

SUNDAY ENVELOPES & DONATIONS ~ 19th September - €3,769
PARISH EXPENDITURE ~ €43,580.51 (includes: €34,174.16 for Parish Insurance)
 Thank you for your gift to God and His Church
 We deeply appreciate your continued Spiritual and Financial support.

Parish Office Hours: Monday to Friday (9.30 am - 4.30 pm)
Phone: 074 - 9121021

Parish Email: office@steunanscathedral.ie

Website: www.steunanscathedral.ie  St. Eunan's Cathedral
 Live **Web Streaming** from the Cathedral ~ churchservices.tv/letterkenny

The **ROSARY ON THE COAST** for **Life and Faith** will take place this year on **Sunday 10th October**. As you well know, there is such a great need for prayer for Ireland. The Rosary will be recited at the picnic area, Big Isle View, Manorcunningham (Just off the main Letterkenny to Derry Road) at 2.30 pm on Sunday 10th October. We encourage as many as possible to join us to pray for our country on that day, keeping in mind the covid regulations in place at the time. At present up to 200 can gather outdoors.

SEEKING YOUR HELP AND COPPER! ~ **Mary's Meals** are now feeding **2,058,099 children** ever school day. To help us feed even more children, Mary's Meals in Ireland are going **to try and feed all the children for one day** - this is on top of our normal fundraising! Therefore we need 2,058,099 multiplied by nine cents as it cost nine cents per meal. We are appealing to you for your old copper coins. You don't even need to count it. Please phone Fr. Eamonn Kelly on 087-9077985 for further information We are also glad to take old punts, sterling notes and coins. Thank you for all your help and prayers over the years.

DROMANTINE RETREAT AND CONFERENCE CENTRE

A number of places are still available for the following courses: **3rd - 8th October** - Called by a New Name: Refocus, recharge and reconnect in a post-pandemic world; **18th - 21st October** - Hello You: Finding the joy, purpose and happiness you deserve and **19th - 21st November** - Broken Open: How difficult times can help us grow. For further information please phone: 04830821964 or email: admin@dromantineconference.com

We have uploaded a number of videos under 'Featured Videos' on our website, for Parents, in Preparation for their child's Baptism.

Below 'Live Broadcast' on the Cathedral Website you have the following:

| PLAYER | SCHEDULES | RECORDINGS | FEATURED VIDEOS |
|--------|-----------|------------|-----------------|
| Church | Mobile | | |

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
 LETTERKENNY
 9129503/9122366**



**ST. EUNAN'S CATHEDRAL
 LETTERKENNY
 NEWSLETTER**

Sunday 26th September 2021

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE MASS – DESIRE AND OBLIGATION

We are all aware that the Mass fulfils the duty of the worship of God established by the Third Commandment – Keep Holy the Sabbath Day. We are aware that the Church underlines the centrality of this commandment by making it also a precept of the Church – the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation (such as 15th August, 8th December, 6th January).

During the pandemic, we have been dispensed from this obligation, but it will return as a duty before long. However, while the obligation focuses our minds and our habits, it is love and desire that bring us to Mass. The holiness of the Sabbath Day has been observed with the greatest scruple by believers since the commandment was given to Moses on the holy mountain. For the People of Israel, the Sabbath fell on Saturday, beginning with the setting of the sun on Friday evening. As Jesus fulfils the Old Testament by his death on Good Friday and his Resurrection on Easter Sunday, the Sabbath is marked by Christians on Sunday, the Lord's Day, the Day of the Resurrection.

From the first, the disciples gathered with the apostles and, without doubt, Our Lady, to mark the Sabbath Day as Jesus had taught them and enabled them to do: by the Mass, the Eucharist – a word which means thanksgiving. It is the Mass that marks the holiness of the Sabbath. It gathers the community of believers with their shepherds to hear the word of God and to share in sacramental Communion. For the one who knows Christ and understands the Gospel and the way in which Jesus established the community of believers – the Church - the desire to be at Sunday Mass is a basic and irresistible one. It is what makes the Christian community and it is what makes the Christian. Sine dominico non possumus: without the Lord's Day we cannot live; this was the answer of the early Christians of Abitene in Tunisia in the year 304 when brought before the judge to answer for their gathering in contravention of laws forbidding Christian worship. This basic need and desire arises from authentic Christian faith, and the lack of it must surely worry everyone who calls themselves by the name of Christ.

Pope Benedict XVI said when visiting Vienna: "For these Christians, the Sunday Eucharist was not a commandment, but an inner necessity. Without

him who sustains our lives with his love, life itself is empty. To do without or to betray this focus would deprive life of its very foundation, would take away its inner dignity and beauty. Does this attitude of the Christians of that time apply also to us who are Christians today? Yes, it does, we too need a relationship that sustains us, that gives direction and content to our lives. We too need access to the Risen one, who sustains us through and beyond death. We need this encounter which brings us together, which gives us space for freedom, which lets us see beyond the bustle of everyday life to God's creative love, from which we come and towards which we are travelling".

EASING OF COVID RESTRICTIONS IN THE CATHEDRAL (PHASE 1)

From next weekend, 2nd/ 3rd October, every second seat will be available in the Cathedral and we will **no longer require people to pre-book or use an assigned seat for Sunday Mass**. Please sit where you please – you do not need to sit where you have been sitting over the past year and a half.

In this phase, each person is asked to take responsibility for their own actions and to be conscious of protecting others and being considerate of them. Please follow the following guidelines:

- **PLEASE RESPECT PEOPLE'S NEED FOR SPACE:** Two couples should sit at either end of a pew; two/three persons from a household should sit at one end of the pew while one person from another household can sit at the other end.
- Do not crowd into pews, especially towards the back – we need to continue to move into the front pews and the side aisles and to use all the space in the Cathedral.
- Please respect social distancing when leaving the Cathedral at the end of Mass – do not crowd into one another at the doors.
- You are asked to wear a facemask when in the Cathedral.
- Please sanitise your hands when entering and leaving the Cathedral
- If you wish to sanitise your pew, wipes will continue to be available.
- For the moment, please continue to follow the current system for coming to Holy Communion in the nave (centre aisle): right (pulpit) side first, and then the left side, one row at a time, maintaining social distancing between different households.
- Funeral attendance remains restricted to family, close friends and neighbours. We ask families to respect a limit of 100 attendees.
- Marriages continue to be restricted to 100 attendees.
- We ask families to respect a limit of 10 attendees at baptisms.
- Collection baskets will not be used at this time: please place your Sunday Offering in the secure boxes provided at the Cathedral entrances.

Sunday 26th September

Masses: 8 am, 9.30 am, 11 am, 12.30 pm and 6 pm

Monday 27th September ~ St. Vincent de Paul

8 am Mass ~ Holy Souls in Purgatory RIP
10 am Mass ~ Priest's Intention

Tuesday 28th September ~ St. Wenceslaus

8 am Mass ~ Owenie McGinley RIP and John Shiels RIP
10 am Mass ~ Mary Ellen and Joe Friel RIP

Wednesday 29th September, Ss. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael

8 am Mass ~ Special Intention
10 am Mass ~ Christy Creevy RIP

Thursday 30th September ~ St. Jerome

8 am Mass ~ Private Intention
10 am Mass ~ Priest's Intention

Friday 1st October ~ St. Therese of the Child Jesus

8 am Mass ~ Special Intention
10 am Mass ~ Hugo McNulty RIP (Month's Mind Mass)
7 pm Mass ~ Bernard McGlynn (Month's Mind Madd), Donal Costigan, Patrick McCauley, Kieran Gallagher, John Devine, Samuel Keenan and Eileen Conaghan RIP

Saturday 2nd October

10 am Mass ~ Frances Gallagher (Month's Mind Mass) **1 pm ~ Nuptial**
Confessions ~ 11 am - 12 noon (providing there is no Funeral)
6 pm ~ Vigil Mass **7.30 pm ~ Vigil Mass**

Sunday 26th September

Masses: 8 am, 9.30 am, 11 am, 12.30 pm and 6 pm

DIVINE MERCY CENTRE ~ Sisters of Merciful Jesus
Phone: 074-9169934 Email: dmcletterkenny@gmail.com

Virtual SLEEP OUT for North West Simon Community will take place on Friday 1st October. If you wish to make a difference locally and help raise VITAL funds please register at www.northwestsimon.ie or email: mary@northwestsimon.ie You can fundraise on both Facebook Fundraiser/iDonate fundraising platforms.