



**Parish of Abbeyside
Ballinroad & Garranbane Newsletter
Sunday 19th January, 2020
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Abbeyside Church Building Works: Where Were You When...?

Where were you when Storm Brendan sprinted through? Orange weather alert. People told not to cycle. Only to drive when necessary. Hardy worshippers braved the wind and prayed at Mai Breen's Month's Mind Mass in the Scouts' Den. Shortly after Mass, the rain began to pound the now unusual single glazed windows. An email popped in asking us to pray for Fr Bill Callanan, one of our most senior priests, who is low. While I was still wet from walking to the Parish Office, I drove to the church before changing my clothes. Ceiling being painted: tower scaffold re-erected on the sanctuary step. Still waiting for wall colour samples. Red laser level lights throw a horizontal line all around the church walls, just under the window sills, to facilitate the return of the Stations of the Cross. As I type, it just occurs to me that I hope the sequence won't be broken as in a previous parish when the painter had Jesus placed in the tomb before he had died!



I went on a tour of the attic, chiefly to see how much of the recently installed insulation had been disturbed by electricians and alarm people. Due to a small grant for attic insulation, we had to complete this before the end of September. In an ideal world, it would be added at the end. Some resettling is needed. Next up, a discussion about the attic trapdoor and whether it is fit for purpose. Good news in the attic: no sign of water! The last time it slipped in, the driving rain came from the North East, hit the Tower wall, and seeped in dampening and discolouring the wall behind the organ!

Into the Cloghas or Tower. It was dark, as the light switch has not yet been re-connected. It was raining! I don't ever recall having been rained upon in the Tower. The full fury of Brendan was unleashing itself against the South West wall. Flinging itself against the steeply inclined louvres, the water was literally flowing upwards against gravity. Blown in along the upper edge of the Tower windows and wetting even the bell (which hangs high up in the middle of the Tower). The roof and top of walls were dry. Only when a flash lamp was shone, could the upwardly mobile airborne aqua be seen: flying up and over! Window 'sills' slope outwards to drain any ingress. However, in storm conditions, the slopes need to be steepened, the gaps at top and bottom of louvres lessened.

While observing the migrating moisture, it was noticed by builder John that the slightly off-centre suspended bell needs a minor adjustment to allow it to hang more levelly and toll more loudly.

About to exit the church at lunchtime, I paused at the Sacristy Door as much in fear of a drenching as in awe of the power of the wind, rain and hail...all being hurled past and the drains overflowing. A mini lake.

That's where I was during Storm Brendan's brief but brazen bolt through Abbeyside!

Word Search

Thank you to everyone who entered the Christmas 2019 Word-Search competition. The missing word was **Portlaw**, and the winner was: **John Fitzgerald, Coolagh**.

Enrolment

Scoil Mhuire, Abbeyside National School, is opening their enrolment process from **Monday 20th Jan to Friday 31st Jan**. Anyone interested in enrolling their child for Junior Infants Sept 2020 should complete the application form which is available from the school or from their website www.abbeysidens.com. Completed applications must be handed in to the school before **2p.m. on Jan 31st**.

Abbeyside, Ballinroad & Garranbane Lourdes Invalid Fund

If anyone would like to travel to Lourdes please contact the Abbeyside, Ballinroad & Garranbane Invalid Fund for an application form at **087-2101620**.

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage

The Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage will be held from **3rd to 8th June 2020**. Booking is already open and you may book online www.joewalshtours.ie where you can avail of a €10 Discount.

You may also contact the Lourdes booking office in Waterford on **051-878900 from 9am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday**.

Please note that visits to the Waterford office will only be open on Monday and Thursday from 10am to 2pm.



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Pope Francis has designated the 3rd Sunday of January in Ordinary Time as Sunday of the Word of God. An Ecumenical Service will be held in the **Cathedral of the Most Holy Trinity, Barronstrand St, Waterford this Sunday, January 19th at 7.30 p.m.** Revd Dr. Christine O'Dowd-Smythe will give an address and Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan will preside.

"Go Make Disciples" an Alpha Training Day

As part of the diocesan Pastoral Plan "Go Make Disciples" an Alpha Training Day will be held in **the Pastoral Centre, St. John's Hill on 25th Jan 2020 10am - 3:30pm**. This is a key opportunity to be informed, equipped and resourced to run Alpha well in your parish.

Key parish leaders and/or anyone who might be interested are more than welcome to attend.

All Night Eucharistic Adoration

An all night Eucharistic Adoration will take place in the **Foyer of Charity Leperstown Cross, Dunmore East, Co. Waterford, Saturday February 1st 8 p.m. to Sunday 10 a.m.**

For more information contact Helen 086 1678027 or Lesley 087 1373549



If Elderly or Sick and Housebound

If you know of someone who would like the priest to visit with Holy Communion on First Fridays or at any other time, please let us know at the parish office 058-45787.



Parish Contacts

Parish Office: 058 45787

Opening Hours: Monday-Thursday 9.00a.m. – 1.00p.m.

Friday 9.00a.m. – 12.30p.m.

Email: abgparishoffice@eircom.net

Parish Website: www.abgparish.ie



Anniversary Masses this Weekend

Saturday (Vigil) 7.00 p.m. Abbeyside School Donal O'Brien

Sunday 9.30 a.m. Abbeyside School Mary Hickey

10.00 a.m. Ballinroad Martin & Kitty Barry

Kevin Dwane

11.00 a.m. Garranbane -----

12 noon Abbeyside School Jimmy O'Dea

Anniversary Masses next Weekend

Saturday (Vigil) 7.00 p.m. Abbeyside School John Burke

Sunday 9.30 a.m. Abbeyside School Birdie Preston

10.00 a.m. Ballinroad James Hanafin

Monie & Maggie Tobin

Molly Kiely

11.00 a.m. Garranbane Ellen & Sean Sheehan

Peggy & Richie Whelan

12 noon Abbeyside School Trish O'Brien

Remember Those Who Died Recently:

Vinny Mahony & Fr. Bill Callanan

**Weekday Masses at 10 a.m. are held in the Scouts Den,
Sarsfield Street.**

Weekend Masses are held in Abbeyside School Hall