



St. John's Parish, Tralee

18th February 2018

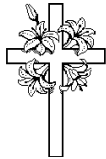
First Sunday of Lent

Parish Centre Opening Hours: Monday - Saturday 9.15am - 1pm & 2pm - 4.45pm.
Tel: 066 7122522. Website: www.stjohns.ie E-mail: stjohncastlestreet@eircom.net

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS IN THE DIOCESE OF KERRY:
DESIGNATED LIASON PERSON: 087 6362780

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- ✠ **Una Crowley**, née Spring, Rae Street.
- ✠ **Eileen Hill** née Fitzgerald, Lohercannon.
- ✠ **Melva Dela Pena**, Philippines.
- ✠ **Joan Casey** Cordal and Monavalley, *who died recently and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.*



RECENT BAPTISMS

With great joy we welcome:
Thomas McDonagh
Saoirse Mary Hanafin
Nella Brand *into our Christian community.*



RECENT WEDDING

Congratulations to
Maurice O'Brien and Lorraine O'Donoghue
who married in St. John's parish recently.
We pray that God will bless their marriage.



WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES NATIONAL COLLECTION: will take place next weekend, February 24th/25th, as a joint Offertory Collection. The World Meeting of Families taking place in Dublin this August promises to be an occasion that will reflect on the faith experience of families from many parts of the world as well as on the challenges and celebrations which characterise the ups and downs of day-to-day family life. Pope Francis hopes to come to Ireland for it. Hosting this national and international event is both a privilege and a responsibility. It requires an enormous amount of planning and funding. Please give generously to help fund this promotion of family life.

CAPITAL FUND ENVELOPES: New boxes of envelopes for the coming year are available for collection at the Parish Centre. If possible please bring in the top of the old box with the number on it. Contributing weekly by means of our envelope system is of great benefit to the parish and we invite interested parishioners to contact the Parish Centre to receive a box of envelopes or get further information.

BISHOP HENDRICKEN YOUNG MEN'S CHORUS; from Warwick, Rhode Island, USA will sing at the 10am Mass in St. John's Church on Monday February 19th.

JOURNEYING TOGETHER AS FAMILY. Tralee Pastoral Area Lent 2018.

- * **"The Christian Vision of Family"** Bishop Kevin Doran Monday 19th February at 7.30pm
 - * **"Family and Faith"** Dr. Patricia Kieran: Monday February 26th at 7.30pm
 - * **"Journeying together in Marriage"** Mass with invitation to renew Marriage Vows Monday March 5th at 7.30pm. Celebrant: Fr. Francis Nolan. Talk: Francis White.
 - * **"Youth and Faith"** Jonny Somerville Tuesday 13th March from 2.30pm – 3.30pm
 - * **"Hidden Pearls — Revealing the gifts of people with disabilities in family and community"**. Maria Garvey, Monday March 26th at 7.30pm
- All events will be held in St. John's Church, Castle Street, Tralee.**

Other events are being hosted in other pastoral areas throughout the diocese during Lent. Details can be found in the Lenten Programme leaflets, on the parish noticeboard or by visiting www.dioceseofkerry.ie.

TROCAIRE BOXES are available for collection at the back of the Church or the Parish Centre

PIONEER LENTEN CHALLENGE: Many people abstain from alcohol and take the short-term pledge for the duration of Lent. Contact St. John's Parish Centre or visit www.pioneerassociation.ie and join online.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL: Please don't hesitate to contact us. 24 Hour Emergency Mobile 087 7848825 or Office 066 7128021

WORKSHOP FOR PARISH CANTORS: on Thursday, March 1st in St. John's Parish Centre, at 7:30pm. to provide training and resources for cantors and those hoping to start this ministry in their parish. There will be a particular focus on Lenten and Easter material. Please contact Tomás Kenny email tomaskenny@dioceseofkerry.ie or phone 086 3683778 to book a place. Please book by Friday, February 23rd as places are limited.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THE PRIESTHOOD IN THE DIOCESE OF KERRY? A weekend, which includes informal chat, discussion and prayer, has been organised for men discerning priesthood. The 'Come and See' event will take place on 23rd and 24th February in Pallotine College, Thurles. Prior booking essential. For more information contact Diocesan Vocation directors: Fr Michael Moynihan 0876551902 or Fr Liam Comer 0872401246. *"Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men" Matthew 4:19*

ARDFERT RETREAT CENTRE Tel: 066 7134276.

"Ministry in the Church" by Bishop (Emeritus) Bill Murphy, Gathering for All Parish Readers, Eucharistic Ministers & Parish personnel in the Kerry Diocese, Thurs. 22nd Feb. 7.00pm-9.30pm.

The Amoris programme: A parish conversation in preparation for the World Meeting of Families which helps participants to reflect on and share their experience of family life in the light of Pope Francis' vision in the 'Gospel of Family - A Joy for all the World'. Ardfert Retreat Centre will host 4 sessions during Lent, beginning on Wednesday 21st Feb. 7.30pm to 9.30pm. All welcome.

RALLY TO SAVE THE 8TH 2pm, Saturday, March 10th, Parnell Square, Dublin. For information on buses phone 01 8730465.

CHOOSE LIFE 2018: promotes the Church's position on unborn human life and encourages family discussion on this important subject. To access news, videos, testimonies and frequently asked questions visit www.chooselife2018.ie.

KERRY RIGHT TO LIFE: Medical Information Evening: *"Abortion is it healthcare?"* 6pm Sunday February 25th at the Rose Hotel. Guest speakers Professor Patricia Casey, psychiatrist and Dr. John Monaghan, obstetrician gynaecologist. Chaired by Dr. Andrew O'Regan, GP, university lecturer.

TRALEE CREDIT UNION: the 12 noon Mass in St. John's Church this Sunday February 18th will be offered for Tralee Credit Union as it celebrates its 50th Anniversary.

A BOX OF BACK NUMBERS OF THE "CATHOLIC HERALD" and other Catholic Periodicals available for free from 066 7128010.

LEGION OF MARY: Meetings are held in St. John's Parish Centre at 2.30pm each Monday. Please join us. All welcome



THE WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES: takes place in Dublin from August 21st to 26th. To get tickets for the World meeting of families visit www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/ Tickets.

Volunteers are also invited to join in the World Meeting of Families Team. Email: volunteer@worldmeeting2018.ie or visit www.worldmeeting2018.ie/volunteers

FAMILY PRAYER

God, our Father,
 We are brothers and sisters in Jesus your Son, one family, in the Spirit of your love. Bless us with the joy of love.

Make us patient and kind, gentle and generous, welcoming to those in need. Help us to live your forgiveness and peace.

Protect all families with your loving care, Especially those for whom we now pray:

[We pause and remember family members and others by name].

Increase our faith, strengthen our hope, keep us safe in your love,

Make us always grateful for the gift of life that we share.

This we ask, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

KERRY DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA: Led by Fr. Noel Spring. 11th—18th May. 7 nights Fatima or option Fatima 5 nights and 2 nights on the Lisbon Coast. Fully escorted pilgrimage. Early booking essential. Enquiries to Premier Travel, 2 Grand Parade, Daunt's Square Cork. Email: norady@premiertravel.ie or telephone 021 4277700, or phone Maureen Harty on 066 7131328.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

God has made a covenant with each of us. He has given us life and the gift of his unending love. We have many opportunities to live a life full of happiness and joy. This is what God wants for each of us- his beloved sons and daughters. He wants us to enjoy his gift of the world and all that it contains. Let's try to make our gift at the bottom of the rainbow; time, space and gratitude for God this Lenten time....

Margaret Theresa Naughton