



YEAR A

DOORA BAREFIELD PARISH

NEWSLETTER

1st February, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Feast of St. Brigid

St. Brigid was born in AD 450 in Faughart, near Dundalk in County Louth. Her father, Dubhthach, was a pagan chieftain of Leinster, and her mother, Broicsech, was a Christian. Brigid's father named her after one of the most powerful goddesses of the pagan religion- the goddess of fire, whose manifestations were song, craftsmanship, and poetry. He kept Brigid and her mother as slaves even though he was a wealthy man. Brigid spent her earlier life cooking, cleaning, washing and feeding the animals on her father's farm. She lived during the time of Patrick and was inspired by his preaching's to become a Christian. When Brigid turned eighteen, she stopped working for her father. Brigid's father wanted her to find a husband, but Brigid had decided that she would spend her life working for God by looking after poor, sick and elderly people.

Legend says that she prayed that her beauty would be taken away from her so no one would seek her hand in marriage; her prayer was granted. Brigid's charity angered her father because he thought she was being too generous to the poor. When she finally gave away his jewel-encrusted sword to a leper, her father realised that she would be best suited to religious life.

Brigid finally entered the convent. She received her veil from St. Macaille. Legend also says that Brigid regained her beauty after making her vows and that God made her more beautiful than ever. News of Brigid's good works spread and soon many young girls from all over the country joined her in the convent. Brigid founded many convents all over Ireland; the most famous one was in County Kildare.

It is said that this convent was built beside an Oak tree where the town Kildare now stands. Around 470 she also



founded a double monastery, for nuns and monks, in Kildare. She also founded a school of art, including metal work and illumination, and thus the famous illuminated manuscript Book of Kildare was created.

St. Brigid's Cross

Making a St. Brigid's Cross is one of the traditional rituals in Ireland to celebrate the beginning of early spring, 1st February. The crosses are made of rushes that are pulled rather than cut. They are hung by the door and in the rafters to protect the house from fire and evil. According to tradition the old cross is burned to keep fire from the house. Brigid and her cross are linked together by the story that she wove this form of cross at the deathbed of either her father or a pagan lord, who upon hearing what the cross meant, asked to be baptised.

Brigid died in AD 524. After some time, her remains were exhumed and transferred to Downpatrick to rest with the two other patron saints of Ireland, Patrick and St. Columcille. Her skull was brought to Lisbon, where it remains to this day. Brigid is the female patron saint of Ireland. She is also known as Muire na nGael or Mary of the Gael which means 'Our Lady of the Irish'.

(From the wbsite of St. Brigid's GNS, Glasnevin, Dublin11. Email: stbrigid.Glasnevin@gmail.com)

Mass Times

Church of Our Lady, Roslevan

Daily Mass Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9.30am
Saturday Vigil Mass: 6pm

St. Brecan's Church, Doora

Sunday: 9.45am

Immaculate Conception, Barefield

Sunday 11.15am
Tuesday 9.30am

www.doorabarefieldparish.ie/webcam

Contacts

Fr. Tom Fitzpatrick, P.P.

Tel. 087 272 0187

Doora Barefield Parish Office,
3 The Woods, Cappahard,
Tulla Rd., Ennis



Cora, Parish Office - Tel. 065 6822225;
Opening Hours: Mon & Tues: 9am-5pm;
Wed: 9am-1pm

Email: info@doorabarefieldparish.ie
Website : www.doorabarefieldparish.ie
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/doorabarefieldparish>

Priest on Duty 1st February, 2026

Contact Fr. Ger Jones - Tel. 065 6869098

Remembered in Masses this week

CHURCH OF OUR LADY

31st Jan: Michael Collins, Roslevan. MM.
 PJ O'Driscoll, The Lane, Cappahard, 1st Anniv.
 Ger Hoey, Newpark.
 Patrick McNamara, Moyriesk.
 Jarlath Staunton, Roslevan.
 Pat Moloney & Moloney Family, Gaurus.

7th Feb: No intention booked.

ST. BRECAN'S CHURCH

1st Feb: Con Keane, West Cork.
 Tom Hallinan, Ballyglass.
 Judy Fawl, Knockanean.
 8th Feb: Willie Slattery, Moyriesk.
 Phyllis Flanagan, London & Moyriesk.

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, BAREFIELD

1st Feb: Mary McInerney, Sr. & her daughter
 Mary McInerney, Jr., Ballymacahill.
 Patrick & Maura Doolaghty, Barefield.
 Johnny Cunningham, Nutfield.
 8th Feb: Mia Flanagan, Pine Grove. 1st Anniv.
 Joe Whyte, Ballyline.
 Eileen, Teresa & Eileen Loughnane, Tulla.
 Michael & James Hassett & Hassett Family,
 Barefield.

9.30am Mass each Tuesday in Barefield Church.
 Novena Mass in Church of Our Lady each Monday.

Finance Development Fund 25th January, 2026

Barefield: €310: Doora: €122
 Church of Our Lady: €423: Development: €1,335
Míle buiochas

Prayer to St. Brigid of Ireland



Bridget, you were a woman of peace.
 You brought harmony where there was conflict.
 You brought light to the darkness.
 You brought hope to the downcast.
 May the mantle of your peace
 cover those who are troubled and anxious.
 And may peace be firmly rooted in our hearts and in our world.
 Inspire us to act justly
 and to reverence all God has made.
 Bridget, you were a voice for the wounded and the weary.
 Strengthen what is weak within us.
 Calm us into a quietness that heals and listens.
 May we grow each day into greater wholeness
 in mind, body and spirit. Amen.



Ministers of Eucharist & Readers



This week:

COOurLady:	NBecker/HHerlihy	Deirdre Rafferty
Doora:	Bernard Hallinan	Nuala Conlon
Barefield:	MWhyte/JDevitt	Nuala Kennedy

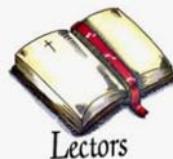
Next week:

COOurLady:	NBecker/HHerlihy	Deirdre Rafferty
Doora:	Mary Barry	Tom Meade
Barefield:	LCorcoran/NKennedy	Tara Donnellan

Church of Our Lady Basket Collector
 31st Jan & 7th Feb JOConnor/JReynolds

Doora Sacristan Rota

1st Feb: Mary Hallinan
 8th Feb: Seamus Enright



Calling all Readers of the Word

The Abbey Pastoral Area is organising a short refresher course for all who serve as Readers of the Word in any of the churches in our Pastoral Area.

The venue is St. Joseph's Church on Tuesday 3rd February at 7.30pm: The meeting is also open to those interested in becoming a Reader. We take this opportunity to thank all those who serve in these ministries for your dedication and commitment.

Barefield Church Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration takes place each Tuesday at Barefield Church from 10am to 7pm. New members are very welcome. Several slots during the period are vacant and we urge you to take one hour out of your day to take part in our Eucharistic Adoration....an hour of peace, prayer, rest and tranquility.....a break from our busy lives to reflect and be still. If interested please contact the Parish Office during office hours. Tel. 065 6822225.



Candlemas Day is this Monday 2nd February.

The blessing of candles for both Church and home use will take place at our weekend masses in the parish.



Blessing of Throats

Feast of St. Blaise is on Tuesday 3rd February

Blessing of throats will take place at Masses this weekend in our Parish.

"God Is Love" Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

Come and experience the joy of God's love! Join us every Monday St. Brecans Church Doora sacristy at 8:15pm for an uplifting time of Scripture, prayer, and fellowship.

All are warmly welcome—bring a friend and be refreshed in faith!

Priests' Collections in the Parish

This year the number of Priest Collections in our Parish have increased from 4 to 6. This arises out of a decision by the Diocesan Finance Committee that there will be 6 collections in all parishes for the priests of the Parish and Pastoral Area. There were a number of parishes around the diocese with 6 to 9 collections for priests annually. Accordingly, the Diocesan Finance Committee have instructed all parishes to have six of these collections per year.

The dates of the collections are the same in all parishes of the Pastoral Area. We hope this won't inconvenience any of our parishioners, and we assure you the priests of the parish are very appreciative of your generosity.

There are many new people who have taken up residence in our parish and we invite you if you are not already doing so to request a box of envelopes and contribute in that manner. You can do so by calling the Parish Office. **Thank you.**

First Friday Mass at Church of the Immaculate Conception, Barefield on Friday 6th February at 7pm.



If you or someone you know would like a First Friday call please contact Fr. Tom or the Parish Office with details.

Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes - Annual Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes begins on Tuesday 3rd February at the 7.30pm Mass in Ennis Cathedral and continues nightly at the same time until Wednesday 11th February, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. Weekend session on 7th & 8th February will take place at the 11am Mass on Saturday and the 11.30am Mass on Sunday. Our Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place from 24th to 29th June and 28th September to 3rd October.

Divine Mercy Conference RDS Dublin 28th February next. Day Return from Clarecastle to Dublin by bus on Saturday 28th February. Exact times and locations closer to the date. Speakers include Fr. Jim Blount & Fr. Leon Pereira. A great day of spiritual inspiration and refreshment. €70 to include bus and entry ticket. Contact only via Whatsapp Karen 0874160385; Seamus 087 2752578 for enquiries & bookings. A deposit of €40 to secure place via Revolut, PayPal or post marked Divine Mercy Conference.

Making waves at Minor Level - St. Josephs DB GAA Club. Comhghairdeas to Graham Ball and Leon Talty who were recognised in the Minor Hurling Team of the Year. They are also members of the St. Flannan's panel along with eight other players from our parish who have qualified for the Harty Cup Final versus Nenagh which takes place in Cusack Park on Saturday, January 31st at 1pm. Well done lads.....doing the parish proud!



A special treat for music lovers 'A Night for Cillian': Danlann An Chlair, Ennis, Saturday February 7th at 8pm will showcase the finest musicians and singers in Co. Clare in a gala performance. All proceeds will go to Cillian O'Brien Fund. Tickets available at

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-night-for-cillian-tickets-1979723311718> Early booking is advised



Welcome Spring



*In the lengthening of days,
Snowdrops emerging,
from winter's frozen ground.
We see the Creator's hand.
In the sight of a tiny lamb
joyfully bounding
across hillside farm
We see the Creator's hand.*

*Creator God,
forgive our moments of ingratitude,
the spiritual blindness
that prevents us
from appreciating the wonder
that is this world,
the endless cycle of nature,
of life and death and rebirth.
Forgive us for taking without giving,
reaping without sowing.
Open our eyes to see,
our lips to praise, our hands to share,
and may our feet tread lightly
on the road that, together, we travel. Amen*

Shannon Airport to Medjugorje - May 20th 2026 - €845 per person sharing. Price increases to €895 after Jan 30th. Full religious programmes operated by Marian Pilgrimages Medjugorje Team. Bookings for this seven night pilgrimage can be made by contacting Kathleen and Jimmy Morris on: 061 362657 or 086 3271657



St Annes School Fundraiser Bingo,
Treacy's West County Hotel, Sunday 8th February @ 6pm.
Doors open @ 5pm. All welcome

Doora Barefield GAA Lotto
Next weeks Jackpot: €11.000

David Morrissey,
Michelle Hassett,
Paul Kelleher,
Brigid Vaughan



Thanks for your support.

Today's Scripture Readings

<p>Entrance Antiphon Did I not feel for those whose day was hard? Was not my soul grieved for the poor?</p>	<p>Response: <i>How happy are the poor in Spirit; Theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.</i></p>	<p>Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.'</p>
<p>PENITENTIAL RITE P. Have mercy on us, O Lord C. For we have sinned against you. P. Show us, O Lord, your mercy. C. And grant us your salvation. P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. C. Amen.</p>	<p>It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, Who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, The Lord, who sets prisoners free. R.</p> <p>It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, Who raises up those who are bowed down, The Lord, who protects the stranger And upholds the widow and orphan R.</p> <p>It is the Lord who loves the just But thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. R.</p>	<p>'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'</p>
<p>GLORIA Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.</p>	<p>A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians</p> <p>Cor 1:26-31</p> <p>Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen - those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.</p>	<p>The Gospel of the Lord</p>
<p>A reading from the prophet Zephaniah. Zp 2:3;3:12-13</p> <p>Seek the Lord all you, the humble of the earth, who obey his commands. Seek integrity, seek humility: you may perhaps find shelter on the day of the anger of the Lord. In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people, and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord. They will do no wrong, will tell no lies; and the perjured tongue will no longer be found in their mouths. But they will be able to graze and rest with no one to disturb them.</p> <p>The word of the Lord</p>	<p>The word of the Lord</p> <p>Gospel Acclamation <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven & earth for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children. Alleluia!</i></p> <p>A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew</p> <p>Mt 5:1-12</p> <p>Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: <i>'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage.</i></p>	<p>PROFESSION OF FAITH</p> <p>I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.</p> <p>I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.</p> <p>For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day In accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.</p> <p>I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.</p> <p>I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.</p> <p>Communion Antiphon Come, you whom my Father has blessed, Says the Lord. I was sick and you visited me;. In truth I tell you, In so far as you did this to one of the least of these, You did it to me.</p>