



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
22nd February, 2015

We all need the desert experience because we need to sort out the things that matter from the things that are mere distractions.

- ✘ **Mass** on Saturday (Vigil), 8.00 p.m.; Sunday, 10.30 a.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 7.00 a.m.
- ✘ **Mass for the Intentions of the People of the Parish**, on Tuesday, 24th, at 7.00 a.m.
- ✘ **Sunday 22nd** is the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter, a celebration of St. Peter as Bishop of Rome, and Christ's choice of Peter for the service of the whole Church.
Monday 23rd, St. Polycarp, a disciple of St. John the Evangelist, bishop of Smyrna in Turkey, martyred 155.
Thursday 26th, St. Alexander, who became Bishop of Alexandria, Egypt, in 312. He challenged the Arian heresy which denied the divinity and sinlessness of Christ. The Emperor Constantine sided with Alexander at the Council of Nicea in 325 and Arianism was officially condemned. He died the following year, 326.
- ✘ **Lenten Masses**. During Lent, Mass is celebrated at 7.00 a.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Everyone welcome.
- ✘ **The Stations of the Cross** – in Church on the Fridays of Lent at 7.30 p.m. All are urged to make a special effort to participate in this traditional devotion.
- ✘ **“The Pioneer Lenten Challenge”** offers non-members a Short-Term Pledge for the duration of Lent. See notice-board. www.pioneerassociation.ie, ☎ 01 874 9464.
- ✘ **The Regional Pioneer Under 13 Table Quiz** takes place in the Temperance Hall, Longford, on Thursday, 12th March, at 8.00 p.m. 4 per table plus 1 sub. €10.00 per team. Two teams per school. Age limit, under 13 on 1st January, 2015. All participants must be members of the Pioneer Total Abstinence Association and are expected to wear the pin. Winners go forward to the Leinster Final on 29th March.
- ✘ **The Parish Pastoral Council** will meet in “The Hill” on Tuesday 24th, at 8.00 p.m. The main item on the agenda is discussion of questions relating to the Synod of Bishops on the Family.
- ✘ **Parish Banners** are being commissioned for the Re-Dedication of St. Mel's Cathedral on 17th May. An unique and distinctive symbol is required for the Cashel banner! Suggestions please, to any member of the Parish Pastoral Council before Tuesday's meeting.
- ✘ **Youth 2000 Ireland** invites young people, aged 16-35, to a Catholic weekend retreat from 6th to 8th March, at Galway Community College, Moneenageisha, Galway City. Inspiring talks and workshops; prayer, music and fun. Youth Masses, Adoration, a Healing Service. For more details, see www.youth2000.ie or call 086 215 0607. Parental consent essential for under 18s. Meals and

accommodation on site! Bring any donation and a sleeping bag. Newcomers very welcome!

- ✘ **Cemeteries Committee** formed at the re-convened A.G.M.: - **Chairman**, Dónall Farrell; **Vice Chairman and Secretary**, Martin Skelly; **Treasurer**, Patrick Clarke; **Saints' Island Representatives**: John (Sonny) Clarke and John Flanagan; **Cashel Representatives**: Tom Murray and Tom Fagan. The formation of the committee ensures the continuation of the scheme under which the cemeteries are maintained. Once again we thank the outgoing committee for their tremendous work in maintaining and enhancing the cemeteries during the past 22 years.
- ✘ **The Newsletter** will not be published on 7th/8th March. Items relating to the fortnight 2nd to 15th March should be submitted by midday on Thursday, 26th February, for inclusion in next weekend's issue.
- ✘ **I.C.A. Congratulations** to Catherine Gallagher, Katie Kenny and Brid Kenny, winners of the recent Federation Table Quiz in Killashee.
- ✘ **Monster Auction**. Newtowncashel Community Games will hold a Monster Auction in “The Hill” on Sunday 19th April, at 1.00 p.m. Funds raised will go towards the purchase of sports equipment to enable the children of the parish participate in events and activities. Donations and support will be greatly appreciated. All items considered from household goods to confectionery. Goods may be delivered to the hall at any time after 12.00 noon on Saturday, 18th April. Items can also be collected by arrangement with any member of the committee. Contact:- Christy Hopkins, 086 839 9057; Gary Beattie, 087 205 0506; John Morrissey, 086 806 6698; or John Kenny, 087 050 7686.
- ✘ **TRÓCAIRE** envelopes, containing information leaflets and family fast boxes, are available at the church doors. Please take one. This year's Lenten campaign concentrates on the effects of climate change as illustrated by drought in Ethiopia.
- ✘ **The Lourdes Sick Pilgrims' Collection** realised **€556.00**. The organisers thank the collectors and all who contributed so generously. The fund is used to subsidise the air fare of sick or assisted people who join the Diocesan Pilgrimage.
- ✘ **Concern**. The annual fast and church gate collection raised **€1,000.00** which has been forwarded to Concern. The organisers acknowledge the use of “The Hill” facilities and thank all who helped and supported.
- ✘ Contributions to the **Monthly Collection** for March, next weekend, please.
- ✘ Thank you for last Sunday's collection, **€900.00**.
- ✘ **Masses for the Dead:-**
 Saturday 21st, 8.00 p.m., John, Mary Margaret and John Skelly Jnr., Cornaguillagh.
 Sunday 22nd, 10.30 a.m., Peter and Elizabeth Hopkins and deceased members of the Hopkins Family, Drumnee.
 Saturday 28th, 8.00 p.m., Johnny Bawle, Curroole Kenny.
 Sunday, 1st March, 10.30 a.m., John Tom and Patricia Smyth, Curroole, Kenny.

STATION MASSES February 2015

DRUMNEE AND SAINTS' ISLAND	Carmel and Seán Hopkins	Monday, 23rd
PORTANURE	Nora Nolan	Thursday, 26th
CLARAS AND CROSS	Breda and Eamon Murphy	Friday, 27th

Confessions 7.45, Mass 8.00 p.m.