

## CALLAN PARISH NEWSLETTER

**Recent death: James (Jimmy) Marnell**, Birmingham, U.K, & formerly of Oldtown, Danesfort, in his 90<sup>th</sup> year – funeral in Callan on Wed. last followed by burial in Kilbride.

**Vincent Byrne**, Butlerswood / Knockbutton, Windgap – died 10 March.

**Eucharistic Ministers:** 6.30 p.m. Bernie Bulter & Breda Coady, 11.00 a.m. Frank & Anastasia Kanie, Geraldine Collins.

**Readers:** 6.30 p.m. Madeleine McLoughlin; 8.30 a.m. Bridie Bergin; 11.00 a.m. 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Parents.

**Coming up: this coming Thursday - St. Patrick's Day: Masses same schedule as at weekends. Vigil Masses in Callan & Coolagh, Wed. 16 March; St. Patrick's Day Masses., 8.30 & 11.00 a.m. in Callan; 9.30 a.m. in Newtown. No 8.00 am or 10.00 on Wed. 16 March.**

**St. Patrick:** Born in Wales in the early 5<sup>th</sup> century Patrick was one of the many slaves captured by the marauding Celts in one of their frequent incursions into Britain. At that time Britain or Britannia had been conquered by the Romans and formed part of the Empire (the Romans never conquered Ireland). Patrick's father was Calpornius,

a deacon of the church. Patrick himself was neither religious nor studious. He found himself tending sheep on Sliabh Mish in the northeast of Ireland. Gradually God's grace overpowered him. He prayed a hundred times a day and as many times at night; he felt neither frost, nor snow nor rain. Six years later he made his escape to mainland Europe and after a few years there made his way back home to Britain. He tells us in his own book, **The Confessions** that "the voice of the Irish" was forever plaguing him "to come and walk among them once more". Patrick responded by going to Gaul (modern day France) to prepare himself for his ministry. He is believed to have studied at the monasteries of Auxerre (near Tours) and Lerins (near Cannes in the south of France). Patrick was ordained a priest and later a bishop before heading back to Ireland to confirm and consolidate the efforts of earlier Christian missionaries e.g. St. Kieran (patron saint of Ossory) of Seir Kieran. His arrival in Ireland as a missionary is dated by some as 432 and his death as 461. Patrick is credited with organising and establishing the Irish Church. He made Armagh his base and this explains why the Primate of All Ireland resides in Armagh today. On Easter Saturday he is said to have lit the Paschal Fire on the Hill of Tara much to the indignation of the pagan druids. They warned King Laoghaire that if the new fire were not stamped out at once it would never be extinguished in Erin. Other places associated with St. Patrick include Croagh Patrick and St. Patrick's Purgatory or Lough Derg, where he regularly fasted and prayed.

**As we approach St. Patrick' Day: we remember our emigrants:** For a small island nation we have exercised enormous influence all over the world in and through our emigrants. Practically every Irish family has relatives abroad. Most of them did well for themselves, some did not; they fell through the cracks. Those who didn't make it have now fallen on hard times and are often too

embarrassed to come home or seek help. On St. Patrick's Day weekend our 2<sup>nd</sup> collection is for our emigrants, especially those living in poor circumstances in London, Manchester and elsewhere around England.

**First Friday of March:** The sick and housebound will be visited during the next two weeks to encompass March First Friday & Easter also.

**Mill Hill Missionaries' Novena to St. Joseph, 11-19 March** – Mass and prayers each evening, 8 p.m. in Mill Hill Chapel, St Joseph's, Waterford Road, Kilkenny.

**Mass for Ireland – St Mel's Cathedral – Saturday, 19th March 2016: An Teaghlach Naofa is dedicated to The Holy Family of Nazareth and under the patronage of St. John Paul.** We are having a Mass for Ireland in St. Mel's Cathedral, Longford on Saturday 19th March, Feast day of St. Joseph, with prayers for wellbeing of families, marriages and protection of human life in Ireland. Rosary at 2.30 p.m and procession to altar of The Holy Family, Mass at 3 p.m., Holy Hour 4 p.m. For further information contact Josephine on 087-2989821 or visit [www.anteaghlachnaofa.ie](http://www.anteaghlachnaofa.ie). All welcome. Please come along and bring your family. An Teaghlach Naofa [www.anteaghlachnaofa.ie](http://www.anteaghlachnaofa.ie) mob – 0044-7545-452362

**Callan Heritage Society:** The monthly meeting of Callan Heritage Society takes place this Monday, 14th March at 8.00 PM at new Droichead Centre (Old CBS Primary School), West Street at 8.00 PM. Please note change of venue. New members always welcome

**Cathedral Monthly Draw enters its 2<sup>nd</sup> year – invitation to support the Mother Church of diocese:** As you are probably aware major renovation work is underway on our diocesan Cathedral Church – St. Mary's. A monthly draw to fund the project has been running over this past year. It has yielded a profit of about **€160,000**. In its first year of operation something in the region of 100 tickets were sold in Callan area. Callan has been relatively lucky in scooping the two top prizes (**€2,000 & €1,000 in the December 2015** draw and the top prize of **€2,000 in the January 2016** draw). Tickets costing **€120 per year of €10 per month are again on sale and available in sacristy after Mass or at parochial house**. The draw will take the form of monthly draws with prize money each month totaling **c. €5,000** each month or **€60,000** per year. If you would like to become a promoter or supporter of the draw please let us know. Finally if you are in the process of making your will and looking around for some good cause or charity to benefit from your generosity, please remember the Cathedral Renovation Fund. Experience tells me that work will be continuing there for many years to come.

**Used Clothing Collection :** in aid of Zambian Immersion Programme 2017: Colàiste Eamon Ris, Callan is currently collecting used clothing, footwear, towels, blankets etc. for their 2017 Zambian Immersion Programme. Please drop in sacks to school during school hours.

**Ossory Pilgrimage to Lourdes 22-27 May, 2016.** Cost including bus to and from airport €765 pps. All bookings (for both regular and assisted pilgrims) through Glenmore Parish Office 051-880414, Mon – Frid. 9.30-1.30 p.m., except Wednesdays or email [glenmore@ossory.ie](mailto:glenmore@ossory.ie)