

# Parish of St. Ultan

BOHERMEEN –CORTOWN- BOYERSTOWN

Fr. Andy Doyle. P.P.

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

4<sup>th</sup> September 2022

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**'We are called to be a welcoming caring faith community who bring people to Jesus who sends us out with Good News for all'.**

## SYNTHESIS

In the coming weeks we will include some of the main themes from the National Synthesis of the Synodal Pathway Consultation sent to Rome this week.

### (ii) Co-Responsible Leadership

Accountability, transparency, participation, sharing, good governance - these are all key words used to express the hopes of participants for the future of the Church in Ireland when it comes to leadership. These words named what was absent in the lived experience of the Church for many of those responding to the synodal consultation. Many people feel that decision-making and authority are exercised solely by priests and bishops. This power structure provokes discontent in them, frustration and anger with the processes of decision-making and exercise of authority at all levels in the Church. It was asserted that Canon Law itself places obstacles to co-responsible leadership and there is obvious exclusion of laity, in particular, women and youth, in these processes and in leadership roles more generally within the Church.

A reading of the submissions reveals a lack of clarity around leadership roles and responsibility. Parish Pastoral Councils, Finance Committees and other consultative councils should be balanced in their representation of the communities they are called to represent and not be elitist or groups that simply *talk about doing*. Instead, Parish Pastoral Councils and other representative councils are called to be cultivated as praying and discerning communities of faith whose actions arise from that discernment.

Adult faith development, resources for lay ministries and collaborative decision-making was flagged as poor or non-existent. Clergy acknowledged that in many contexts they are too tired and weary to engage in these developments. However, they are aware that with education and formation, laity could and should be more involved

in co-responsible leadership. Such approaches must be faith-based and focus on a model of servant-leadership to avoid becoming purely managerial or administrative. Some still feel that the laity should not have a voice in the decision making of the Church/parish; that this is primarily the 'priest's role'. They are happy to be 'volunteers' and just help where needed rather than be actively involved in leadership. Others, however, are more than ready to be involved in charting the way forward, especially through the synodal process.

**Bohermeen Active Retirement** will resume on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September at 11.00am in Bohermeen Community Centre. All welcome.

**A Special Mass** will be held on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September at 7.15pm in Bohermeen Church for Fr. Foncey Mackin and all those who died during lockdown. The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Tom Deenihan. Light refreshments will be served afterwards in the parish centre.

### Choir practices for Special Mass

In preparation for the special Mass on 10<sup>th</sup> September, singers from across the parish are invited to attend combined choir practices in Bohermeen Church on **Fri 9<sup>th</sup> September at 8.00pm**. All singers welcome!

**Volunteers** needed to Spring clean Bohermeen Church for Fr. Mackin's Mass on Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at the Church on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 6.00pm**. **Volunteers** are also needed to help serve refreshments after the Mass on Sat. 10<sup>th</sup>. Please contact the parish office if you are available to help out.

**Cemetery Committee** meeting will take place on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> Sept at 7.30pm in the parish centre. All members are asked to attend.

**St Ultans Well Ardraccon Annual Visitation** will take place on Monday September 5<sup>th</sup> at 6-30pm, access is down the Church road to Ardraccon graveyard.

**PRAY** for Jane Mooney, Carlanstown (aunt of Sean Reilly) who died recently. May she rest in peace.

**Mass Intentions** Sat. 3rd - Sun. 11<sup>th</sup> Sept 2022

**Bohermeen Church**

Mass at 9.30am daily. *(Funeral replaces daily Mass)*

**Sat. 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept.**

Cortown at 6.00pm-for the people of the parish  
Bohermeen at 7.15pm-Don Rennicks (11<sup>th</sup> Ann)  
and Catherine Rennicks (10<sup>th</sup> Ann)  
-Matthew Mullen-3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary  
-Joseph Reilly-2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary

**Sun. 4<sup>th</sup> Sept.**

Boyerstown at 10.00am-for the people of the parish  
Bohermeen at 11.30am-Sean Dolan-3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary

**Tues. 6<sup>th</sup> Sept.** in Cortown at 8.00pm-  
Divine Mercy mass

**Sat. 10<sup>th</sup> Sept.**

Boyerstown at 6.00pm-Tommy Rogers-9<sup>th</sup> Ann.  
-Brendan Rogers-4<sup>th</sup> Ann.  
-Michael Buchanan-3<sup>rd</sup> Ann.

Bohermeen at 7.15pm-Mass for Fr. Foncey Mackin and all who died during lockdowns

**Sun. 11<sup>th</sup> Sept.**

Cortown at 10.00am-Patrick & Mary Ellen Barrett-Ann. Mass  
Bohermeen at 11.30am-Dec'd members of the Farnan Family  
-Anne Thornton-12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**Ministers of the Word:**

Sat. 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept.-Sinead Bennett  
Sun. 4<sup>th</sup> Sept.-Rachel McCormack  
Sat. 10<sup>th</sup> Sept: Dympna Herward  
Sun. 11<sup>th</sup> Sept: Ann Ryan

**Eucharistic Ministers:**

Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>: Brigid Mackin  
Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>: Sheila Kenny & Kathleen Keating  
Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>: Carmel McQuaid & Margaret Farrell  
Sept 11<sup>th</sup>: Julie Yore & Joe Murtagh

**Tap to Donate**-We have a new Tap to Donate facility in Bohermeen Church. It is an easy, secure and confidential way to donate to our parish finances. The limit is set at €5.00

**Finances - Thank You**-We wish to acknowledge and thank all those who have sent in their Offerings and weekly envelopes and all those who pay by standing order. This really helps our finances. It is greatly appreciated. Offerings can be made by;

- leaving your weekly envelopes into the envelope boxes in the Churches or into the Parish Office.
- go online and do a weekly/monthly direct debit to

Bank of Ireland, Navan, IBAN IE04 BOFI 903509 8059 7424 BIC BOFIE2D *(please include your box no.)*

**Building Fund €647.00 Priests Offerings €130.00**  
**Offertory Collections: Bohermeen – €315.00**  
**Cortown –€105.00 Boyerstown – €142.00**

*Thank you to all who contribute, collect and count.*

**Sharing the pattern of the cross- Fr. Silvester O'Flynn, OFM. The Irish Catholic**

Jesus, rejected by the opinion poll, took up the cross which would be the instrument of death but also the door to his Resurrection. Before the death of Jesus, death on the cross was regarded as a terrible curse, but he defeated evil on its home pitch, as it were, and transformed the tree of death into the tree of new life. Where he has gone, his disciples are asked to follow. "Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple." Take the cross out of Christianity and what have you got? *À la carte* picking and rejecting from Christ's teaching. A pick and choose approach takes what one likes from religion but rejects what does not appeal. This is an age of permissiveness. This reminds me of a school retreat when a student disagreed with what the priest was saying. He replied that this was what Jesus said. To which the student responded, "Well, he was entitled to his opinion!" As Chesterton put it, when Jones says that he is following his conscience, then Jones is following Jones...which may not be the same as following Jesus. The teaching of Jesus is a solid rock to act as an unshakeable foundation for life.

**Disciple** "Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:33). One of Mother Teresa's sisters was heading out one morning to serve among the poor, but her face was the picture of sadness. Mother Teresa gently called her aside and asked her: "What did Jesus say, go in front of me or follow me?" The sister replied, "Follow me", and she began to smile. The Good News is that when suffering comes our way, when we have a cross to carry, Jesus is there in front of us, leading us, showing us and accompanying us. Make sure there is a crucifix in your home. St Francis used to call the crucifix a book. When you look at Jesus on the cross, you can read the story of Christ's total self-giving out of love for us. "How much do you love me, Lord?" Then he opened his arms on the cross. "That's how much I love you."

**Prayer of St Francis**

***We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.***