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Parish Newsletter Drumlish & Ballinamuck



I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit



A baby is God's opinion that the world should go on

C. Sandburg

The Baptism of the Lord Year B — 7th January 2018

Mass Intentions—St. Mary's Drumlish

Sat 8.00: Anthony Davis, Mary St.
Sun 11.00: James F./Katherine Keane, Main St.
Mon 9.30: Misa Pro Populo
Fri 8.00: Rose/Brigid/Willie Forde, Barragbeg

Mass Intentions—St. Patrick's Ballinamuck

Sun 10.00: Baptism of the Lord

Ministries—St. Mary's Drumlish

Readers Sat: Sinead Flynn & Conf. Class
Sun: First Communion Parents
Communion Sat: Irene McNally
Sun: Anna B. Corrigan

Ministries—St. Patrick's Ballinamuck

Readers Sun: First Communion Parents
Communion Sun: Bridie Reilly

Money Matters

Drumlish Offertory €2565.
Ballinamuck Offertory €1177, Shrine €235.
Christmas Dues €2357 Many thanks.

Collection Envelopes 2018

Please take home your box of envelopes for the year 2018 and also deliver the remaining envelopes for your townland or area. Many of those remaining go the Mass in Longford or other parishes, but their envelopes are returned to their local parish. Thank you.

"Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see the shadow"

(Helen Keller)

UPCOMING Events

- **Bingo** continues every Tuesday in the 98 Hall.
- **Drumlish/Ballinamuck Men's Shed** is making steady progress but slight refurbishment needed. Any unwanted furniture/implements suitable for the shed would be welcome. Ph. Breda 087 9181787.
- **Radio Maria** is Ireland's only Catholic radio station i.e. Radio Maria see www.radiomaria.ie and click on listen live. The Spiritual Director is a Revd Fr. Eamonn McCarthy phone 01/4123456.
- **World Day of Migrants and Refugees** is celebrated next Sunday. We extend a warm welcome to all who have come to make their homes among us in Ireland.
- **Koriena Ivers from Irish Heart Foundation** is the Stroke Service Coordinator for the Longford area and runs a Support Group for Stroke Survivors in Temperance Hall in Longford every Tuesday morning from 11-1pm. Contact: Koriena Ivers 0871911060 or email kivers@irishheart.ie

Reflection on Baptism of Jesus

Jesus does not need John's baptism of repentance for sin. Jesus chooses this baptism to be one with us. He becomes immersed in our reality. We know a similar meaning to the word "immersed" when we think of being immersed in a book or a project. We give ourselves completely to it. We almost can't think of anything else. At times, when we are completely immersed, it is as if there is no other reality. Jesus is immersed in the waters of the Jordan, muddied by our sins. By walking into that water, filled with all that was washed off of us, Jesus enacts his acceptance of his identity and mission. Today can be a day on which we can ask for and receive the gift of a renewed immersion, a renewed communion with Jesus. And, today we can feel it. Jesus promised to make his home in us so that we can make our home in him.

[Fr. Andy Alexander, S.J.]

The Deep End – A searching God

He came in search of John.
He came in search of baptism.
He came in search of blessing.
He came in search of the Spirit.
He came in search of God's favour.
He came in search of God's love.

The first active step that Jesus takes as he begins his ministry is to search. He journeys from Nazareth to the River Jordan to find John, in order to be baptised. While John feels he is 'not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals', Jesus still seeks him out. He needs this moment of baptism and blessing to begin his ministry. This is his moment of divine calling and endorsement from the Father: 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.' We know what it is like to search. We yearn for meaning, for love, and our hearts are always searching for God.

Today's first reading from Isaiah speaks of this great thirst: 'Oh come to the water all you who are thirsty'; 'Seek the Lord while he is still to be found'. We must seek constantly to bring ourselves into the presence of God, who will give us his blessing and strength for the road ahead.

'You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless, until they can find rest in you.' ST AUGUSTINE

[Extract Intercom—Triona Doherty]

Wedding

Congratulations and best wishes to Imelda McGuire, Drumlish N.S. and Carrickedmond who married Garry Jones, Stonepark last weekend.

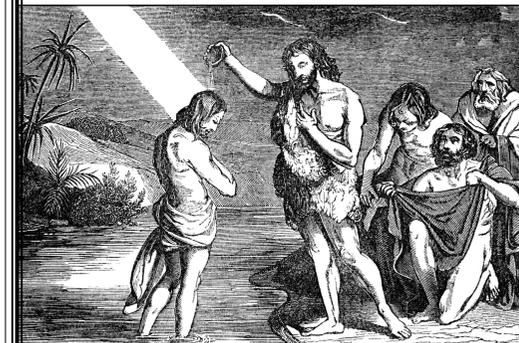
Kindness!

Were men to one another
As kind as God to all,
Then no man on his brother
For help would vainly call.

[T. T. Lynch]

Prayer for the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Open the heavens, Almighty Father, and pour out your Spirit upon your people. Renew the power of our Baptismal cleansing, and fill us with zeal for good deeds. Let us hear your voice once again, that we may recognize in your beloved son our hope in inheriting eternal life. Grant this through Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, in the splendour of eternal light, God, forever and ever. Amen.



I am a Child of God

Je suis un enfant de Dieu · Soy un hijo de Dios · סיוולא לך דלי יומ · Je suis un enfant de Dieu · Ich bin ein Kind Gottes · Я дитя Божье · 我是上帝的孩子 · 我是上帝的孩子