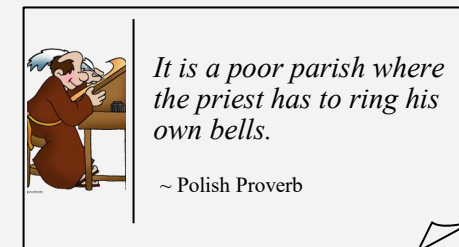


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Fourth Sunday of Easter (Vocations Sunday) Year B — 22nd April 2018

Mass Intentions—St. Mary's Drumlish

Sat 8:00: Tom Keogh, Cloonaugh
Jimmy Mimmagh, MM, Cloonaugh
Sun 11:00: Michael Francis/Mary Frances Jordan
Mon 9:30: Misa Pro Populo
Sat 8:00: Annie Quinn & Quinn/Dillon Dfm
Sun 11:00: Kathleen Ledwith

Mass Intentions—St. Patrick's Ballinamuck

Sun 10:00: Paddy Rehill & Dfm, Shanmullagh
Margaret Donnelly & Mary Duffy
Mon 7:00: Joseph Slevin, RIP, Cloncowley, died UK

Ministries—St. Mary's Drumlish

Readers Sat: Kathleen Kelleher & Conf. Class
Sun: Annette Kane & Conf. Class
Communion Sat: Mary Gearty
Sun: Marian McNally

Ministries—St. Patrick's Ballinamuck

Readers Sun: Amanda Quinn & Conf. Class
Communion Sun: Kieran Duffy

Money Matters

Drumlish €869, Trócaire €66; Ballinamuck €345;
Dues €215. Many thanks.



UPCOMING Events

- **Ardagh/Clonmacnois Pilgrimage to Lourdes** takes place from 27th May to 1st June. €739 fully inclusive. Contact Joe Walsh Tours 012410812.
- **DB Men's Shed:** Our local men's Shed is now open on Thursday evening from 8 pm. New members are always welcome. Its a fantastic opportunity to have your input, drop in for a chat, card games & the tea. Computer classes commencing shortly.
- **DBMS Duck race** taking place June 10th - Ducks will be on sale in coming weeks - sponsorship for the event is required to support the project; we would be delighted to hear from any business. Ph. Brian 0044 7789677921 or Jimmy 087 7971000
- **Ladies Shed meeting** taking place on Monday 23rd at 8.30pm. Ladies this is your opportunity to explore possibilities. Looking forward to a good turn out—encourage your friends.
- **Enrolment for (VTOS) Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme** is an excellent course for people who are unemployed and who wish to retrain in order to return to the workforce. It is offered free of charge to those who are eligible. Contact: VTOS Centre, Battery Road, Longford. 087 2050589
- **St Vincents Minor F.C. Cul Camps** are back in Monaduff this year: 6th - 10th Aug. Booking can be done online. Book early to avoid disappointment.
- **Medugorje with Marian Pilgrimages 23 -30th** May, 7 nights. Special offer, all inclusive full board €499. Ph. Tom 018788159 or Ursula 0877974291

First Confession

Congratulations to the children of Ballinamuck N.S. who made their first confession during the week.

A humbling thought!

"A child who goes to school and shares his or her lunch with the classmates, is a billion times greater and more religious than all the book-learned priests, imams, rabbis and pundits in the world combined."
— [Abhijit Naskar](#).

A priest Forever

If the Catholic Church ever looked dead, it was at the turn of the 19th Century. In the wake of the French Revolution, the Church had been banned in many parts of Western Europe, thousands of Catholics had been martyred for their faith, religious orders had been outlawed, and the Pope had recently died in captivity under Napoleon. Henri Lacordaire, (born May 12, 1802, Recey-sur-Orce, France—died Nov. 21, 1861, Sorèze), was a leading ecclesiastic in the Roman Catholic revival in France, following the Napoleonic period. Raised in a troubled time, Lacordaire renounced religion and studied jurisprudence at Dijon, France, following which he practiced law in Paris. After experiencing a religious awakening, however, he studied for the priesthood and was ordained in 1827. His reflection below captures in essence the ideal of what priesthood should be:

Thou Art a Priest Forever

J.B. Henri Lacordaire, OP

To live in the midst of the world
with no desire for its pleasure...
To be a member of every family
yet belonging to none...
To share all sufferings;
to penetrate all secrets;
to heal all wounds...
To daily go from men to God
to offer Him their petitions...
To return from God to men
to offer them His hope...
To have a heart of fire for charity
and a heart of bronze for chastity...
To bless and be blest forever.
O God, what a life, and it is yours,
O Priest of Jesus Christ! Amen.



Whilst the church recognises that everyone receives a vocation from God, be it to married life, single life, or some form of ministry, the church focuses on this day, to pray for vocations to ordained ministry and to religious life in all its forms. Numerous surveys show that a very high percentage of men and women who have entered the priesthood or religious life have been involved in some aspect of ministry in their parish and have received encouragement from either a priest, a family member or a member of their parish community. Is there someone you know whom would make a good priest, deacon or religious? Could you consider encouraging them to take the time to reflect on this possibility? Three things to do this week:

- † Pray for more young men and women in our diocese to respond to God's call.
- † Pray for the priests and religious who have ministered to you throughout your life.
- † Keep your priests and religious in your prayers throughout the week

World Meeting of Families Petitions

- If you would like to have a family petition prayed for by the religious communities across Ireland and brought to the final Mass of the World Meeting of Families 2018, please take home petition form and drop it back next weekend in the box provided. Our petitions will be brought the Poor Clare Community in Drumshanbo and then brought to the final Mass in Dublin on August 26th.
- Part of next Sunday's offertory collection will go towards funding the meeting of the WMOF in August. Rather than a second collection, could I ask you to double your offertory next Sunday, please.
- If you would like to attend one of the Masses in Dublin and you haven't already registered, give in your name next Sunday to Fr. Ber or Fr. Joe and we will try to organise for the event. Thank you.