



DOORA BAREFIELD PARISH

YEAR A

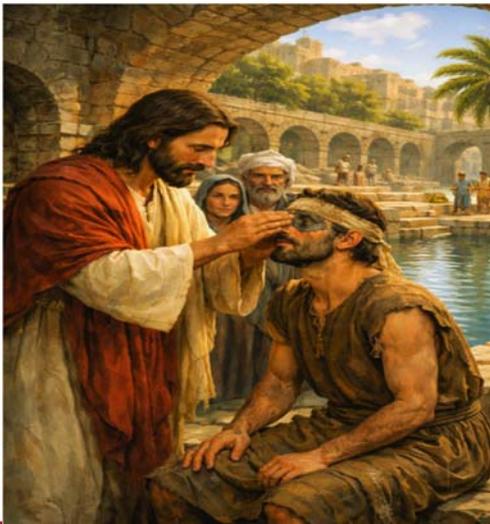
NEWSLETTER

15th March 2026

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally known as Laetare Sunday. The word Laetare comes from the Latin meaning "Rejoice." On this day, in the middle of the Lenten season, the Church invites us to pause from the more penitential tone of Lent and rejoice in the hope of the approaching celebration of Easter. It reminds us that our Lenten journey is not only about sacrifice and repentance, but also about the joy that comes from God's mercy and salvation.

The spirit of rejoicing is also reflected in the liturgy. The Church may use rose-coloured vestments, the music becomes a little more joyful, and the atmosphere of the celebration reflects the hope that Easter is near. It is like a moment of encouragement during a long journey, reminding us that the destination is close and the joy of the Resurrection awaits us.



Laetare Sunday reminds us that Christian life is not meant to remain in darkness or sadness. Even in times of struggle, God's grace gives us hope and light. In the midst of our Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and charity, we are reminded that God's love is always leading us toward joy and renewal.

The Gospel of today (John 9:1-41) beautifully reflects this theme of moving from darkness to light. Jesus brings light into the life of a man born blind, symbolizing how Christ opens our eyes to the truth and leads us into the light of faith.

As we celebrate Laetare Sunday, we are invited to renew our hope and rejoice in the Lord. The Lenten journey continues, but today the Church gently reminds us that the light of Easter is already beginning to shine. May this joy strengthen us to continue our path of conversion and prepare our hearts for the celebration of the Resurrection.

Mass Times

Church of Our Lady, Roslevan

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

St. Breacan'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 15th March, 2026

Contact Fr. Jibin - Tel. 065 6869098

Remembered in Masses this week

CHURCH OF OUR LADY

14th Mar: Peggy O'Keeffe, Kincora Park.
 21st Mar: Bernadette & Michael Clune, Ballymacahill.

ST. BRECAN'S CHURCH

15th Mar: James & Delia, Sheedy & Sheedy Family, Bunnow.
 22nd Mar: Paddy & John Torpey, Kilfenora.

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, BAREFIELD

15th Mar: Seán & Peggy Howard, Drumquin.
 22nd Mar: Kevin Mahon, Parklands, Ballyalla. 1st Anniv.
 9.30am Mass each Tuesday in Barefield Church.

Novena Mass in Church of Our Lady each Monday.

Finance Development Fund 8th March, 2026

Barefield: €197 Doora: €101
 Church of Our Lady: €258 Development: €1,296

Míle buíochas



Ministers of Eucharist & Readers



This week:

COur Lady:	BBurke/SGarvey	Michael Guilfoyle
Doora:	Martha Neylon	Seán Garvey
Barefield:	JDevitt/MWhyte	Bernard Casey

Next week:

COur Lady:	BBurke/SGarvey	Michael Guilfoyle
Doora:	Mary Barry	Olivia O'Connor
Barefield:	EDronev/MO'Loughlin	David Culligan

Church of Our Lady Basket Collector
 14th & 21st Mar: MWilliams/PMockler

Doora Sacristan Rota
 15th March: Margaret Hosty
 22nd Mar: Mary Hallinan.

Aifrin do Lá Fhéilg Pádraig Masses for St. Patrick's Day Tuesday 17th March



Church of Our Lady, Roslavan	9am
St. Brzean's Church, Doora	10am
The Immaculate Conception, Barefield	11.15am



Hospice Jinja Founder Dr. Patricia Hassett pictured with Fr. Tom & Cora, Parish Secretary at Coffee Morning in Fahy Hall.

Thank You from Cora

Our Parish Secretary, Cora, thanks you all for your attendance at Hospice Jinja Coffee Morning in Fahy Hall on Tuesday. The sum of **€2,518** was donated - an amazing sum which will go a long way to assist the sick children in the Hospice and continue the building works.

Thanks to the inspirational team of ladies who baked, prepared, and organised this very pleasant get together. - a joyous event on a lovely Spring Morning.

Cora is paying all her own expenses involved.

Everyone in this charity is a volunteer so every cent goes directly to the charity. Mile buíochas to all.

<https://www.idonate.ie/crowdfunder/corahahessyncnulty>

Abbey Pastoral Area Lenten Reconciliation Service

*"Lord, make us
 instruments of
 your peace"*



Monday March 30th

7.30pm-8.15 pm

Cathedral of SS Peter & Paul, Ennis

Priests available for individual confession

All Welcome.





Eucharistic Adoration in Church of Our Lady, Roslevan Eucharistic Adoration/Holy Hour in Church of Our Lady, Roslevan every Thursday after 9.30am Mass 10am - 11am. All welcome.

Doora Barefield Comhaltas Branch will host a seisiún at Fahy Hall on Friday 20th March at 7 30 pm. Beidh cupán tae agus fáilte mhór roimh gach duine.

Annual Matt Talbot Novena will continue on Wednesday, March 18th at 7pm in Tulla Church with Mass and Benediction. Fr. Tom Ryan from Ennis Cathedral will be the celebrant on the night. As part of the evening's Novena, there will be a special blessing of car and house keys—a symbolic gesture inviting God's protection and guidance in our daily lives. You are warmly invited to join us on this pilgrimage through Lent. Attending the Novena could be a meaningful Lenten resolution.

Closure of Parent & Toddler Group

Please note that the Parent & Toddler Group will NOT meet next Tuesday as it is St. Patrick's Day. The following Tuesday, 24th March is unfortunately the last meeting of the Parent & Toddler Group. Sadly it closes on this day after ten wonderful years due to lack of volunteers. Thank you all for your support over the years.

Laetare Sunday

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is also called Laetare Sunday when the Church expresses hope and joy in the midst of our Lenten fasts and penances. Call it pink — or, more fittingly, rose — this change in colour indicates a glimpse of the joy that awaits us at Easter, just before we enter into the sombre days of Passiontide. Priests are given the option to wear rose coloured vestments at Mass held on this day in place of the violet vestments normally worn during Lent.

Ennis Bridge Club Charity Night - Connolly Cup



Monday 23rd March at 7.30pm at Clare Community Bridge Centre, Ennis. Entry €20 includes raffle and refreshments. Proceeds in aid of Sláine an Chláir Clare Cancer Support.

Tee Off for the Parish – St. Joseph's Golf Classic

Get your four-ball ready for the St. Joseph's Doora-Barefield GAA Golf Classic on April 10th & 11th at Ennis Golf Club. It's a great opportunity for members and friends to come together, with excellent prizes and draws over the two days. Sponsorships are now open – sincere thanks to all who have already shown their support. Local businesses interested in sponsoring can contact Cathal O'Sullivan on 087 636 9463. Team bookings can be made with Martin Ward in the Ennis Golf Club Pro Shop at 065 682 4074 (payment on the day). Proceeds from the event will go towards developing new pitches in "the new field" – an important step as our club continues to grow across all four codes. For further details, email communications.stjosephsdoorabarefield.clare@gaa.ie.

St. Joseph's Doora-Barefield Worldwide!

As St. Patrick's Day approaches, St. Joseph's Doora-Barefield GAA is reaching out to all our former players, members, and supporters living abroad — in the US, UK, Australia, the Middle East, or anywhere in between! We'd love to hear from you. Send us a short message, photo, or favourite club memory to communications.stjosephsdoorabarefield.clare@gaa.ie. Please share this message to help spread the word — let's stay connected on a day when so many of our exiles' thoughts turn to home.

St. Patrick of Ireland.



The man who would come to be known as Saint Patrick, apostle of Ireland, was born in Britain circa 386 A.D. Much of his life is not known to historians though some sources have listed his birth name as Maewyn Succat, with the name Patrick later taken on during his religious journeys or ordainment. Saint Patrick is Ireland's patron saint, known for spreading Christianity throughout the country as a missionary during the 5th century. He was captured by pirates as a child and sent to Ireland. During his enslavement, he was called to Christianity and escaped his captors after six years. He returned to Ireland as a missionary, and in his teachings combined Irish pagan beliefs with Christian sacrament. Our patron saint is honoured globally each year on his feast day, March 17th.

*Hail, glorious St. Patrick, dear saint of our isle,
On us thy poor children bestow a sweet smile;
And now thou art high in the mansions above,
On Erin's green valleys look down in thy love.*

Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary



Passing the Flame in Ennis

All are welcome to our 'Passing the Flame in Ennis' Retreat to be hosted by the Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Movement in the Church of Our Lady/ Fahy Hall, Roslevan, Ennis on Saturday, 28th March from 9.30am to 4.30pm. The Retreat includes Praise and Worship, Talks, Mass, and the Passing of the Flame of Love Candle Ceremony. Bishop Fintan Monahan will celebrate the Mass. Please bring a packed lunch. No fee or prior registration is required. For more info email info@flameoflove.ie

Our Girls Down Under – Podcast Feature

Ever wonder what it's like to be a professional footballer? Check out this week's *Intensive Clare Podcast*, where Aisling Reidy and Síofra Ní Chonaill chat with Eoin Brennan and James Lynch about life as AFL players with Carlton FC in Melbourne. The girls talk about the big transition from playing Ladies Gaelic Football with Doora-Barefield and Clare to life as full-time pros in

Doora Barefield GAA Lotto

Next weeks Jackpot: €12,200

Venue: Clubhouse.

Winners of €50

Chris O'Donovan Oakleigh Wood,
Joe Clune Ballymacahill,
Brian Gillespie Crrrofin,
Eamonn Corry Tulla Rd.

Thanks for your support.



Today's Scripture Readings

Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
Exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

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.

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

1 Sam 16:1.,6-7, 10-13

The Lord said to Samuel, "Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons." When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lords anointed one stands there before him", but the Lord said to Samuel, "Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart". Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen these". He then asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?" He answered, "There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep". Then Samuel said to Jesse, "Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes". Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said "Come, anoint him, for this is the one". At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Response: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.

R

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook
and your staff;

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. R

Surely goodness and kindness
shall follow me all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. R

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians. Ep 5.8-14

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

*Glory to you, O Christ,
you are the Word of God!
I am the light of the world,
says the Lord;
Anyone who follows me will have the
light of life.
Glory to you, O Christ,
you are the Word of God!*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John. Jn 9:1.41

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored. His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a Sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to

see he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the Sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
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. 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.
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.
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.**