on 9th/16th/23rd September and 4th/11th/18th November; in Cohannon Inn on 8th/15th/22nd September and 6th/13th/20th Oct and 3rd/10th/17th Nov. It is important to book early even if your wedding is not until 2010. To book contact ACCORD Office at 38334781.

St. Malachy's Indoor Bowling Club:Â Practice for the new season Thursday 7.30 p.m. in Ashgrove Community Centre.Â New members welcome.

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Feasts:Â Monday 14th The Triumph of The Cross;Â Tuesday 15th Our Lady of Sorrows; Wednesday 16th Ss. Cornelius and Cyprian;Â Thursday 17th St. Robert Bellarmine;Â Saturday 19th St. Januarius.

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Ann and Liz invite you to Macmillan Cancer Coffee Morning on Friday 25th September in Ashgrove Community Centre, 9.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.Â All welcome. Â

Bannside Development Centre: Bannside Scribblers

Mondays 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.Â Arts and Crafts Classes from 7 - 8.30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday.Â English classes Thursday 10 a.m.Â I.C.T. for beginners. Homework club resumes Monday 7th September 3.15 - 4.30 p.m.Â Positive Mental Health & Wellbeing Classes starting September: limited places, enrol early to avoid disappointment.Â Phone 38339916.

Finesse School of Modelling - Fashion Show, Supper and Dance Extravaganza, Lurgan Castle, Saturday 19th September.Â Tickets Â£25 each.Â (In aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care).Â Phone 38321815.

Community Drugs Awareness Night - Tuesday 15th September, 7.30 p.m. in Ashgrove Community Centre.Â Presentations from Dr. Arthur Cassidy (member of Irish Assoc. of Suicide Prevention & Lecturer in Social Psychology).Â Contact Drug Recognition, Neighbour Policing Team and DPP member. Â

Cumann Seanchais Ard Mhacha:Â lecture on Wednesday 23rd September at 8 p.m. in O'Fiaich Library, Armagh, by Professor Brendan Smith of Bristol University "Continuity and change in Medieval South Ulster". Â

Drumcree College - Basketball - P7 - 1st & 2nd years every Wednesday from 3.30 p.m. - 5 p.m. Adult fitness classes Wednesdays 7.30 p.m. - 8.30 p.m.Â For more information contact the school 38334725.Â Â

Churchill & Ballyoran Estates Community Association Annual General Meeting in Drumcree Community Centre Wednesday 30th September at 7.30 p.m.Â Everyone welcome.

National Religious Education Congress, 2nd - 4th October in Fairways Hotel, Dundalk - for families, schools, parish groups and all those interested in religious education and catechetical formation.Â Speakers include Fr. Timothy Radcliffe OP, Fr. Peter McVerry SJ, Rev. Ruth Patterson.Â Theme of Congress is "Between Memory and Hope".Â Information from National Catechetical Office, St. Patrick's College, Maynooth or Rev. Oliver Brennan, Blackrock, Dundalk.

Reflection

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Thinking God's way

Jesus died at the hands of violent people and his disciples would have spared him
or told him to live in such a way that
no harm would come to him.

But God's way was the way of love,
the type of love that is proved in
hardship,
the type of love that is understood only
in God.

Illness for many years
may seem like a waste to some;
but we also see that within the illness

was a strength that was life-giving to many,
and through it a deep love and faith was born,
even in times of hardship and
frustration
for a person who is ill and for
carers.

God's way is not to see illness,
disability or confusion,
failure or mistakes,
as a waste,
but a way to love;
for in the fragility of life we
discover
some of the deepest truths of human life.

It is God's way to see the child of God in everyone,
God's way to forgive and be
reconciled,
God's way to work for justice and peace,
God's way to see, in the weakness of death,
the strong promise of eternity.

God sees no waste in life
for in everything love can grow and God can be found.
And that was the way for Jesus who said
that the son of Man was to suffer
grievously,
be put to death,
and on the third day rise again.

Jesus, once condemned to death,
now raised to life in the love of God.