

## Staying on the Path

Sometimes we encounter situations in life where we are greeted with a negative command, “don’t do something”, “don’t tell lies”, “keep off the wall”, whereas a positive command can be more effective “do something”, “tell the truth”, “stay on the path”.

“The Lord gave us ten Commandments”, it has been said “not ten suggestions!” Of course some of them call us to avoid doing certain things, killing, stealing, coveting etc but some of them call us also to do the positive rather than just avoid the negative—“honour parents”, “keep holy the Sabbath day”, for example.

No matter how we look at them, the Commandments give us the tools to be better people. When they are ignored, as sadly they often are, the consequences are evident. News reports around murders, robberies, violence and more, remind us that when people ignore the Commandments a heavy price is paid.

“Stay on the path” then is a call to avoid the wall from which Humpty Dumpty had such a dreadful and irreparable fall! The wall might seem to give us an advantage for the moment, but it also puts us in a dangerous place and falls are all too frequent.

Stay on the path of Lent. Stay on the path of faith. Stay on the path of decency, charity, kindness, goodness, love and peace. If only we would!

Micah in that far off prayer from another moment in Scripture asked God what he had to do to keep God on his side and live in a way pleasing to God, wondered if he had to bribe God in some way. Would it take money, part of his property, his first-born son? What would God demand to ensure that Micah lived in a way pleasing to God.

The answer was around staying on the path. “Act justly; love tenderly and walk humbly with your God.”

In these lines we find the road map to seeing the Commandments less in terms of “keeping off the wall” and more in keeping with “staying on the path”. It is do-able!



## Parish of Clones

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

Parish Office  
10.00am—4.30pm (Monday—Friday)  
Telephone: 047 51048  
Email: clonesparish@gmail.com  
Website: www.clonesparish.com

20c

7th March  
2021

Third Week  
of  
Lent

### Masses and Intentions for the Week

Vigil	7.30pm	<b>Third Sunday of Lent</b> Stan & Peggy Kerr & Joan & Peter Duffy, The Diamond; Eileen Crudden, Rossbrick; Jimmy Carey, Tattynagolan; Gerard Finn, Cherry Park; Vincent McCaffrey, Drumgramph
Sunday 7th	11.30am	Martin Connolly, Clontreat (Month’s Memory); Annie McCabe, Coolnamarrow (Month’s Memory)
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Mon 8th	10.00am	Mass of the Day
Tue 9th	10.00am	Mass of the Day
Wed 10th	10.00am	Mass of the Day
Thurs 11th	10.00am	James & Cissy Keane, Millbrook
Fri 12th	10.00am	Mass of the Day
Sat 13th	11.00am	Jimmy Connolly, Analore Street (Funeral Mass)
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Vigil	7.30pm	<b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b> Paddy Slowey, Clonmore
Sunday 14th	11.30am	Bredge McGovern, O’Neill Park (Month’s Memory)

**Parish Mobile (in case of emergency): 085 817 6203.**

### Masses for the week

**Saturday 7.30pm Sacred Heart, Clones**  
**11.30am Sacred Heart, Clones**

**Weekdays: Mon-Sat in Sacred Heart Church at 10.00am**

(When there is a funeral in Clones, the Mass will be at **11.00am**)

**All Liturgies in Sacred Heart Church are broadcast on the Parish website**

**Baptisms** are celebrated in Sacred Heart Church on the second Saturday of each month at 4.00pm and in St. Macartan's Church on the third Sunday at 1.00pm.

**Deaths:** We pray for Pat Kelly, Dublin, formerly Clones  
Pat McManus, Hermitage  
Pat Beggan, O'Neill Park  
Michael Rooney, Bangor, formerly Coonian

### Sacred Heart Church Readers:

**13th Mar** Vigil Geraldine Beggan

**14th Mar** 11.30am Joe Kirke

### Dates for 2021 Diary

Wednesday 24th March	First Penance for St. Tiarnach's & Gael Scoil children in Sacred Heart Church, Clones.
Saturday 17th April	Confirmation in Sacred Heart Church, Clones. <i>(Times of ceremonies will be announced at a later date)</i>
Wednesday 21st April	First Penance for St. Macartan's school children in St. Macartan's Church, Aghadrumsee.
Sunday 30th May	First Communion for St. Macartan's school children in St. Macartan's Church, Aghadrumsee.
Sunday 6th June	First Communion for St. Tiarnach's school children in Sacred Heart Church, Clones.
Saturday 12th June	First Communion for Gael Scoil children in Sacred Heart Church, Clones.

*(Due to COVID, HSE and NHS restrictions, numbers will be limited)*

### Parish Envelopes

This weekend sees the start of the new parish contribution year. If you have not received envelopes but would like to contribute you can:

- request a box of envelopes
- set up a monthly payment
- make a one off payment by cheque or cash
- make a contribution by PayPal

Please contact the Parish Office on 047 51048 or email [clonesparish@gmail.com](mailto:clonesparish@gmail.com)

**Prayer Through Lent:** Resources to help families and individuals pray at home this Lent are available on the diocesan website [www.clogherdiocese.ie](http://www.clogherdiocese.ie) Also available on the home page of the website are livestream connections to all parishes.

**Online Talks for Lent – Awaken Our Baptismal Calling in Parish Ministry.** The next of the online talks will be held on [www.clogherdiocese.ie](http://www.clogherdiocese.ie) and on the Diocese of Clogher Facebook page on Wednesday 10th March at 7.30pm when the speaker will be Fr. Gareth Byrne of the Mater Dei Centre for Catholic Education in Dublin City University on *Reimagining the link between Schools and Parish*. No booking necessary.

**A Diocesan Way of The Cross Online** led by Bishop Larry Duffy and people from communities of faith across the 7 Pastoral Areas of the Diocese of Clogher at 7.30pm on Friday 26th March on [www.clogherdiocese.ie](http://www.clogherdiocese.ie) and on the Diocese of Clogher Facebook page.

**Alone** Coronavirus Helpline for older people; phone 0818 22024 from 8.00am until 8.00pm daily or visit [www.alone.ie](http://www.alone.ie)

**Mary's Meals** In spite of the difficulties experienced this past year and the inability of people to attend the event, the organisers are astounded at the generosity of Clones Parish as this was the best fundraiser yet. A total of €2,260 was raised and will feed many children. The organisers appreciate your generosity.

**Tarsus Scripture School for Lent/Easter 2021.** Theme is **Easter: Weaving the Tapestry of Death and New Life**. Nine pre-recorded lectures, one webinar and one meditation (€30). For registration and further details, please go to [www.tarsusscriptureschool.ie](http://www.tarsusscriptureschool.ie)