



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

Sat 9th Mar	8.00pm	James, Bridget & Joe Cunningham & D.F.M. Loughawn.
Sun 10th Mar	10.30am	Thomas & Anna Mary Hopkins, Newpark.
Mon 11th Mar	8.00pm	Brain Ganly, Portanure.
Tues 12th Mar	7.00am	Special Intention.
Wed 13th Mar	7.00am	Special Intention.
Thur 14th Mar	7.00am	Special Intention.
Fri 15th Mar	9.30am	<i>No evening Mass re: Station.</i>
Sat 16th Mar	8.00pm	Kate, John & Mary Shanley, Derrygowna. Also Kathleen Gibney, Navan & D.F.M.
Sun 17th Mar	10.30am	Mary & J.P. Killian. Also Tom Killian (1st Anniv.) Forthill.
<i>Eucharistic Adoration continues on Wednesday 3pm-9pm and Friday 8.30pm-9pm.</i>		
<i>Eucharistic Roster</i>	8.00pm Sat 16th Mar	Ann Kelly & Laura Hanley.
	10.30am Sun 17th Mar	Helen Hassett & Elizabeth Clyne.
<i>Readers' Roster</i>	8.00pm Sat 16th Mar	Ann Kelly.
	10.30am Sun 17th Mar	Dermot Healy.

*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 Whitton, Forthill.
Thurs 7th Mar:	Martin & Gaye Skelly, Carrowbeg/Leab.
Fri 8th Mar:	Bridget Hopkins, Drumnee.

#### To be held:

Fri 15th Mar:	Maura & Ray Brehon, Portanure.
Fri 29th Mar:	Siobhan Casey, Ellect/Loughfarm.

*Midland Motor Club:* The rally takes place on Sunday 24th March travelling through Lisrevagh, Thureen, Lisnacusha, Newpark, Clonmee, Greenhall, Aughavadeen, Lightfield and Caltra. There will be 3 timed runs: 1st 10.13; 2nd 12.55; 3rd 15.37. Roads will be closed from 9am to 5pm approx. This rally is a round of the National Championships, the Border and Midland East championships. We are having drivers from all over Ireland and The UK. We wish to thank residents on the route for their cooperation and hope you all enjoy the action.

*School Vegetable Garden:* The Tidy Towns Committee in conjunction with St. Mary's National School started a vegetable garden last year at the school which was a great success. We are looking for three volunteers as we don't have any and won't be able to continue without them. Please contact Mick Casey at 0868289811.

*Parish Pastoral Council* meeting on Thursday 21st March at 8pm.

*Reflection:* there is a story told about a hurling match between Glen Rovers and St. Fin barr's. It was a Cork County Final. The Barrs snatched victory from the jaws of defeat when their full-forward scored a hotly disputed goal in the last minute.

The Glen backs protested to no avail that he was in the square at the time. Finbarr's celebrations went well into the night but ended in tragedy when the player who scored the controversial goal lost his life in a car accident in the early hours of the morning. The scene now shifts to the Judgement Hall, where our friend escorted by an angel, is awaiting his turn to face the Heavenly Tribunal. He confides his worry about the goal to the Angel. He feels now that he might have been in the square and therefore the goal should have been disallowed. The Angel does nothing to reassure him, pointing out that the Heavenly Powers take a dim view of anything that savours of dishonesty ... of taking credit where it is not due. The Angel left him for a while and he sat alone feeling miserable.

Suddenly a little saint whom he did not recognise came over and sat down beside him. He poured out his worries to the saint and to his delight got the assurance he was looking for. The little saint told him that he himself happened to be watching the match the previous day, that he had an excellent view and that there was no doubt whatsoever about St. Finbarr's win as the goal was perfectly legitimate. The forward was cheered to no end as the saint left him.

The Angel of Judgement returned to take him to the Tribunal and the Barrs man confidently assured the Angel that his fears had vanished because he had it on reliable authority that the goal was perfectly fair.

"Whose authority might I ask?" said the Angel.

"That little saint waving at me over there," said the St. Finbarr's man.

"Yerra ... don't mind him", said the angel ... sure that fella is biased ... *that's St. Finbarr's.*

*Moral: As in today's Gospel even Jesus Himself was tempted. If God's only Son had to face the seductive approaches of the devil then certainly you and I will not escape them.*

Father John Hayes lived in Co. Tipperary in the early part of the last century. He was very much in demand as a preacher as he had a particularly engaging manner. He described once being confronted with the problem of predestination ... in all of places a hay meadow. The hay was being saved so he went in to say "God bless the work". The farmer was well known as a wily old character.

"See here Canon, said the farmer, all the while leaning on his fork, "Will you answer one question that has been bothering me for some time ... tell me now ... doesn't God know everything?"

"Sure He does," came the reply.

"Doesn't he know whether I'm going to be saved or lost?"

"I suppose He does," said the priest.

"Then tell me why I should be bothering myself saving my soul ... I'm not going to change His mind for Him. Am I?"

"Well now, Bill," said Fr. Hayes, after a little thought, "We're agreed that the good Lord knows everything ... aren't we?"

"Sure," said Bill.

"Doesn't He know whether this crop of hay will be saved or lost?"

"I suppose He does, right enough".

"Well then Bill, why don't you get up on your tractor and go off home ... you're not going to change His mind are you?"

Bill gave a wry look at Fr. John ... picked up his fork and went back to saving his hay.

*Moral:*

*Lent is a time when we are asked to face down these seductions. Jesus is asking us today what have we undertaken to join Him in the Eternal battle against the sweet temptations of the Dark side.*