

# Parishes of Narraghmore & Moone

*The Faith Communities of:*



*Ballymount, Crookstown, Kilmead & Moone*

**Parish Bulletin - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sunday 15th September 2024**

**THE PARISH TEAM:**

**FR LIAM RIGNEY PP** - 087-2607377;  
Email: [liam.rigney@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:liam.rigney@dublindiocese.ie)

**FR TIM HANNON CC** - 059-863 070

**FR FRANCIS MCCARTHY CC** -  
087-6978143

**CONOR MCCANN - Parish Pastoral Worker**  
Athy, Narraghmore, Moone & Castledermot  
Phone: 086-7905654.  
Email: [conor.mccann@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:conor.mccann@dublindiocese.ie)

**NATASHA GEOGHEGAN - Parish Pastoral Worker**  
Athy, Narraghmore Moone & Castledermot.  
Phone: 087-6730300.  
Email: [natasha.curran@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:natasha.curran@dublindiocese.ie)

**PARISH SECRETARIES**

**BER MURPHY & TRISH HOLLIGAN** -  
Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri 10am - 4pm.

Ss. Mary & Laurence Church, Crookstown,  
TEL: 059 8623154.

**Email:**

[stlaurenceschurch@gmail.com](mailto:stlaurenceschurch@gmail.com)

**INTENTIONS SATURDAY & SUNDAY**

**Recently Deceased:**

Esther Whelan  
Dan Connolly

**CROOKSTOWN 7PM**

Betty Keatley (A)  
John O'Brien - Ballytore (A)  
Mairead Mulligan (M.M.)

**Kilmead 10:30am**

Patrick Berry (A)  
Nano Keegan (A)  
Peg Cahill (M. M.)

**MOONE 12:00NOON**

Betty Noone (A)  
John Cogan - Hobartstown (A)  
Francis O'Keefe (A)  
John and Elizabeth O'Neill (A)  
John O'Brien - Ballytore (A)

**MASS TIMES**

**MOONE TUESDAY 10AM** - Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

**MASS TIMES IN NARRAGHMORE & MOONE**

**ST JOSEPH'S BALLYMOUNT:** Sunday 8:30am

**SS MARY & LAWRENCE CROOKSTOWN:**  
Saturday 7pm (Vigil)  
Wednesday & Friday: 9.30am

**ST ITA'S KILMEAD:** Sunday 10.30am  
Mass is celebrated most weekdays at 10am but is subject to change

**MOONE TUESDAY 10AM** - Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

**MOST BLESSED TRINITY MOONE:**  
Sunday 12noon. Holy Day: 11am

**Revised Opening Hours of the Parish Office:**

Crookstown & Ballymount Finance Committee is addressing the critical state of Crookstown & Ballymount Church finances. To reduce some of the running costs of the parish, it is reducing the opening hours of the Parish Office. Starting Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September the new opening hours are: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 10am - 3pm, closed Thursday, Friday 10am - 2pm.

**ANNUAL MASS FOR DECEASED OF OUR PARISHES**

Those who died in the Parish since last November will be Remembered;

**Athy, Monday 18th November @7:30pm**

**Moone, Wednesday 20th November @7:30pm**

**Crookstown, Thursday 21st November @7:30pm**

**Kilmead, Friday 22nd of November @7:30pm**

### CATECHETICAL CORNER - SKANDALON

On September 14<sup>th</sup> the Church celebrates the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, a feast that commemorates the finding of the True Cross by St Helena in the year 320. St Helena was the mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, who made Christianity the state religion of Rome and thus made it acceptable.

The crucifixion brings into sharp focus the age-old question of ‘Why do good people suffer?’ Why did Jesus suffer? And for many people this is a question that they cannot get past and it causes them to lose their faith. It is a skandalon.

‘Skandalon’ is a Greek word that translates as a stumbling block, something to trip a person up or to cause a person to lose their faith. It is in this context that it is used in relation to the crucifixion of Jesus. We read in 1 Cor. 1:23: “but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block (*skandalon*) to Jews...” Why was it a skandalon to Jews? Because they were expecting a military type Messiah, not one who would die a shameful death.

Crucifixion was a shameful, ignominious death for a first century Jew, the final humiliation. Jesus died in a very public manner, at festival time, when the city was packed. In human terms he was killed for various religious and political reasons. The cross, Good Friday, is a scandal that only makes sense when viewed from the perspective of Easter Sunday. Jesus died publicly so that even his detractors could not deny his death and the manner of it. The resurrection turns the shame of the cross on its head. Jesus was killed but then rose from the dead, meaning that not even death, the ultimate threat held over anyone, has any power. For Christians, the cross is a symbol of life. A sign of hope and victory.

This is why the Church celebrates it every year. This is why in the Gospel for the 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday we hear Jesus telling us to take up our cross and follow Him. Taking up our cross, exalting the cross, means allowing ourselves to be vulnerable, even weak before GOD; it means laying aside our strengths and our egos and casting ourselves into the mysterious abyss of GOD’s love. Bearing in mind what the Catechism of the Catholic Church says: “*The Church, following the apostles, teaches that Christ died for all men without exception: “There is not, never has been, and never will be a single human being for whom Christ did not suffer.”* (CCC #605)

### Saint of the week - St. Matthew

God of Mercy, You chose a tax collector, Saint Matthew, to share the dignity of the apostles. By his example and prayers help us to follow Christ and remain faithful in Your service. We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, Forever and ever. Amen.

#### CMAI Conference:

The Catholic Medical Association of Ireland (formerly known as the Irish Catholic Doctors Learning Network) will hold its annual Conference in the St Charles Centre, Mount Argus on Saturday, 21 September, from 9.00am to 4.00 pm. The theme of the Conference is “Building Blocks for an Ethics of Healthcare”. The Conference Mass will be celebrated by our new Auxiliary Bishop of Dublin, Bishop Paul Dempsey. For more information, email [icdln@eircom.net](mailto:icdln@eircom.net)

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