#### PARISH WEBSITE

#### Integrated webcam and payment facility

St. Senan's Church has a live webcam streaming 24 hours a day. The Camera is focused on the Sanctuary and front seats of the old part of the church. Compliant with all GDPR requirements.

https://stsenansenniscorthy.ie

All Masses available to view on the Website

# St. Senan's Parish Newsletter

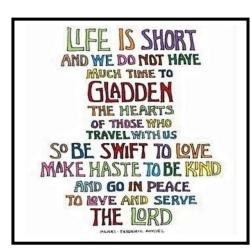
Sunday, 27th February 2022

Parish Office 053 92 61729 Mobile 086 7913919

Email: saintsenan@gmail.com

#### **ASH WEDNESDAY**

Ash Wednesday takes place on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022 and begins the season of Lent. Masses will take place at 8.15am and 7.00pm with ashes distributed afterwards.



# **CHANGES DURING**

Reminder from next weekend of March 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> we will revert to receiving Holy Communion at the normal time during Masses.

#### THANK YOU

**Parish Envelopes** - €500 **Priests Envelopes** - €640

Third Day of Prayer and Fasting\* for Peace in Ukraine and Europe #prayforukraine Ash Wednesday March 2nd 9am - 7pm

Mass at 8.15am and 7.00pm.

Rosary at 10.30am

Join us as we approach the Divine Master on behalf of the people of



My heart aches greatly at the worsening situation in Ukraine. Despite the diplomatic efforts of the last few weeks, increasingly alarming scenarios are opening up. Like me, many people all over the world are feeling anguish and concern. Once again the peace of all is threatened by partisan interests. I would like to appeal to those with political responsibility to examine their consciences seriously before God, who is the God of peace and not of war; who is the Father of all, not just of some, who wants us to be brothers and not enemies. I pray that all the parties involved refrain from any action that would cause even more suffering to the people, destabilising coexistence between nations and bringing international law into disrepute.

And now I would like to appeal to everyone, believers and non-believers alike. Jesus taught us that the diabolical senselessness of violence is answered with God's weapons, with prayer and fasting. I invite everyone to make next 2 March, Ash Wednesday, a Day of Fasting for Peace. I encourage believers in a special way to dedicate themselves intensely to prayer and fasting on that day. May the Queen of Peace preserve the world from the madness of war.

Franciscus

Can you spend 30 minutes or more with the Divine Master? We need to ensure that there's at least one person present 9am to 7pm.

and Europe

If you can help us to ensure that there's at least one praying person present at all times, please contact the parish office with details of the time you can be present, for example 10am - 10.30am or any 30 minutes or duration of time that suits you.

Alternatively, just enter your name or initials on the time sheet placed at the back of the church (old part).

\*Fasting is usually bread and water for 24 hours. If that's too difficult, try replacing one meal with dry bread and water.

#### **God Map! New Confirmation Programme**

Some may be aware that I've written an on-line home-based preparation programme for Confirmation. While I've prepared it with Confirmation in mind it's really a map of the path to intimacy with God.

Follow the steps I've outlined over the long-haul and intimacy with God will follow.

A total of 8 pieces are being uploaded to the Parish Facebook page and to the Parish Website. \*

Shortly after each session has been uploaded parents are informed by text message that it's available to view and encouraged to discuss it with their child(ren); each session is discussed over a two-day period.

The programme is based on two fundamental spiritual truths.

Firstly, Gods absolute non-negotiable respect for human freedom: God will never breach our personal space without a trusted and proven invitation.

Secondly, we invite God into our lives through prayer - prayer is the invitation - and without prayer God remains outside our personal space. In our time this truth has been almost completely lost... and all the good works in the world will not replace prayer as the key to intimacy with God.

Since God respects human freedom - so absolutely - there are no built-in mechanisms to establish the level of engagement.

In other words, the programme itself respects these two spiritual truths.

So, unless the children use their freedom to invite God into their lives - by living the 8 sessions in an age-appropriate manner since they are a fundamental path to intimacy with God - God will leave them to themselves and Confirmation will produce little fruit.

Huge effort can be placed into Confirmation and all sorts of religious programmes but unless human freedom is used in this way there will be little or no spiritual return.

I believe our experience of Confirmation in recent years reflects these spiritual truths. I can't stress this enough: God's respect for human freedom is absolute and he will not breach our personal space without invitation, without prayer over the long haul.

The only difference between you (or me) and Padre Pio is the amount of time spent in prayer and the quality of that prayer. The only difference between the many who are called and the few who are chosen (Matt 22:14) is the amount of time spent in prayer and the quality of that prayer.

Of course, it's unlikely that the children will use their freedom in this way unless they receive encouragement from their parent(s) and guardian(s).

Hence the effort to create discussion and awareness of the path to intimacy with God in the home, among parent(s), guardian(s) and children preparing for Confirmation.

Finally, the children - indeed every recipient of Confirmation - can at any point in their lives renew their Confirmation by adopting and living the content of the 8 sessions and fan into flame the tiny seed of the Spirit that has remained largely dormant within them.

\*The full programme is in the process of being uploaded - one session every two days - with the final session due to be uploaded on March 09th.

#### MASS INTENTIONS

### Sunday, 27th February

Vigil

Brigid Dee (A)

11.00am

James (Bert) Murphy (A) Kathleen Redmond (A)

#### Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> March Vigil

John Fortune (A)

11.00am

Harry Dillon (First Anniversary) Philip Harris (A) Deceased members of the Harris family

#### RECENTLY DECEASED

We commend to the fullness of eternal life:

Thomas Bennett, formerly The Shannon died in England Grant him eternal rest, O Lord.

## FROM THE DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL

As 'the People of God' we each play our part in shaping the future of the

Church. The synodal journey that we begin invites us to look at our own sense of faith and that of others.



A question we

can ask is. 'What does it mean to follow the way of Christ in our everyday lives?' Our weekly messages serve as a guide along the synodal path.

#### **READERS**

Sunday, 6th March

Vigil: David Dowling 9.00am: John Dunne 11.00am: Tina Merriman

# EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Sunday, 6th March

Vigil: Jer Moynihan 9.00am: Patrick Lambert 11.00am: Mary Kavanagh