

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 144:1-2.8-11.13-14

*R: I will bless your name for ever, O God my King.***Gospel Reading:****Matthew 11:25-30**

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.



'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

Cemetery Sunday Thank You!

Our Cemetery celebration took place on Sunday in Ballymacormack, and thankfully the weather was much more clement this year, reflected by the large volume of family and friends who gathered to remember and pray for our dearly departed loved ones. As always, each grave had been lovingly tended and cared for, including those who have no family remaining - for which we thank our cemetery caretaker Paul Daly and those with neighbouring plots.

We wish to thank all those involved in the weeks preparing for our Cemetery Mass this year - again to our caretaker Paul and Longford County Council; to the Parish Pastoral Council for the time and energy they dedicate to organising the day; to the Gardaí and our stewards who did a wonderful job facilitating the smooth parking and efficient flow of people and traffic; to our magnificent Cathedral Choir and Choir director, Fintan Farrelly; to Martin Glennon who once again provided the platform for the Mass, ensuring the altar was visible from almost all parts of the Cemetery; to John Farrell for providing the sound; to the numerous Ministers of the Eucharist who assisted with the blessing of the graves and the distribution of Holy Communion; to our Readers who proclaimed God's word and led us in the prayers of petition, to our Cathedral Sacristan Gerry and his wife Mary who transported everything necessary for the celebration of the Mass ensuring everything was in pristine condition; to all who erected the station signs, organised and assisted with the collection and to you all who contributed most generously to the collection on the day - we thank you all most sincerely.

A special thanks to all of you who attended, especially those who travel distances to be with us, as without you, this annual celebration could not take place. Finally, we thank you for your contribution to the Cemetery Collection which amounted to €665.

REFLECTION

Humanity, created by God in all its grandeur, is today facing a pivotal choice: either to construct a new Tower of Babel or to build the city in which God and humanity dwell together. Each generation inherits the task of shaping its own era, of guiding history to become a place where the dignity of every person is safeguarded, justice is promoted and fraternity is made possible. Yet every era also runs the risk of creating an inhumane and more unjust world. Whenever humanity is in danger of marring its true identity, we Christians lift our eyes to the Incarnate God, knowing that it is "only in the mystery of the Word made flesh that the mystery of humanity truly becomes clear." In Jesus Christ, this humanity in its grandeur becomes the Way, the Truth and the Life, opening a path for each of us to grow toward fullness.

Founded on Christ, the living stone, we experience the powerful and mysterious action of the Holy Spirit, and we believe that every authentic human effort to cooperate with him for the good will be blessed by our heavenly Father, in whom we place our hope. For this reason, we can diligently contribute to every initiative that builds a more just world, and we can call others to collaborate in promoting the integral development of every human being. We wish to engage in dialogue with all men and women of our time, with whom we share in the events, questions and aspirations of humanity. Together with them, we seek to identify new paths for the common good and for promoting a dignified life for all. Indeed, openness to dialogue is an integral part of the Church's vocation because, constituted in Christ as "a sacrament ... of communion with God and of the unity of the entire human race," she recognises history as the place where the Gospel challenges and directs human experience.

(Pope Leo XIV. On safeguarding the human person in the time of artificial intelligence. 2026)

Monday, 6th July - St Maria Goretti

8.00am: Special Intention for Vlad who is unwell
10.00am: Frantisek Rasz & Josef Balaz (A)

Tuesday, 7th July - St Maelruain

8.00am: Arthur Quinn (A)
10.00am: Oriana Herrera & her daughter Ainoha, victims of the Venezuelan earthquake

Wednesday, 8th July - St Kilian

8.00am: Bernadette Quinn (A) **10.00am:** Molly & Christy Shiels (A)

Thursday, 9th July - Ss Augustine Zhao Rong & Companions

8.00am: Tim & Agnes Moloney (A) **10.00am:** Private Intention
7.30pm Curry: Joseph Madden (Rec Dec'd)

Friday, 10th July

8.00am: Zhang Jiawey (Rec Dec'd) **10.00am:** P.J. Quinn (MM)

Saturday, 11th July - St Benedict

8.00am: Christina Harding (A) **10.00am:** Noel Rogers (A)

Sunday, 12th July - Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7.30pm Vigil: Florrie Curran (1st Anniv)
Eamonn Greene (2nd A)
Bill & Tess Farrell

8.00am: **Mass for People of the Parish (Missa Pro Populo)**

10.00am: Josephine & Oliver Keenan, sons Peter & Martin & DFM
Tony Donlon (A)
John Doran, his sons John & Joe & DFM

11.30am: Paudge & Nellie Murphy, baby Patrick & daughter Madeline Conroy (A)
Frank & Kathleen Duffy & DFM
Denis Madigan (A)

1.00pm: Rose Wyse (1st A)
Phil & Jimmy Conroy (A)
Kevin Masterson (A)

6.00pm: Jan Telvak Jnr (Rec Dec'd) his father Jan Snr & Dusan Telvak

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: We thank you most sincerely for your generous contribution to our collection last week which amounted to €2,920. We thank you also for your donations to our cemetery collection of €665.

BAPTISM It is with great joy we welcomed Ivin Jomesh, Marislav Gaziova and Damian Gazi into the Christian community last weekend.

CONGRATULATIONS to Chantelle Mears and Dylan McDonagh who gave themselves to each other in holy matrimony this week.

CEMETERY MASS IN BALLINAMORE (N39 Y446) - Monday 6th July at 7pm. Refreshments for all afterwards.

NOVENA to Our Lady of Mount Carmel takes place in the Cathedral at 5pm **Tuesday 7th - Saturday 11th July**, at 3pm on **Sunday 12th July**, at 5pm **Monday 13th - Wed 15th**; concluding with mass **Thursday 16th July** at 10am.

KNOCK BASILICA 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS take place on **Saturday 18th July**, with a special celebration at the Basilica of Our Lady, Queen of Ireland. Full details on www.knockshrine.ie.

PIONEER ASSOCIATION OF THE SACRED HEART PILGRIMAGE takes place in Knock Shrine on **Sunday 19th July**.

GRANDPARENTS ASSOCIATION PILGRIMAGE takes place in Knock on **Sunday 26th July**. It honours the Sixth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, featuring the Anointing of the Sick at 2:30pm and a special Mass at 3:00pm celebrated by Archbishop Eamon Martin.

REEK SUNDAY takes place on **26th July 2026**. This year's theme is Road Safety. Fr John Kenny, Administrator of Westport Parish is encouraging people to pray "*Arise with me in the morning, Travel with me through the day, Welcome me on my arrival, God be with me all the way. Amen.*" Mass will be celebrated hourly on the summit of Croagh Patrick from 8am to 2pm, with confessions from 7.30am to 2pm.

WEDDING JUBILEE MASS PHOTOGRAPHS - Michael Croghan very kindly took a number of photographs during the Jubilee Mass celebration. If Michael took your photo, and you would like to order one, please call to the Parish Office with your details.

LONGFORD AGRICULTURAL SHOW & COUNTRY FAIR takes place today **Sunday 5th July** in Enybegs, Longford N39 WK53. A fun day for all the family, from the very young to the not so very young! With cattle, sheep, horses, dogs, crafts, farm and garden produce, trade-stands, free children's entertainment, live music from 12pm-7pm featuring Patrick Feeney, Jack Keogh and Seamus Farrell, jiving competitions and much more.