



St. Brigid's Day – February 1st

St. Brigid was born in AD 450 in Faughart, near Dundalk in Co. Louth. Her father, Dubhthach, was a pagan chieftain of Leinster and her mother, Broicsech, was a Christian. It was thought that Brigid's mother was born in Portugal but was kidnapped by Irish pirates and brought to Ireland to work as a slave, just like St. Patrick was. 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, which the Irish considered the flame of knowledge. 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 St. Patrick and was inspired by his preachings and she became 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 the religious life. Brigid finally got her wish and entered the convent. She received her veil from St. Macaille and made her vows to dedicate her life to God.

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 Co. Kildare. It is said that this convent was built beside an oak tree where the town of Kildare now stands. Around 470 she also founded a double monastery, for nuns and monks, in Kildare. As Abbess of this foundation she wielded considerable power, but was a very wise and prudent superior.

The Abbey of Kildare became one of the most prestigious monasteries in Ireland, and was famous throughout Christian Europe.

School Mass to celebrate Catholic Schools Week and the Feast of St. Brigid is on Monday February 1st @ 9.30am, Please join us via our webcam to celebrate.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Saturday 30 January

Oliver Campbell

Sunday 31 January

Giles Durcan

Saturday 6 February

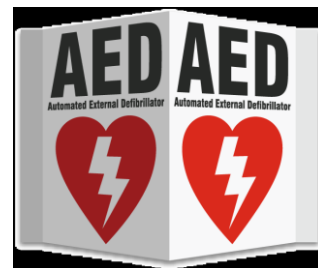
Martin Condon

Sunday 7 February

Michael Forde



**We invite you to
Download our app to help
us to connect with
everybody in our Parish.**



Defibrillator located at
entrance to 'Centra'
Dial '999' to enable code.

Mass Times & Intentions

Saturday 30 January

Vigil Mass **6.30pm**

Jim Robinson

John Kennedy

Bernie & Tom Whelan

Peter Dunne

Sr. Margaret Duggan who died recently
in Zimbabwe

Jim O'Neill (40 Year Anniversary)

Sunday 31 January

Mass **10.00am**

Jim Robinson

John Kennedy

Bernie & Tom Whelan

Peter Dunne

Sr. Margaret Duggan who died recently
in Zimbabwe

Monday 1 February

Morning Mass **9.30am**

School Mass to celebrate Catholic

Schools Week and the Feast of St.

Brigid. (Available on our Webcam)

Tuesday 2 February

Morning Mass **9.30am**

Wednesday 3 February

Morning Mass **9.30am**

Thursday 4 February

Morning Mass **9.30am**

Friday 5 February

Morning Mass **9.30am**

Saturday 6 February

Vigil Mass **6.30pm**

Mona Delmer(2nd Anniversary)

Sunday 7 February

Mass **10.00am**

086 6688682

CARAGH NATIONAL SCHOOL

Application for admission to our school will be from January 14th to February 12th 2021. More information on www.caraghns.ie

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2020 CLASS

I would like to offer an online link to 3 programmes on icatholic.ie. The second link will be sent out on Monday to all Confirmation Families. I ask the boys and girls to view these links each week. I also invite them to write a short letter to me to tell me what they have learned from each link. (I will have a few prizes for the best responses each week). This is one way to help maintain contact and encourage their ongoing preparation for Confirmation.

SAINT BRIGID'S CROSSES



Last year €790, the proceeds from the St Brigid's Crosses made at our workshop, was donated to the Kildare Suicide Bereavement Support Group.

On behalf of K.S.B.S.G. a sincere **'Thank You'** to you all for your continued support.

In compliance with "COVID 2019 Government Regulations" our Annual Workshop will not take place this year.

However, Saint Brigid's Crosses will be available from the Church Community Room in Caragh on:

Saturday 30th January from 11am to 1pm.

Sunday 31st January from 11am to 1pm'

Monday 1st February from 11am to 1pm (Feast of St Brigid).

Donation €5. Once again all proceeds from the sale of the Crosses will go directly to the Kildare Suicide Bereavement Support Group; established in July 1997 the K.S.B.S.G. serves the people of Kildare. The K.S.B.S.G. continues to offer their services to all and in particular to our students in the county at this difficult time.

They are still contactable by phone on 086 8554852.

Thank you for your continued support.

All our Masses can be viewed on our webcam

www.caraghparish.net

or on our app

The weekly newsletter can be picked up in the Church or it can be viewed online on our website, caraghparish.net and on our app.

Baptisms

Baptisms can be celebrated with a maximum of 6 people present. Contact the parish office on (045) 875602 for more information.

Weddings

Weddings can be celebrated with a maximum of 6 people.

Funerals

Funerals can be celebrated with a maximum of 10 mourners.

The Church is open each day for a visit/prayer from 10am – 4pm.

Colouring Competition

We would like to thank all the girls and boys for their entries into the colouring competition. They were all excellent. There are envelopes in the Church for you to collect with your name on it.

Parish Envelopes

February Collection for Priests of the Parish is next Sunday February 7th

Envelope is provided in the box or there are some available in the Church

We encourage people to consider setting up a Bankers Order. Forms are available also in the church or the Parish office.

Church income has been affected in every Parish due to COVID-19 restrictions, but bills must be paid.

Thanks to a number of people who have contributed to our Parish via the Kandle website donation facility for each Parish and to everyone who has kindly donated by Standing Order or by the Parish Envelopes.

Parish Office Contact Details, The Parish office is temporarily closed to the public due to Covid 19 restrictions.

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday (10am to 1pm)

Tel: 045 875602

Email: parishoffice@caraghparish.net

Priest on Duty (Emergency only) Tel: 087 255 4908

Website www.caraghparish.net

Parish Safeguarding Representatives Sean & Bernie Sweeney 045 897646/