

**Cuan Mhuire Ballybay** are hosting a Flower Festival from Friday 21st to Sunday 23rd April. The theme of the festival is Light in the Darkness. Monaghan Flower Club are creating all the exhibits. Opening times are 2.00pm-7.00pm on Friday and 11.00am-6.00pm Saturday & Sunday.

**Clothes Collection** in Canal Stores all day on Saturday 22nd April as a fundraiser for 'Praise the Youth'.

**Irish Blood Transfusion Service.** The opportunity to give blood will arise at Largy College, Clones, on Tuesday 18th April from 4.30pm until 8.00pm.

**St. Joseph's Hall Bingo** every Friday night at 9.00pm. Jackpots €10,200 & €13,800 (subject to no winner 07/04/2017).

**Aghadrumsee GFC Lotto:** No Winner. (6, 18, 20, 31). Jackpot €2600.

**Currin Lotto: No Winner.** (1, 9, 21, 27) Jackpot now €2500.

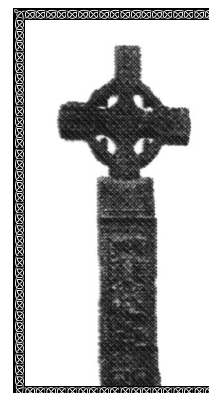
### Fast Forwarding Pain

Why fast-forward Jesus' suffering and death to Palm Sunday? Why can't we wait for Good Friday? Today's celebration is joyous, even triumphal. Why spoil it by anticipating Jesus' suffering and death? Strange that Christianity, a religion of joy, can't celebrate today's joyous event without insisting on a long reading of Jesus' suffering and death (Mark 14:1-15:47) in its liturgy.

Today's First reading (Isa 50:4-7) says, 'the Lord has opened my ear' (v5) - and I hear a question: Why not allow Jesus his moment of glory, and us our moment of joy? For a moment only, it is. The triumph doesn't last long. We know that. Time enough to focus on suffering when Good Friday comes. Then it would have even greater impact as we move from the exuberance of Palm Sunday and the cosiness of Holy Thursday to the horror of Good Friday, then soar to the elation of Easter Sunday.

Too quickly focusing on suffering, perhaps thinking it God-willed, presents a false image of God. Anyone inclined to do so should recall God's words to the prophet Ezekiel, 'Say to them, "As I live, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live..."' (Ezek 33:11). Neither does God take pleasure in the sinner's suffering. And most definitely, not in his Son's.

It's important that we be people of joy, even when faced with suffering. Let us celebrate joy exclusively when the occasion merits it. Palm Sunday is one such occasion.



## Parish of Clones

Sacred Heart, Clones  
St Alphonsus, Connors  
St Macartan's, Aghadrumsee

**Parish Office: 9.30am—1.00pm and  
2.00pm—4.00pm (Monday—Friday)**

**Telephone: 047 51048**

**Email: clonesparish@eircom.net**

**Website: www.clonesparish.com**

**9th  
April  
2017**

**Holy  
Week**

### Masses and Intentions for the Week

#### Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

(Vigil)	7.00pm	People of the Parish
Sun 9th	9.00am	Paddy Martin & Dec'd Relatives, Hermitage
	10.30am	Phil & Pat Flynn & Dec'd Relatives, Coonian
	12.00pm	Theresa Healy, Clonboy (Month's Memory)

5.00pm *Penance Service (Sacred Heart)*

Mon 10th	7.30am & 10.00am	
Tue 11th	7.30am	
	10.00am	Cosgrove Family and Dec'd Relatives, Clones

Wed 12th	7.30am	
	10.00am	Thomas & Alice Lyttle, Beechgrove

Thurs 13th		<b>Holy Thursday</b>
	6.00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper (Sacred Heart)
	8.00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper (St. Macartan's)

Fri 14th		<b>Good Friday</b>
	3.00pm	Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Sacred Heart)
	8.00pm	Celebration of the Lord's Passion (St. Macartan's)

Sat 15th

(Vigil)	9.00pm	Easter Vigil (Sacred Heart)
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Sun 16th		<b>The Resurrection of the Lord</b>
	9.00am	People of the Parish
	10.30am	Francie Carolan (Month's Memory)
	12.00pm	Brigid & Hugh Maguire & Dec'd Relatives, Oakview

#### Priests of the Parish

Fr. Dick Mohan P.P. Fr Cathal Deery C.C.

To speak to the priest on duty, please phone 085 8176203

### Weekend Masses

Sat	7.00pm	Sacred Heart, Clones
Sun	9.00am	St Alphonsus, Connons
	10.30am	St Macartan's, Aghadrumsee
	12.00pm	Sacred Heart, Clones

Masses during the Week: **Monday—Saturday Sacred Heart Church 10.00am**  
(On days of Funerals, Mass will be at 11.00am)  
**Friday 7.00pm St Macartan's, Aghadrumsee**

### SACRAMENTS AND MINISTRIES

**Baptisms** are celebrated in Sacred Heart Church on the second Saturday of each month at 4.00pm & on the fourth Sunday at 1.00pm. In St Macartan's Church, Baptisms are on the third Sunday at 1.30pm.  
**Anointing of the Sick:** Priests are available to celebrate the sacrament with anyone who is seriously ill.  
**Confessions:** Saturdays after 10.00am Mass.

**Christenings:** We welcome into our Christian faith community  
Larry Jayden Reilly

**Death:** We pray for  
Bridie McElroy, Corloughaloon

**St Alphonsus**  
**Minister of the Eucharist for 16th April:** Leeanne Slowey  
**Gift Bearers for Sun 16th April:** Oliver & Bridie McDonald

**St Macartan's**  
**Readers for 16th April:** Ciaran Carey & Majella McCabe  
**Minister of the Eucharist for 16th April:** Aoife Maguire, Belinda Corr, Caolan Faux  
**Gift Bearers for Sun 16th April:** Winnie McGinnity & Kate Quinn

**Sacred Heart Church**  
**Ministers of the Eucharist 15th & 16th April:**  
**(9.00pm)** John Slowey, Anne O'Harte, Eileen McPhillips  
**(12.00pm)** Tara O'Connor, Eddie Masterson, Donal Quigley  
**Altar Society:** Marie Collins, Bridget Cassidy

### Celebration of Reconciliation

The Sacrament of God's Mercy will be celebrated in St. Tierney's Church, Roslea, at 3.00pm and in Sacred Heart Church, Clones, at 5.00pm, on Palm Sunday, 9th April 2017.

### Ceremonies for Holy Week

Holy Thursday	6.00pm Sacred Heart	8.00pm St. Macartan's
Good Friday	3.00pm Sacred Heart	8.00pm St. Macartan's
Holy Saturday	Easter Vigil at 9.00pm in Sacred Heart	

### COMMUNITY NEWS, ACTIVITIES, EVENTS

**Chrism Mass.** Since Bishop McDaid has retired and we are awaiting the appointment of his successor, the Chrism Mass, which normally takes Place in the Cathedral on Holy Thursday morning, will NOT be celebrated this year. During the Easter Triduum please include in your prayers the present needs of the diocese, and especially the guidance of the Holy Spirit for the selection of a new Bishop.

**Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service** needs counsellors and facilitators in your area. Training and support is provided. If you would like to be considered for the personally and professionally fulfilling work as an ACCORD facilitator or counsellor, please contact your local Priest or [accordekn@btconnect](mailto:accordekn@btconnect) or [accordmonaghan@eircom.net](mailto:accordmonaghan@eircom.net)

**Monaghan Charismatic Prayer Group** are hosting a Healing Mass in St. Louis Convent Chapel, Monaghan, on Monday 10th April at 8.00pm. Celebrant is Fr. Martin Chambers.

**Clones ICA AGM** will take place on Monday 10th April at 8.00pm in the Protestant Hall, Cara Street. All members are requested to attend. Membership fees are now due.

**Knocks Drama Group** presents Family Affairs, a comedy by William Rocke on Friday 7th, Sunday 9th, Sunday 16th & Monday 17th April in Knocks Community Centre. Doors open at 7.45pm; play starts at 8.30pm sharp.

**Kitui Mission.** Annual collection will take place this weekend at all Masses. Please support generously as again they are experiencing serious famine.

**St. Tiarnach's Non Uniform Day** raised €395 for Trócaire.

**Parent's Plus** is a parenting course promoting confidence, learning and positive behaviour in young children aged 1-6 and 6-11 years. Courses are taking place in Ballybay (6-11 years) starting 26th April for 7 weeks, 7pm—9pm. Castleblayney (1-6 years) starting 27th April for 6 weeks, 9.45am—12.15pm. Further details available by emailing [parentingmonaghan@gmail.com](mailto:parentingmonaghan@gmail.com)

**Irish Cancer Society** Daffodil Day Collection on 24th March raised €3470 in Clones and €1077 in Newbliss. Thanks to those who organised, participated and supported.

**Pro-Life Prayer Vigil** on Friday 14th April on The Diamond (11.45am until 1.00pm).