

ST PATRICK'S AND ST BRIGID'S GLENARIFFE



Seventh Sunday of Year A Seventeenth February 2023



ASH WEDNESDAY

“The Lord is compassion and love.”

Although the civil regulations may have relaxed the church regulations remain unchanged due to the return of Covid in the community. To help limit the spread of the virus face coverings should be worn during mass. Hands should be sanitized on entry to the church. Please follow the one-way system.

WEEKDAY MASSES No Mass Monday and Tuesday.

Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday 7.30pm

ASH WEDNESDAY THE Season of Lent begins today.

A time of Prayer, Fast & Abstinence

Mass at 10.00am & 7.30pm. Please take one WALK WITH ME

This Sunday is TEMPERANCE SUNDAY. Temporary Pledge.

“With the help of God’s grace, I promise to abstain from all alcoholic drink during the period of Lent.”

On 28th February 2023 there will be a witness surgery in St Mary’s Parochial Hall in Cushendall. The surgery is to allow anyone who believes they can assist the inquest into the death of Sergeant Joseph Campbell to make contact with our team. Staff from the **LEGACY INQUEST UNIT** will be available to speak to anyone who believes they can assist this inquest on Tuesday 28th February from 11.00am – 3.00pm at the Parish Centre in Cushendall. Alternatively staff from the Legacy Inquest Unit can be contacted at Legacy Inquest Unit, 23-27 Oxford St., Belfast Tel 02890446820 (See: Noticeboard)

GLENARIFFE COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTRE

COFFEE MORNING - Sunday 19th Feb 11-12.30pm: POTHOLE FUNDRAISER

Donate: www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/glenariffecrc (See: Noticeboard)

ANNIVERSARIES:

Padraig McDonnell, Ann Sheppard (Anniversary Mass Saturday 4th March 7.00pm), James Black, Derval Black, Sean McAuley, Charlie & Margaret Mooney,

182 Garron Road, Glenariffe, Co Antrim, BT44 ORA - **Tel:** 028 2177 1249

email: frwhite@glenariffe.com

www.glenariffeparish.org

Donal Neary SJ:
Gospel Reflections for Sundays of Year A: Matthew
www.messenger.ie/bookshop/

Give good to an enemy



This is quite a tough gospel. We sometimes like to get our own back. We know the desire for vengeance in family and other groups, and in national groupings. The 'eye for an eye' brings no peace, just a quiet lull in violence.

We know the opposite. People see the enemy walking the street and know that the only way forward is to make peace. This may not mean forgiveness immediately. Some can find a way forward only gradually.

The forgiveness of the gospel is a slow journey. We have small hurts and have ways of dealing, with them. But the big ones are there too - maybe someone getting a job over someone dishonestly, being abused, family being mocked, bullying. Healing, freedom and forgiveness takes time.

We need to understand our own vengeance and at times forgive ourselves for it. The love of God is the love that helps us love the self in the normal hurts and grievances of life. The love of God is a grace, filling that space in us that is open to love - the grace of loving self and others.

To be perfect is to become like God in compassion and in love. This is a wonderful vision for ourselves, our church and our world. It is the dream of God that all God's children live in love, peace and justice.

*Prayer helps ... can you bring someone to God - to the cross?
Pray with someone at the cross; it makes a difference.
Lord, help me to forgive and, when I cannot,
to be patient with myself as you are with me.*