

Woodford/Looscaun Parish Newsletter

Portumna Faith Community Area

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Newsletter available on www.clonfertdiocese.ie, Eircode: H62 AK18
Facebook: www.facebook.com/Woodf4dLooscaun, Woodford/Shragh Defibrillator 999 or 112

Second Sunday of Lent February 25th 2024

St John the Baptist Church, Woodford.

Mass Mon 7pm Tue. 8am Wed. 8pm Thur. 9.30am Fri. 8pm Sat. 10am & 7pm
Saturday Feb. 24th 7pm Michael Fahy, Green Valley Court (Months Mind) & his wife Joan (6th Anniv)
& deceased family members
Saturday Mar. 2nd 7pm Michael & Sheila Page, Cloncoe (Anniv)
Eamonn & Teresa Hogan, Douras (Anniv)

Altar Society: Team 6 Geraldine Lyons Bernadette Larkin Mary Lyons

St. Brendan's Church, Looscaun

Mass: Fri. 10am Sun. 11am
Mass will be available on 105.0FM locally, on the Parish Facebook Page & Church Webcam
Sunday Feb. 25th 11am Brendan Donnelly, Douras (8th Anniversary)
Sunday Mar. 3rd 11am Tom Conroy & his parents John & Elizabeth Conroy, Kyleneamelly

Altar Society Team 4 Betty Whelan Maura Tully

RIP:

Dates to Note

Service of Reflection and Prayer in Preparation for Confirmation on Thur. Apr. 11th at 7.30pm in St. Brigid's Church, Portumna

First Holy Communion on Sunday April 28th

Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday May 16th at 11am in St. Brendan's Church, Looscaun

New Email Address for the Parish Newsletter. Please direct Notices you wish to publish in the Parish Newsletter to this new email address woodfordlooscaunnewsletter@gmail.com

Church Envelopes for 2024 are now available in the Churches, Woodford Envelopes in Woodford and Looscaun Envelopes in Looscaun. Thanks to all who have supported the various Church Collections this past year. It is very much appreciated.

New Church Webcams. New Church webcams are now operational in both St. John the Baptist Church, Woodford and St. Brendan's Church, Looscaun. This is thanks to a most generous donation to the Parish to install webcams. This and your continued financial support of the Parish has enabled them to be installed and funded for the coming year. Thank you for that generous support

Link for St. John the Baptist Church Woodford www.churchmedia.tv/stjohnbaptist

Link for St. Brendans Church, Looscaun www.churchmedia.tv/stbrendans

Clonfert Lourdes Pilgrimage Collection: Thank you for your generous support to this collection

Ballinasloe & District Youth Club Bible Appeal: See www.creideamh.ie/bible appeal for details. All assistance greatly appreciated.

Interactive Lenten Scripture Initiative drawing on the riches of second half of St. Mark's Gospel will take place in Clonfert Family Centre, Ballinasloe, H53 NX59, for six Sunday evenings (7.30 – 8.30/8.45 pm) beginning Sunday 11th February. For more details please contact John on 087 9068032. Everyone is welcome

Parish Finance Committees In Service - During the week Parish Finance Committees met with the Diocesan Auditor, Members of the Diocesan Office and Bishop Michael for their annual in service. We thank all those who are involved in this important area of parish life.

Lenten Collection Thank you most sincerely for your contributions to this collection which goes towards central support services for our parishes eg. Youth Ministry, Safeguarding Children &

Vulnerable Adult Services, support to Primary and Secondary Schools, In Service for Clergy, Pastoral Development and Renewal, Compliance with Charity Regulation, Family Ministry, Charitable Outreach etc. Your generosity is greatly appreciated

First Friday Calls to the sick and housebound on this Fri. Mar. 1st. If you would like a call or know someone who would appreciate a call, please contact Fr. Kieran on 090-9749100.

Medjugorje International Youth Festival from July 31st– August 7th 2023. Spiritual Director: Bishop Michael Duignan. OPEN TO ADULTS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 18 (by 31st July 2024) AND 35. Subsidised Fare €680 – all inclusive. For further information and booking form contact the Clonfert Diocesan Office: tel. 091 841 560, email office@clonfertdiocese.ie, or contact your local priest. Limited spaces – first come, first served. Closing date 12th of April.

ACCORD Ballinasloe are committed to providing a professional counselling service for individuals and couples who are experiencing difficulties in their marriage and relationships. This confidential service is available and affordable. CONTACT 090 9643573 for appointment or E-mail ballinasloeaccord@eircom.net

ACCORD Catholic Marriage Care Service CLG is currently recruiting volunteers to train as marriage preparation programme 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 Accord wants to hear from you! Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation programmes locally. Contact Aisling on 01 505 3112 or by email to marriagepreparation@accord.ie www.accord.ie

Prayers for Migrants and Refugees We offer prayers for refugees and migrants; prayers for an open and generous response to all who are in need and for those seeking refuge and shelter among us; prayers for a commitment to building a culture of encounter and dialogue where we work tirelessly to banish all tensions among people and to promote harmony in our society; prayers for all areas of the world afflicted by violence and warfare especially at this time in the Holy Land, Ukraine and South Sudan.

Shragh '45' Friday nights at 8pm in Shragh Hall

Carol Irish Dancing Classes every Thursday in Abbey Hall at 5pm. Beginners and improvers are welcome. Pay as you go Fully insured and Garda vetted. Text Carol 087-6266870

Information and Support for Birth Mothers - whose babies were placed for adoption may be found at www.birthinfo.ie or by calling the relevant section of TUSLA at 0818 445 500

Gamblers Anonymous – Want to stop Gambling Helpline 086 349 4450 Weekly Meetings Tuesday GELS Room, Main Street Ballinasloe H53 RC95 @ 8pm.

Tommie Larkins Lotto results for the 18th February 2024 - 9, 27, 30,31 - No Jackpot Winner, Match 3 Winners share €150 - Michael Keon (Hannaspark), Christopher Loughrey This week's lotto jackpot is €2,900. Buy tickets online or in local shops/pubs.

Davitts 50/50 draw: Congratulations to Eileen Whyte, Woodford, winner of €600 in last weeks draw. Next draw takes place on Monday 19th February. Tickets available available in local shops/pubs or online at www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Davitts_Camogie_Club/TicketSales ". Thanks for your continued support

Evangelium Ireland will host its next Apologetics Conference for young Catholics at St Patrick's College, Maynooth on Sat, 16 Mar. Talks workshops include: The Gift of the Priesthood, Intro to the Theology of Joseph Ratzinger, Christian Marriage, Female Authors of the Catholic Revival, Christian Metaphysics, St Patrick. Mass will also be celebrated. Cost: €38 More details www.evangelium.ie

Join the Galway 40 days for Life Lenten campaign to witness peacefully and to pray publicly, on Saturdays during Lent, outside UHG for a return to the Gospel of Life. 40 days for Life is the world's largest grassroots moment to end Abortion. To join : contact 083 423 1791.

Loving Father! You are the source of all that is: our beginning and our end .Pour out your Spirit upon us. Form in us the mind of Christ.Give us a greater appreciation for the precious gift of life. Renew in us a commitment to building a community where every human life is welcomed and valued from the moment of conception to the moment of natural death. Draw near to those who are sick or dying. Help those who love them and care for them. Bless us now and at the hour of our death. Amen Our Lady of Clonfert! Pray for us!

vening social. To view the full programme and to register visit www.evangelium.ie or search 'Evangelium Ireland'

Davitts 50/50 draw: Congratulations to Christina Gantley, Killeen, winner of €575 in last weeks draw. Next draw is our Christmas draw & takes place on Monday 5th February.

available in local shops/pubs or online at www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Davitts_Camogie_Club/TicketSales ". Thanks for your continued support

How to view the Church Webcam on your Laptop, Desktop, Tablet or Mobile Phone.

Type in www.churchmedia.tv. Once on the site click in 'Search for your Church' and type in Looscaun or Woodford. Then click on the picture of the Church either Looscaun or Woodford to take you to the webcam for either St. Brendan's Church, Looscaun or St. John the Baptist Church, Woodford. You can also link directly to either webcam by typing in www.churchmedia.tv/stbrendans for the Looscaun Church webcam or www.churchmedia.tv/stjohnbaptist for the Woodford Church Webcam. You can still watch Mass and Scheduled Church Services via the Woodford/Looscaun Parish Facebook Page which is now linked to the Church webcam. www.facebook.com/woodf4dlooscaun is the link to the Woodford/Looscaun Parish Facebook Page.

Tús community work placement scheme:

Galway Rural Development have a number of vacancies in the Woodford Area and also the surrounding areas of Abbey, Duniry and Tynagh

If you are in receipt of Job Seekers Allowance (Means tested payment) or a Disability Allowance (DA) payment for a minimum of 12 months, interested in developing new skills and re-joining the work force for 19.5 hours per week, we can help.

In Woodford Development Group we have a Tús vacancy for a Maintenance/Caretaker Person.

Please contact the Tús Supervisor ~ Karen Connolly on 087 6903463 for more information.

Calling Pioneers and Friends to the 25 th Pioneer National Ball. An evening of celebration and fun on Saturday April 6 th 2024. Mass at 6pm in the Cathedral of Christ the King, Mullingar, followed by special guest speaker, dinner, music and dancing at the Annebrook House Hotel, Mullingar. Extra activities on Friday night and Saturday and Sunday afternoons. For details/ tickets contact Dermot Fagan 085-7201646 or Daisy Carey 087-6544626

Celebration of the Sacraments of First Confession, First Holy Communion and ,Confirmation 2024

We remember in our prayers those who are beginning to prepare for the celebration of the important Sacraments of First Confession, First Holy Communion and this year. We also remember their families, sponsors, teachers and our entire parish community who will journey with them.

New Parish Pastoral Councils and Parish Finance Committees At the moment parishes throughout the Diocese of Clonfert are reconstituting their Parish Pastoral Councils and Parish Finance Committees. These bodies are living examples of the synodal working together of the priest and people for the good of the whole parish. Training for members will take place in the New Year along with a formal commissioning before Easter. For more information visit www.clonfertdiocese.ie

Meals4Health - Galway – Delivers Fresh Delicious Affordable Meals to your door. Suited to the dietary requirements of the older person. Phone 091354000 for more information or visit www.meals4health.ie Special and modified dietary requirements catered for also. Nationwide delivery available.