



*Mass Times & Masses for the dead as follows:*

Sat 6th April 8.00pm Bridget (Beasie) Mulvihill, The Village. (1st Anniv.)  
Sun 7th April 10.30am Maura Donlon. Also D.F.M. of the Donlon & Carley families, Derryshannogue.  
Mon 8th April 8.00pm Michael Costello & D.F.M. Pollagh.  
Tues 9th April 7.00am Special Intention.  
Wed 10th April 7.00am Mass for the People of the Parish.  
Thur 11th April 7.00am Special Intention.  
Fri 12th April 8.00pm Maura Casey, Cornadough.  
Sat 13th April 8.00pm Tom Skelly, Cornaguillagh. (1st Anniv.)  
Sun 14th April 10.30am Pete Carberry, Derrahaun. (3rd Anniv.)

*Pray for the* happy repose of the soul of Madeleine Davis (nee Geoghegan), sister of Eileen Casey, whose funeral took place in Clara recently.

**Mission Outreach:** This weekend we welcome the Holy Ghost Mission Appeal.

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

**Eucharistic Roster** 8.00pm Sat 13th April Monica Farrell & Kathleen Clarke.  
10.30am Sun 14th April John Flood & Carmel Hopkins.

**Readers' Roster** 8.00pm Sat 13th April Martin Skelly.  
10.30am Sun 14th April Joseph Kenny.

**Irish Cancer Society - Daffodil Day:** The recent collection amounted to €995.50.

The organiser's wish to thank you for your generosity and kindness.

**Join ACCORD as a Marriage Preparation Course Facilitator:** Accord Longford is recruiting Volunteer Facilitators. If you have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church, if you have the enthusiasm to be part of the Accord team in supporting couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage, call Fr. Michael McGrath (043 3346465) or Fr. Pat Murphy (071 9631024) for further information, or see [www.accord.ie](http://www.accord.ie)

**Longford Volunteer Centre** are hosting an information event at Newtowncashel Community Centre (The Hill) on Thursday 11th April from 6 - 8pm. Find out all you need to know about volunteering. All welcome.

**Simon Casey** is playing in concert at St. Dominic's Church Kenagh on Sunday 14th April at 8pm. Tickets €15. There is a contact number for the seller on the poster displayed.

**Ballymahon's first ever Tractor Run** takes place on Sunday April 14th. All proceeds on the day goes to Ballymahon Day Care Centre. The Centre has renovations which need to be carried out. This will bring the Centre in line with today's standards. On the day of the tractor run, all tractors are asked to park in the field opposite Nally's Topaz/Spar and walk across the road to register in Ballymahon Day Care Centre. Registration takes place @11am - €20 per tractor. Any lorries, jeeps and trailers carrying tractors are asked to unload at Finn's Centra on the Athlone Road and park in the car park. Enquiries: contact Breda Greaves on 086 1097682 or Darren Mulleady on 086 1704394.

**Reflection:**

An old German Shepherd starts chasing rabbits and before long, discovers that he's lost. Wandering about, he notices a panther heading rapidly in his direction with the intention of having lunch.

The old German Shepherd thinks, "Oh, oh! I'm in deep, deep, trouble now!"

Noticing some bones on the ground close by, he immediately settles down to chew on the bones with his back to the approaching cat.

Just as the panther is about to leap, the old German Shepherd exclaims loudly, "Boy, that was one delicious panther! I wonder, if there are any more around here?"

Hearing this, the young panther halts his attack in mid-strike, a look of terror comes over him and he slinks away into the trees.

"Whew!," says the panther, "That was close! That old German Shepherd nearly had me!"

Meanwhile, a squirrel who had been watching the whole scene from a nearby tree, figures he can put this knowledge to good use and trade it for protection from the panther.

So, off he goes. The squirrel soon catches up with the panther, spills the beans and strikes a deal for himself with him.

The young panther is furious at being made a fool of and says, "Here, squirrel, hop on my back and see what's going to happen to that conniving canine!"

Now, the old German Shepherd sees the panther coming with the squirrel on his back and thinks, "What am I going to do now?"

But instead of running, the dog sits down with his back to his attackers, pretending he hasn't seen them yet, and just when they get close enough to hear, the old German Shepherd says ...

"Where's that squirrel? I sent him off an hour ago *to bring me another panther!*"

**Moral:** No one wants to grow old but ...

- Age and skill will always overcome youth and treachery!
- Wisdom and brilliance only come with age and experience.
- What appears to be a loss can turn out to be to our advantage in the end ...
- Ultimately, the sacrifices we make for God will bring us a much greater reward if we persevere ... Such is the meaning of Lent.

*The woman in today's Gospel lived a sad life before she met Jesus. Afterwards she would have been the happiest person in her community and everyone would want to hear her story.*

*However, without that misfortunate life, she would never have met the Lord and this famous story would never have been told. Such is the paradox of life.*

*God loves to forgive our transgressions if only we express true sorrow for them. Bring your sins to Jesus in confession this Easter and you will encounter the God of mercy in just as real a way as the lady in John chapter 8.*

Life is a leaf of paper white  
Whereon each one of us may write  
His word or two ... and then comes night.

Greatly begin! Though thou have time but for a line,  
be that sublime --  
*Not failure, but low aim ... is crime.*

James Russell Lowell.