

Newsletter August 2020

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Date	Ballyseedy 9.45 am	Tralee 10.45 am	Ballymac 12 noon	Kilgobbin 10.00 am	Dingle 12 noon
2 nd August	MP	HC	MP	MP	MP
9 th August	MP	MP	MP	MP	MP
16 th August	HC	MP	HC	MP	MP
23 rd August	No Service	MP	MP	MP	HC
30 th August	No Service	HC	No service	HC	MP

have slowly but surely returned to our Churches. The Wednesday midweek service is continuing via zoom, but will return to the Church on the 5th August.

A variety of liturgies were provided during the period when the churches were shut, some formal services from our churches and many informal via zoom, it was great to be able to connect with parishioners via this medium. Thank you to all those who were involved. Some of what we experimented with in these past few months might feed into our services in the future. Thank you to the Ballymacelligott Community alert Facebook page who also very generously broadcast services for us.

All the services and bits and pieces that we recorded are still available our parish website.

The last two of June and first week of July were very busy in our parish as we poured over protocols, trained volunteers, sourced signs, tape, sanitizers and completed paperwork, to prepare our churches so that everyone could return safely to public worship.

Thank you to the many volunteers and to the welcoming and contact tracing teams who have made this possible.

For the first few Sundays the services were shorter and were in the format of Morning Prayer or Services of the Word. We will include Holy Communion in the coming weeks.

I know some parishioners still don't feel ready to receive Holy Communion and that is fine and understandable, just indicate to the

priest by crossing your hands that you are not ready to receive and be assured that you can receive spiritually as well. I have included a prayer that we can use in these circumstances below.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion.

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ. For all the benefits that you have given to me. Since I am not able for the moment to receive you sacramentally, I ask that you come spiritually into my heart. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly and follow you more nearly day by day. Amen

Tralee Soup Kitchen: Congratulations and well done to Collette and her team who worked so hard during the period when so much was restricted, they delivered meals to over 300 homes at their peak. Thankfully this phase is over for the moment and they have returned to serving meals in Teach an tSolais again.

Parish School:

This year we did not have a formal opportunity or an end of term service and to say good bye to the current sixth class students. I would like to thank them for the contribution they have made during their time in St Johns, I have happy memories of them taking part in so many of our school services. Thank you, Bethany, Lucy, Shauna and Zachiarz. The Principal and staff contributed to an online message to the departing class and invited each of the children at a specific time for a socially distanced photograph and presentation. Parents, children and parishioners are also busy collecting mighty milk cartons from the Lee Strand milk cartons in order to raise funds for the school. Would any readers who buy Lee Strand, please collect these for us, drop them to the school or to any of the churches or to the parish office or to the soup kitchen on Saturday morning.

The CEC Scheme has started back in the grounds of our churches again, Thank you to Robert and to David Blennerhassett who are the link people in Tralee and Ballymacelligott. It is hoped that Ballyseedy will be included in the rota. Thank you also to those parishioners who have kept an eye on our Churches and grounds during the past few months.

Death.

We were saddened to learn of the death of Arthur Parkinson of Kilflynn who died unexpectedly in the Bon Secours hospital in Tralee. Our sympathy to his sister Betty and to his niece and nephews in Wexford and Dublin, to his first cousins in Kilflynn and to the extended Parkinson family and to all his neighbours and friends at this sad time. Arthur farmed all his life in the family farm at Kilflynn and he is remembered as a good brother, a kind uncle and a good neighbour. We will miss his presence in Church, but we will remember his faithfulness and we thank God for his life and for the example that he has left to us.

Arthurs funeral was our first in Church since we reopened and I would like to thank Susie, Marion, Linda, David and Sam who prepared the church so that we were in compliance with church protocols.

Easter Vestries

The advice from the RB is that these must be held before the end of September.

As of yet times and dates have not been decided but it is likely that they will be held sometime in mid September. This year is a triennium and we will have extra elections. I am most grateful to those who so generously serve on the select vestry and as wardens, secretaries and treasurers.

Hopefully we are through the worst and as society reopens let us remember with thanks all those in our community who have worked through the restrictions esp. those whose work involved close daily contact with others.

Family Activity Sheet

<https://www.rootsontheweb.com/media/20732/02-aug-2020-childrens-sheet.pdf>

The General Thanksgiving:

Almighty God and merciful father we give you hearty thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness to us and to all your people.

We bless you for our creation , preservation and for all the blessings of this life ; but above all for your love in redeeming the world by our lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace and for the hope of glory.

Give us a due sense of your mercy that our hearts may be thankful, and that we may praise you not only with our lips but with our lives, by giving up ourselves to

your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**