



PARISH OF CASHEL NEWSTON
EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C 3RD MARCH 2019
FR. MERLYN KENNY-086 0603433



LENT
Pray + Fast + Give

Mass Times & Masses for the dead as follows:

Sat 2nd Mar	8.00pm	Teresa Flynn, Curroole.
Sun 3rd Mar	10.30am	John Hand, Newpark.
Mon 4th Mar	8.00pm	Special Intention
Tues 5th Mar	8.00pm	Special Intention.
Wed 6th Mar	7.00am	Ash Wednesday.
	8.00pm	Ash Wednesday.
Thur 7th Mar	7.00am	Special Intention.
Fri 8th Mar	7.00am	No evening Mass re: Station.
Sat 9th Mar	8.00pm	James, Brigid & Joe Cunningham & D.F.M. Loughawn.
Sun 10th Mar	10.30am	Thomas & Anna May Hopkins, Newpark.
Mon 11th Mar	8.00pm	Brain Ganly, Portanure.

First Confession will take place on Thursday 7th March at 7.00pm.

Eucharistic Adoration continues on Wednesday 3pm-8pm and Friday 8.30pm-9pm.

Baptism: We welcome into our Christian community baby Lennon Mulvihill, who was baptised on Saturday. Congratulations to his parents Cathal & Carrie Ann.

Eucharistic Roster	8.00pm	Sat 9th Mar	Nora Nolan & Mary Casey.
	10.30am	Sun 10th Mar	Helen Hassett & Elizabeth Clyne.
	8.00pm	Sat 9th Mar	Brian Kelly.
Readers' Roster	10.30am	Sun 10th Mar	Tara Farrell.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of John Farrell, Derrahau, whose funeral took place during the week.

Newtowncashel Drama Group presents 'Mammy's Boy' by local playwright Jimmy Keary in 'The Hill' on Friday 1st, Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd March at 8.30pm. A hilarious comedy in three acts. A great nights entertainment for all the family guaranteed. Admission by ticket only. Call booking line 086 2521536.

Trocaire Boxes are available for pick up at the entrances of the Church.

Stations already held - Enquiries: 086 0603433.

Fri 1st Feb:	Laura & Ken Dermody, Loughawn.
Thurs 7th Feb:	Teresa and Sean Farrell
Fri 8th Feb:	Bernie & Michael Farrell, Tipper.
Fri 15th Feb:	Yvonne & John Kenny, Derrydarragh.
Thurs 21st Feb:	Breda & Eamon Murphy, Claris / Cross.
Fri 22nd Feb:	Anna & Jimmy Costello, Cleraune/Pollagh.
Fri 1st Mar:	Betty Whittall, Forthill.

To be held:

Thurs 7th Mar:	Martin & Gaye Skelly, Carrowbeg/Leab.
Fri 8th Mar:	Bridget Hopkins, Drumnee.
Fri 15th Mar:	Maura & Ray Brehon, Portanure.
Fri 29th Mar:	Siobhan Casey, Elfeet/Loughfarm.

Midland Motor Club: It is the intention of the Midland Motor Club to run a rally on Sunday 24th March in the Newtowncashel area. If any resident has any concerns or questions, they can contact Josephine Lane-Flynn on 043-3347819 / 086 8376934.

Reflection: The French have a proverb, which states, "A good meal ought to begin with hunger." It is hard to enjoy a meal when you are not hungry, but, when you are, everything tastes better. Likewise, Lenten sacrifice is meant to sharpen the taste buds of the soul.

Pablo Casals was considered the greatest cellist to ever live. When he was 95 years old he was asked why he continued to practise 6 hours a day. He answered, "Because I think I'm making progress." The same logic applies to the spiritual journey. The more I practise the spiritual exercises the more progress I make on the Eternal journey we all have to make.

One of the most destructive weeds that crop farmers must deal with is the Canadian thistle. It has an extensive root system that makes it extremely difficult to eradicate once it is established. The root structure can reach a depth of fifteen feet, and the roots can also spread out the same distance horizontally. These prolific roots crowd out the plants. Just twenty thistles in one square mile of field can reduce barley yield by a third or alfalfa yield by one half!

In today's Gospel Jesus describes people who are not fruitful because the Word of God that is planted in their hearts is choked out by the weeds of the vices. Lent is a time for uprooting some of these weeds that inevitably spring up in all of us.

In the laboratory of the great chemist Faraday a workman accidentally dropped a very valuable silver cup into a tank of strong acid. He and the other workmen stood over the tank mournfully watching the quick disintegration of the cup. But Faraday, seeing what had happened, poured a chemical into the tank. The silver precipitated to the bottom and was recovered. The shapeless mass was sent off again to the silversmith to be refashioned into its former likeness.

So the grace of repentance and of faith can recover what has been lost and restore our soul to its former usefulness and beauty.

There was once a sea-captain who was in a boat fishing with his companions when a storm came up which threatened to sink the ship. His companions begged him to lead them in a prayer as they felt certain they were going down; but he demurred, saying it was years since he had prayed or entered a church. His crew persisted and finally, relenting, he made this prayer:

"O Lord, I have not asked you for anything for fifteen years, and if you deliver us out of this storm and bring us safe to land again, I promise that I will not bother you again for **another fifteen years!**"

There is no doubt that many of those who pray earnestly in time of great distress, afterward, when the storm is over and the danger has passed, forget about God. But that does not invalidate the fact, that in their distress and danger, they realized that there was a higher power than themselves whom they turned to in earnest supplication.

Moral: Anyone who has done LoughDerg can attest to the fact that while it is difficult to get through the 3 days ... afterwards, you do feel a difference - the worries of life do not seem as threatening ... and you have more strength in the battle with anger, laziness and the other vices. Most important of all, you have much more of a sense of God's presence. Lent is meant to be a simpler version of the same spiritual practice.