



*Dear God , Into Your strong hands, I place my life today,  
choosing to depend on You to light and guide my way.*

**Who Packs  
Your  
Parachute?**

**Mass Times as follows:**

Saturday Vigil Mass: 8pm: Sunday: 10.30am.

Monday & Friday: 8pm. Tues & Thurs: 9.30am. No Mass on Wednesday.

**Masses for the Dead:**

Sat 17th Sept 8.00pm Patrick Brennan Junior, Derrygowan. (16th Anniv).

Sun 18th Sept 10.30am Mass for the People of the Parish.

Mon 19th Sept 8.00pm Special Intention

Tues 20th Sept 9.30am Special Intention.

Thurs 22nd Sept 9.30am Special Intention

Fri 23rd Sept 8.00pm Patricia (Trush) Carberry, Derrahawn. (Month's Mind)

Sat 24th Sept 8.00pm Pat Clarke, Curroole.

Sun 25th Sept 10.30am Paddy Greene, Ellect.

**Recent Collections:** 11th September Offertory Sunday: €620.

**Harvest Dues Envelope:** is due at this time. Thank you.

**Baptism:** We welcome baby Kyle O'Kane into our Christian community who was baptized on Saturday. Congratulations to his parents Hugh and Marie.

**First Holy Communion Enrolment** takes place next Sunday at the 10.30am Mass.

**P.T.A.A.** meeting takes place on Wednesday 5th October at 8.30pm in "The Hill."

**Bord na Mona** intend to hold a second series of pre-planning Public Information sessions regarding its proposed Derryadd Wind Farm as follows:

Wednesday 28th September 3-9pm: St Brigid's G.A.A. Centre, Killashee.

Thursday 29th September 3-9pm: The Hill, Newtowncashel.

Friday 30th September 3-9pm: Kenagh Community Centre.

Saturday 1st October 3-9pm: St. Mary's Parish Hall, Lanesborough.

Admission is Free. Staff will be on hand to discuss the project.

**The Draft Register of Electors 2017/2018** is now being prepared. If you live in County Longford and wish to vote you should check that you are registered correctly to vote.

If you have any family members resident in County Longford who will be 18 years or over by the 15th February 2017 they may also be registered to vote. You can check the Register by logging onto [www.checktheregister.ie](http://www.checktheregister.ie) or by contacting Longford County Council on 043-3343362. You may also email at [franchise@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:franchise@longfordcoco.ie)

**Eucharistic Ministers' Roster:** If you wish to become a minister, or remain on the roster, this is the last opportunity to forward your name to Fr. Kenny.

**Readers' Roster:** If you wish to become a reader at Mass, or remain on the roster, this is the last opportunity to forward your name to Fr. Kenny.

**Best of Luck to the Cashel football team** who will play Killashee in the County Intermediate Football Final in Pearse Park next Saturday. It is a great achievement to get this far. Hopefully, the lads will bring back the cup to the parish once again.

**Congratulations** to Barry Donlon and Jennifer Jahns who were married last Saturday.

**Please Support The Ballymahon Day Care Centre** Church Gate Collection this weekend.

**The Alzheimer Society of Ireland** Church Gate Collection will be held on Saturday and Sunday 24/25th September. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

**Who packs YOUR parachute?**

Charles Plumb was a US Navy jet pilot in Vietnam. After 75 combat missions, his plane was destroyed by a surface-to-air missile. Plumb ejected and parachuted into enemy hands. He was captured and spent 6 years in a communist Vietnamese prison. He survived the ordeal and now lectures on lessons learned from that experience. One day, when Plumb and his wife were sitting in a restaurant, a man at another table came up and said, "You're Plumb! You flew jet fighters in Vietnam from the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk. You were shot down!"

"How in the world did you know that?" asked Plumb.

"I packed your parachute," the man replied. Plumb gasped in surprise and gratitude. The man pumped his hand and said, "I guess it worked!" Plumb assured him, "It sure did. If your chute hadn't worked, I wouldn't be here today." Plumb couldn't sleep that night, thinking about that man. Plumb says, "I kept wondering what he might have looked like in a Navy uniform: a white hat, a bib in the back, and bell-bottom trousers. I wonder how many times I might have seen him and not even said good morning, how are you?" or anything because, you see, I was a fighter pilot and he was just a sailor."

Plumb thought of the man-hours the sailor had spent on a long wooden table in the bowels of the ship, carefully weaving the shrouds and folding the silks of each chute, holding in his hands each time the fate of someone he didn't know.

Now, Plumb asks his audience, "Who's packing your parachute?" Everyone has someone who provides what they need to make it through the day. Plumb also points out that he needed many kinds of parachutes when his plane was shot down over enemy territory-he needed his physical parachute, his mental parachute, his emotional parachute, and his spiritual parachute. He called on all these supports before reaching safety. Sometimes in the daily challenges that life gives us, we miss what is really important. We may fail to say hello, please, or thank you, congratulate someone on something wonderful that has happened to them, give a compliment, or just do something nice for no reason.

As you go through this week, this month, this year, recognize people who pack your parachute.

**Moral:** The Lord Himself is the One who ultimately packs my parachute.