

Burrishoole Parish

Aug 27th/28th 2022

Fr Tod Nolan P.P. 098 42665

Parish Office 098 41123

Office hours Tue - Thu 11am-3pm,

**To book Masses, Baptisms & Marriages, get
certs & Mass cards please contact office by
phone or Email: burrishooleparish@gmail.com**

Facebook/YouTube: Burrishoole Parish

Let's start of the very beginning...

It's hard to remember a world before Covid. How things have changed! How we have changed! We don't wonder at the wearing of masks, sanitising of hands has become second nature, working from home now commonplace. We have become more cautious, more circumspect, more careful in how we interact. Personal space is respected, the shaking of hands, although making a comeback, is now done with a new awareness, and the slightest tickle in the throat while in company is liable to bring on a panic attack.

It seems like a lifetime ago since we first heard of the new Coronavirus. In late 2019 it was no more than any other strange sounding virus that we were aware of, but it was not something we expected to arrive here on our shores. By January 2020 the virus, now called Covid 19, had taken hold in northern Italy and its arrival here began to look inevitable. It wasn't until mid-February 2020 however that the first case was reported in Ireland. As numbers grew mandatory quarantining was introduced for all travellers into Ireland, and perhaps it took those frightening images of busloads of people being transported under army escort to sealed off hotels, to make us sit up and realise the seriousness of the situation. Soon afterwards, in mid-March, the Taoiseach announced the first Covid lockdown.

I remember distinctly that fateful night and the sense of alarm and fear which followed. It seems almost unreal now; no gatherings other than with family, no travel beyond 5km, shops shuttered, schools closed, all foreign travel suspended, churches could not celebrate Masses, weddings and all social gatherings deferred.

Innocently, we had hoped that Covid might be a temporary inconvenience, but with lockdown following lockdown, variant names making their way through the Greek alphabet and boosters following vaccines we have come to realise that Covid 19 is here to stay for the foreseeable future. Covid changed a lot for us as a parish. In the early days teams of volunteer sanitizers cleaned the churches three times a week and when pews were

cordoned off ushers brought people to their seats. With the use of technology we were able to manage the closure of our Churches for the celebration of Mass but Covid 19 had less obvious consequences which continue to affect us as a faith community. For me one of the most significant effects Covid has had on parish life is how it has impacted on our children's experience of Church. As churches reopened many younger families, conscious of the elderly and vulnerable, were reluctant to return to Mass - over time some have grown out of the routine. Covid has meant that for two years now we have had no 'Good News Club' for the younger children and that our monthly First Communion and Confirmation Masses have not happened. As a parish we would usually have over 50 boys and girls involved as Mass servers but that too has been suspended since the arrival of Covid. All of this has meant that a whole cohort of our children have had little or no interaction with Church for over two years. In terms of their faith development that is an enormous loss and presents a huge challenge for us. *Begin Again September* is all about inviting people to reconnect with Parish. As we *Begin Again* we need to be particularly conscious of the challenge we face in reengaging with our young people. We want to give them an experience of Church which is both formative and lifegiving. They are not just the Church of tomorrow, they are the Church of today

God Bless, Fr Tod

Begin Again September

After over two years September will be our *Parish Begin Again* month. In September we hope to start up our Good News Club and reintroduce Rotas for our Mass Servers. September will see the Do This in Memory First Communion preparation programme return and the You Shall Be My Witnesses Confirmation programme. September will also be the month that we reintroduce basket collections and reintroduce a rota of counters. We also will look for some more Readers and Eucharistic ministers. Please give some thought as to how you might get involved as we *Begin Again*

Changing Banks

With Ulster Bank leaving the market we have had to switch our Parish Church Account to AIB. The process of switching will be done over a number of months and during that time both accounts will be active. The parish will contact all parishioners who contribute to the weekly collections via Direct Debit to advise them of the change. New account details: Name; Burrishoole Parish. Iban IE23AIBK93716943416098

First Friday

Next Friday is the First Friday. Visits to the sick and housebound take place in the Mulranny, Tiernaur and Shramore areas on Thurs, with visits in the Newport area taking place on Friday. (Note: Thurs visits will be a little later than usual)

Parish Street Party

The Newport Street Party returns again this Sunday from 1-5pm. Taking place on the Viaduct, parishioners are invited to bring their own picnic or enjoy some of the BBQ foods on offer. Stalls, Music, Boxy, Pet Farm, Face painting etc.

Newport 300 – Irish Concert Orchestra

Newport 300 will host the Irish Chamber Orchestra in St Patricks Church, Newport on Thursday September 8th at 7.30pm. The Orchestra make a welcome return to Newport and the concert entitled '*Shostakovich, Frost and Glass*' will be their only performance in Connaught. Tickets €20 on sale on Eventbrite.ie.

Envelope Collection.

Envelopes can still be dropped off at Mass in the baskets provided. In September we will revert to holding the basket collection during Mass. Collectors will be contacted during the coming weeks inviting them to renew their ministry.

Waste Metal Skip Appeal

The BCP committee has placed a waste metal skip at the entrance to the new Community Hall/Pitch on Glenhest Road. Each full skip of metal provides welcome additional income to address building and development costs.

Active Retirement Regional Gala Dinner

The Active Retirement Connacht Regional Gala dinner takes place in the Castlecourt Hotel on Wednesday, September 6. If you wish to attend, please confirm with Mary at 086 1683 894 by this Wednesday 31st.

Ballycroy Sheep Show

The Ballycroy Sheep Show will take place on Saturday, September 3 in Ballycroy Village starting at 3pm. All are welcome.

St Vincent de Paul Helpline

Many families are experiencing great financial hardship at this time. Should your family need help please call the confidential local confidential helpline 086 4181000.

Weekly Walk to Wellness

Burrishoole GAA club, as part of its Healthy Club Programme, invites all in the community to take part in a Weekly Walk to Wellness. Starting at 6pm from McGovern Park to Newport Quay and back. Walkers will establish their own pace with the walking circuit being extended as fitness levels improve. The initiative will culminate with a testing 5k walk on St Stephens Day, followed by refreshments. All are welcome!

David Mc Hale Tractor Run

The David Mc Hale Tractor Run in aid of St Brendan's Mulranny takes place this Sunday. Registration at Doherty's at 12pm. Cost €10.

Mass Schedule

Weekday Masses 10am

Mon-Tiernaur, Tues/Thurs-Newport, Fri/Mulranny
The People of the Parish

Weekend Masses

Saturday Aug 27th Tiernaur at 7pm.

Marty Grady, Sandhill (Months Mind). Mary Moran, Mulranny Rd and Sandhill, her husband Jack and their daughter Christine and the deceased members of the O Donnell and Moran families.

Sunday Aug 28th Newport at 10am:

Nora and Bill Chambers, Clareview and their daughter in law Clare. Paddy and Julia Nolan and deceased members of the Nolan and Flaherty families

Sunday Aug 28th Mulranny at 11.30am:

The People of the Parish

Friday Sept 2nd Shramore at 7pm.

Deceased members of the Mullowney and Chambers families, Toircliu.

Saturday Sept 3rd Tiernaur at 7pm:

Brian and Hannah Cusack.

Sunday Sept 4th Newport at 10am:

Martin and Annie Geraghty, Cortoon and deceased family members.

Sunday Sept 4th Mulranny at 11.30am:

Patrick Masterson, Mary Chambers (nee Masterson)