

THE NEWTON LIMAVADY UNION WORKHOUSE

Nearly 200 years ago, poverty was widespread throughout Ireland. The rural community of the Roe Valley was suffering greatly from homelessness, hunger, and disease. There were no government allowances for the elderly, sick or unemployed. Many of the families who lived in mud huts with roofs made of straw, died from cholera, cold and starvation. They had to pay rent for these dwellings as the land they were living on belonged to someone else. However, with no jobs and no way of earning a living or paying the rent, families were evicted, thrown out of their homes, forced to live on the roads. Something had to be done.

In 1838 the government set up the Poor Relief Act, which divided the whole of Ireland into 'Unions'. Each Union had to build a workhouse for the destitute poor in the area. One hundred and forty-six Workhouses were built in Ireland. Work started on The Newton Limavady Union Workhouse in 1838 and opened its doors on 15th March 1842. You might think that the opening of the workhouse would make life bearable for the old people, sick and homeless families in the Roe Valley area. In fact, it was a place of dread, shame, and a last resort for many. Why was this so? Why was it a place of dread and shame? The Poor Law Commissioners who designed and operated the Workhouse system, ruled that it should be 'the hardest taskmaster, the cruelest paymaster and the most harsh and unkind friend'. The regime was very strict and unwelcoming. This discouraged people from coming to the workhouse and staying there. On entering, families were split up. Husbands were separated from their wives, parents from their children and sisters from their brothers. Families were allowed to meet up at prayer and meal times only. Infants could remain with their mothers until the age of 2, when they would be placed in a separate room to which the mothers would have 'reasonable access'. In the Workhouse, life was organized in such a manner that the paupers would want to leave as soon as possible.

Newtown Limavady Workhouse closed its doors on 1st April 1930 and it was converted into the Roe Valley District Hospital in 1932. The hospital operated from then until 1989 when, once again the doors were closed.

Two years previously, in 1987, a charity called 'Limavady Community Development Initiative' (LCDI) had been started by a group of local people who were very concerned at the high level of unemployment in the area. Their main purpose was to create job opportunities. The charity purchased the Workhouse/Hospital building and with the additional space were able to house a range of projects so ensuring the outstanding 'hidden jewel' of the Roe Valley would continue to serve the community, as it is still doing today.

About fifty yards North of the entrance to Scroggy Road Health Centre can be seen on the left-hand side a small memorial stone marked:

**LIMAVADY UNION GRAVEYARD
THIS CONSECRATED PLOT WAS USED
AS A WORKHOUSE BURIAL GROUND
BETWEEN THE YEARS 1841 – 1931**

In March every year a memorial service is held there to remember all the people buried in the Paupers' Graveyard and all the families who were left with no choice but to enter the grim life of the Workhouse. May they all rest in peace.

MEN'S SUPPORT GROUP are holding a free men's health workshop in Millenium Forum, Derry every Tuesday at 7 pm. Dates: 9, 16, 23, 30 April & 7 May. Each Tuesday has a guest speaker covering Men's Mental Health, Addictions, Recovery, Parenting NI, Sexuality and Bereavement and Loss. Exhibition launched showcasing our personal stories, struggles and help open to the public from 15 May - 4 June. Lunch is provided. For further information Tel: Liam on 0748190744

LIMAVADY PEER SUPPORT AND GENTLE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY for those with long term pain conditions on Thursdays fortnightly from 12 - 1 pm in LCDI, Roe Valley Hospital, 24d Benevenagh Drive, Limavady. Call: 02890 782940 or email: s.gilchrist@versusarthritis.org.

LIMAVADY PARISH BULLETIN

3rd Sunday of Easter

14 April 2024



LITURGICAL PROGRAMME FOR WEEK COMMENCING 15 APRIL

Mon 15 April - Fri 19 April	10 am	Mass: Christ the King Church (streamed)
Saturday 20 April	4.30 pm	Vigil Mass for the 4th Sunday of Easter Christ the King Church (streamed)
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass for the 4th Sunday of Easter St Finlough's Church (streamed)
Sunday 21 April	9.00 am	Mass: Christ the King Church
	10.30 am	Mass: St Mary's Church (streamed)
	12.00 noon	Mass: Christ the King Church

Readings for 4th Sunday of Easter: Acts 4:8-12. Ps 117:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28-29, R/ v 22. 1 Jn 3:1-2. Jn 10:11-18.

Baptisms

To arrange a Baptism, you **MUST** complete a Baptism Card in the Parish Office
Tel: Parish Office - 028 777 62522 between 9.00 am - 1.00 pm.

Month's Mind Masses and Anniversary Masses

To arrange Anniversaries, Month's Mind Masses or First Anniversary Masses,
please contact Janet. Tel: Parish Office - 028 777 62522 between 9.00 am - 1.00 pm.
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Parish Bulletin

The bulletin is available online. Visit: Website: www.limavadyparish.org
All notices should be emailed to: parishoflimavady@btinternet.com
or left in the post box outside the parish office before Wednesday at 1 pm.

Telephone Numbers

Mgr McCanny	028 777 29759
Fr Harkin	028 777 64409
Parish Office	028 777 62522 (Monday - Friday: 9.00 am - 1.00 pm)
	Email: parishoflimavady@btinternet.com
	Website: www.limavadyparish.org
	Facebook: facebook.com/limparish

In these difficult times please remember the SVP Red Box Helpline 07512360388

Deaths

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of
Monica Cooke, 203 Glenhead Road, Limavady
Gertie Mullan, Cornfield Care Home, formerly Annadale Park, Limavady
Christine McLoone, Magilligan
who died recently

Month's Mind Masses

The Month's Mind Mass for **Anna Roddy** will be celebrated on
Saturday 20 April at 4.30 pm in Christ the King Church.
The Month's Mind Mass for **Bernadette Magee** will be celebrated on
Saturday 20 April at 6.00 pm in St Finlough's Church.

First Anniversary Masses

The First Anniversary Mass for **Charlie O'Connell** will be celebrated on
Sunday 14 April at 10.30 am in St Mary's Church.
The First Anniversary Mass for **Robert McCullough** will be celebrated on
Sunday 14 April at 12.00 noon in Christ the King Church.

Anniversaries

James McLaughlin, Bobby Mailey, Patricia McIvor, Annie Duddy, Tommy O'Brien, Billy Mullan, Rose Duffy, Margaret & William McGlinchey, John Devenney, Margaret O'Kane, Gerry McWilliams, Eva Cummings, Hugh & Sadie McDevitt, Sean McGill, Mary O'Kane, Rory McLaughlin, Mary, Jack & Eddie O'Brien, William McLaughlin, Elizabeth McCartney, Charlie O'Doherty, Charlie O'Connell

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

WEEKLY ENVELOPE COLLECTION

If you wish to set up a Standing Order, please contact the parish office - 028 777 62522 between 9 am - 1 pm. Remember to write your name and envelope number on the Standing Order Form. Once again many thanks for your kindness and generosity.

WEEKLY COLLECTION Sunday 7 April: £5,225.00

VOCATIONS The Year of Prayer for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood comes to an official end on Good Shepherd Sunday, 21 April 2024. We continue to pray for Vocations, particularly to the diocesan priesthood here in the Diocese of Derry, and to keep in our prayers our 4 seminarians and all those currently discerning their vocation, especially those who have applied to begin their seminary studies in the near future. Anyone interested in serving the Church as a priest of the Diocese of Derry is asked to contact the diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Pat O'Hagan, at pgoh2111@gmail.com or at 028 7936259.

LAVEY PARISH ALL-NIGHT ADORATION Praying for Vocations on Friday 19 April at 9.00 pm and concludes with Mass on Saturday 20 April at 9.15 am. Everyone welcome.

LOUGH DERG RETREAT FOR YOUNG ADULTS The Knights of Columbanus, Omagh, is organising a Retreat in Lough Derg for young adults (18 - 30 yrs), to take place on Saturday 27 April from 10 am - 4 pm. This event is free of charge. Guest speakers, inspirational talks, reflective time and concluding with Mass. For further information email: info@knightsofstcolumbansomagh.co.uk.

ST EUGENE'S CATHEDRAL PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA 19 - 24 October 2024. Cost £770 per person sharing with a single room supplement of £150 (subject to availability). For more information contact: amhickey@derrydiocese.org or phone 028 71262894.

REFLECTION DAY at SMA Retreat Centre, Domantine on Saturday 4 May from 9.30 am - 5.00 pm. 'Forgiveness: the journey from hurt to healing, freedom, peace and happiness.' Led by Fr Des Corrigan SMA. Cost (incl lunch) £38. Tel: 028 30821964 or email: admin@dromantineconference.com.

PARISH ENVELOPES

If you have not already done so, please collect your envelopes.
They are in alphabetical order at the back of Christ the King Church. Thank you.

NEW CHILDRENS PRAYER GROUP on the first Saturday of every month from 2.30 pm - 3.30 pm in the Drummond Hotel. Contact: Kathy - 07538749627.

MUCKAMORE ABBEY is having a Service of Thanksgiving and Prayer in the Moyola Building for staff, past and present on 18 April at 7.30 pm.

ALL IRELAND ROSARY RALLY on Saturday 1 June in Knock beginning with a Marian Conference at 9.30 am in St John's Centre, continuing with an opportunity to meet over 20 apostolates from around Ireland from 11.30 am. Rosary Talk at 1.00 pm in the Basilica, Stations of the Cross outside at 2.00 pm followed by the Rosary Procession. Main Celebrant Bishop Phonsie Cullinan at the 3.00 pm Mass which will include Anointing of the Sick. Confessions are available throughout the day and there will be rosary and scapular-making workshops in the marquee. For more information visit www.AllIrelandRosaryRally.com.

DERRY DIOCESAN YOUTH PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE We are inviting young people aged 16+ to join us for 9 nights from 30 July - 8 August. Cost £800 and there will be a budget plan to help with this. Names and deposit of £100 are required asap to secure a place. For more information or to book please contact: lizzie.rea@derrydiocese.org or Tel: 028 71 264087.

LIFE CAMP 2024 is a voluntary organisation staffed by teachers, students and experienced volunteers. It takes place in St Mary's College, Northland Road, Derry. We are calling all pupils currently in P3 - P7. Week 1: Monday 1 - Friday 5 July and Week 2: Monday 8 - Friday 12 July. Cost for each week is £40. To register go to www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Life%20Summer%20Camp.

LOUGH DERG 2024 PILGRIMAGE SEASON **Three Day Pilgrimage** from Friday 31 May - Thursday 15 August. **Quiet Day:** Saturday 11 May & Friday 13 September. **Lakeshore Pilgrimage:** Sunday 26 May & Sunday 1 September. **Residential Retreat:** Sunday 9 - Thursday 13 June, Friday 21 - Tuesday 25 June, Sunday 21 - Thursday 25 July, Sunday 4 - Thursday 8 August. **One Day Retreat:** 5, 6, 12, 14, 18, 25, 27 May, 17, 20, 25, 26, 31 August, 4, 7, 10, 14, 15, 21, 22 September. For more information - Tel: 00353 71 9861518 or visit www.loughderg.org or info@loughderg.org.

SR CLARE'S RETREAT begins every morning with 7 am & 10 am Mass followed by Benediction and a guest speaker at 7 pm. A Healing Service will take place on Thur 18 April at 7 pm. Guest speaker on 20 April at 10 am & 3 pm Masses and the Retreat concludes with a closing Mass celebrated by Bishop Donal McKeown on Sun 21 April at 3 pm. Stream online at www.longtowerchurch.org.

ACCORD - MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES 17 & 18 May, 14 & 15 June. Please note courses are now in person and **NOT** virtual. Courses can be booked online at: www.accordni.com.

MARY'S MEALS - CRISIS IN ETHIOPIA Mary's Meals provides school meals to over 2.4 million children every day. At this time, we ask you to remember in your prayers families facing extreme food insecurity and hunger in Ethiopia and we invite you to a special online session where our founder Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow will share more about this urgent under-reported crisis on Tuesday 16 April at 7.00 pm. Find out more at www.marysmeals.org.uk or email: info@marysmeals.org.

MASTERS IN CATHOLIC SCHOOL LEADERSHIP The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre, working in Partnership with St Mary's University, Twickenham, offers the Masters in Catholic School Leadership. This is a post graduate degree dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. If interested in registering for the Masters in September 2024 or require any further information, please contact the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 028 71 264087 or email: tferry@derrydiocese.org.

PARISH DRAW The next draw will take place on Monday 29 April in Bethany Community Centre at **7.30 pm**. Collection from **6.00 - 7.30 pm**.

CEMETERY SUNDAYS 2024

Roemill	6 pm	Sunday 2 June 2024
Christ the King	6 pm	Sunday 9 June 2024
St Mary's	6 pm	Sunday 23 June 2024
St Finlough's	3 pm	Sunday 30 June 2024

Please bring Holy Water to sprinkle on your graves