

Cobh Parish



Fatima Centenary Year 1917-2017

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The Baptism of the Lord

8th January 2017

V. Rev. John McCarthy, Adm., 1 Cathedral Terrace, Cobh	4815619
Rev. Peter O'Farrell, 2 Cathedral Terrace, Cobh	4855983
V. Rev. Liam Kelleher, 4 Cathedral Terrace, Cobh	4816400
Rev. Pat O' Donoghue, 3 Cathedral Terrace, Cobh	4813601
Priest on Sick Call	087-6872014

Thought for the day: On *YouTube* recently I saw a moving video of a girl who had been fostered by foster parents in long term care. The family gathered to make an important announcement to her – that they were adopting her. The tears of joy, amazement and welcome make for very emotional watching. Now she is truly a member of the family, on a par she never thought possible. I think a parallel can be made between this story and what happens to us in baptism. For each of us our physical birth to our mother and father begins a close relationship of dependency, of nurturing and love as well as membership of a family and taking our rightful place in the family home. But our Baptism is a spiritual rebirth. We are beloved adopted children of the Father and we now belong to Mother Church and are nurtured by the sacraments, and we are at home in the Church with our spiritual kinship to our brothers and sisters. St Augustine said ***"he will not have God for his Father who would not have the Church for his mother."*** Our obligations and responsibilities towards the other members of our own human family, brothers and sisters etc., are mirrored also by the relationship and responsibilities to our brothers and sisters in Christ. Baptism raises our dignity to amazing heights. Why not try to find out the date of your own baptism and celebrate your spiritual birthday as well each year!

Cobh Parish Income: Sunday, 1st January - Cathedral: €2,142.00 Rushbrooke: €420.00 Ballymore: €185.00. We thank all who contributed to these collections.

Deaths: We pray for the repose of the souls of who died this week. We pray especially today for Olivia Ellard (née Barry), Attiquin and Cobh, Gerard Irwin, Innishmore Park, Maurice Stanton, late of Stack Terrace and Warrington, England and Mr. Paddy Flynn, Park Road Centre. May they rest in peace.

Baptisms: We welcome into our community Kevin Stephen Denehan Mellerick and all who were baptised recently.

Please note that from the end of January 2017 **the 7.00 pm Mass on the last Sunday of each month will be a Monthly Memorial Mass** for all the deceased of the previous five weeks. The first Memorial Mass will be on the **29th of January** and the names of the deceased of late December and January will be called out and a special candle will be lit in honour of these deceased at the Mass. The annual remembrance Mass in November will continue to be celebrated.

Divine Mercy: Monday, 9th January. Hour of Prayer in the Priory, Mass at 8.00pm. Rosary 7.40pm. **All Welcome.**

Cathedral Shop will re-open on Monday, 9th January at 10.30am.

Mass Goers Association (MGA), January 2017: The Mission for this period 'We pray to the Holy Family for Peace in our Homes and Peace in the World for this Holy season'. Our next meeting is on January 11th 2017 after 10am Mass in the Parish Centre.

Blessing of babies: We would like to invite you to a special ceremony for the Blessing of all babies baptised in 2016. This will take place in St. Colman's Cathedral @ 3.00pm this Sunday 8th January.

Are you interested in supporting the work of Trócaire in the Diocese of Cloyne? Trócaire is looking for volunteers to bring social justice issues alive at parish level. Further information from Fr Tom McDermott (Trócaire Representative, Diocese of Cloyne) 086 1615216 fathertommcd@gmail.com or Sinead.morgan@trocaire.org 021-4275622. An information evening will be held on January 31st 2107 @ 7pm in Midleton, Co Cork - venue to be decided. This initiative is supported by Bishop William Crean.

Cloyne Diocesan Pilgrimage to FATIMA- 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady in Fatima: 7th to 14th September 2017. Departing from Dublin 7 nights. Hotel Cinquentenario, Cost €874 inclusive, including free coach transfer to and from Dublin Airport. Single room supplement, €25 per night. For further information: Fr McCarthy 021 4815619: Pilgrimages Abroad/Lauri Duffy Travel 69 Upper O'Connell Street Dublin. (01) 635 9300 [Email:info@pilgrimagesabroad.ie](mailto:info@pilgrimagesabroad.ie)

Important notice re MASS SCHEDULE: Fr Jim Moore has now been appointed as Priest in Residence and is no longer available for public Masses at weekends. Very soon, we need to review the Mass schedule at weekends as a result of this change to the weekend rota. I will be taking this up with the Parish Pastoral Council. To put things in context I have summarized below the Masses celebrated by the priests of the parish in 2016. The number of the Masses on the public Mass rota has not changed since Fr Jim Killeen's departure. Now, with Fr Moore's removal from the Sunday roster we urgently need to review what it is practicable for the priests to celebrate each weekend and allowing for sickness, holidays, retreats etc.Fr. McCarthy

MASSES CELEBRATED IN 2016: There are 9 public Masses on Sundays, 3 regular daily Masses, and a weekly Mass in the hospital on Thursdays. This schedule excludes the Benedictine Priory on weekdays and the Hospital on Sundays, both of which Fr Moore celebrates. The priests also offer Mass for the religious communities once a month for 10 months of the year. There were an additional **22 Wedding Masses and 62 Funeral Masses** celebrated by the 4 priests of the Parish at times other than scheduled Sunday or daily Masses. Some house Masses, Anniversary and Month's Mind Masses were also celebrated on occasion.